

# Flying in the face of the HCC (2)

The Bethlehem Gadfly 306 S. New St., Serious Issues December 26, 2018

*(2nd in a series of posts on 306 S. New St.)*

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Gadfly:

The 5 to 2 vote by Council to support this unauthorized change to the Certificate of Appropriateness originally issued for the construction of this building flew directly in the face of the Historic Conservation Commission's original recommendations, which Council supported. Setback of the 6th floor was required to lessen the impact of a six story building being built in a National Register Historic District, where contributing resources are mostly 2 to 4 story structures. Council's action by overturning the HCC's denial (I was in attendance at that HCC meeting) was akin to rewarding a misbehaving child instead of punishing them.

The hypocrisy of that vote was overwhelming, because some of the same Members of Council had supported the original Certificate of Appropriateness. It doesn't speak well of their integrity and ethics at all.

Dana