

TOWN OF ABINGDON  
BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW  
REGULAR MEETING  
FEBRUARY 5, 2014 – 5:15 P.M.

The regular meeting for the Board of Architectural Review was held on Wednesday, February 5, 2014, at 5:15 P.M. The meeting was held in the Municipal Building, downstairs meeting room.

Dr. Charles M. Owens, Chairman, called the meeting to order. Mr. Taylor called the roll.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Dr. Charles M. Owens, Chairman  
Mrs. Betsy White  
Mr. Byrum Geisler  
Mr. Peyton Boyd

Comprising a quorum of the Board

Members Absent: Mrs. Jayne Duehring (Absent)

Administrative Staff: Mr. W. Garrett Jackson, Assistant Town Manager  
Director of Planning/Zoning  
Mr. Sean C. Taylor, Assistant Town Planner  
Mrs. Deborah Icenhour, Town Attorney (Absent)  
Ms. Rebecca Moody, Environmental Planner/  
Sustainability Coordinator (Absent)  
Mrs. Jenny Carlisle, Administrative Assistant, Planning,  
Public Works, Public Services

Visitors: None

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- (2) Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting, September 4, 2013  
Regular Meeting, November 6, 2013  
Called Meeting, November 13, 2013

Approved as presented.

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- (3) Certificate of Appropriateness – Rachel Fowlkes, 127 East Main Street, Abingdon, VA 24210; application for Certificate of Appropriateness for approval of restoration and rear addition to building located at 127 East Main Street. Tax Map No. 12 (1) 91.

Discussion continued from the November 13, 2013, Called Meeting, where all of the restoration/addition items were approved, except the replacement of glass panels in the top portion of the door with wood. After visiting the site, a conclusion has been drawn that the door probably contained wood, not glass,

originally. Mrs. White moved to approve wood panels as an acceptable replacement for the existing glass panels in the door, as long as it is done to give the appearance of being restored to its assumed original state, and comes as close to matching the molding on the lower half of the door as possible. Mr. Geisler seconded. Approved unanimously.

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(4) INTRODUCTION – Mr. Jackson introduced new Town staff member, Jenny Carlisle, Administrative Assistant for the Planning, Public Works, and Public Services departments, as replacement for Pasty Owens who has retired.

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(5) REVIEW – **Article 8, Old and Historic District, Local Historic Preservation Ordinance.**

Mr. Jackson opened for discussion the review of **Article 8, Old and Historic District, Local Historic Preservation Ordinance**. Some of the topics mentioned were *Permitted uses By Right, Vested Rights, Special uses, work undertaken without authorization, new construction, and creation of the Board. Section 8-4, Certificates of Appropriateness*, was also cited as an item that could use updating to include HPRB language instead of BAR.

**Section 8-6-3, Composition of the Board**, was discussed with regard to upcoming vacancies. Members were asked to think of potential candidates that might be fitting as future Board members and bring suggestions to Mr. Jackson. *Terms of office and Matters the Board shall and shall not consider* were also pointed out as areas for consideration and additions.

*Maintenance of historic properties* and the wording relating to economic hardship and neglect were briefly discussed; as well as *right to appeal, permissible action by the Board, and action of the Town Council*. It was agreed that Mr. Taylor and Mr. Jackson would look at other ordinances to see how different communities have worded their ordinances, and how much discretion is given to the Board in such matters.

*Boundaries, Section 8-14-4*, was discussed in so far as legalities and letting people know which properties are or are not in the Old and Historic District, a possible expansion of the District (which was put into the Comprehensive Plan update that was recently approved by Council), the difference between state designation and local designation, the possibility for property owners to voluntarily have their properties zoned into the Historic District, and the idea of landmarking individual properties to be included. Also referenced was the option to do an overlay instead of expansion, which would maintain current zoning.

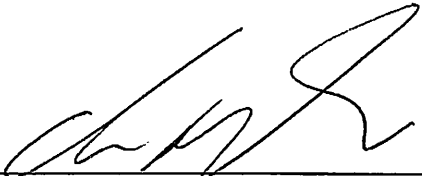
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(6) REVIEW – Historic Preservation Plan.

Mrs. White has offered to head up the Historic Preservation Plan. It was pointed out that grant funds from CLG are available, and Davis Buckley may be chosen to put the Plan together. Mrs. White will bring a plan of action to the next meeting.

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There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded, and approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:45 P.M.

  
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Dr. Charles M. Owens, Chairman

  
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Sean C. Taylor, Secretary