

TOWN OF ABINGDON
HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
January 4, 2017 – 5:15 P.M.

The Regular meeting for the Historic Preservation Review Board was held on Wednesday, January 4, 2017, at 5:15 p.m. The meeting was held in the Municipal Building, Colonel Arthur Campbell room.

Mrs. White, Chairperson, called the meeting to order. Mr. Taylor called the roll.

(1) ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mrs. Cindy Patterson, Councilperson
Mr. Michael Weaver
Mrs. Betsy White, Chairperson
Mr. Andrew Neese
Mr. Jeff Johnson, Vice-chairman
Comprising a quorum of the Board

Members Absent: None

Administrative Staff: Sean Taylor, Assistant Town Planner
Deb Icenhour, Town Attorney
Kim Kingsley, Town Paralegal

Visitors: Channing Thomas, James Moore, Kathy Shearer, Stephen Jett
Mark Hurt, Joe Levine, Donna Levine, Leslie Bradley, Al Bradley
Michael Treppichione, Edison Jennings, Bob Neeb.

(2) Amendment to agenda to include Organizational Meeting as required by the BAR bylaws.

Motion by Mr. Johnson to amend the agenda to add Organizational meeting. Second by Mr. Weaver.

Roll call vote as follows:

Mrs. Patterson- Aye
Mr. Weaver-Aye
Mrs. White- Aye
Mr. J. Johnson- Aye
Mr. Neese - Aye

(a) Election of Chairman

Mr. Neese nominated Jeff Johnson to serve as Chairman. Being no other nominations,

Roll call vote as follows:

Mrs. Patterson- Aye
Mr. Weaver-Aye
Mrs. White- Aye
Mr. J. Johnson- Aye
Mr. Neese - Aye

(b) Election of Vice Chairman

Mr. Weaver nominated Andrew Neese to serve as Vice-Chairman. Being no other nominations,

Roll call vote as follows:

Mrs. Patterson- Aye
Mr. Weaver-Aye
Mrs. White- Aye
Mr. J. Johnson- Aye
Mr. Neese - Aye

(3) Approval of Minutes: **Regular meeting, December 7, 2016**

Mr. Weaver moved to approve the minutes from the December 7, 2016 regular meeting, as amended. Second by Ms. Cindy Patterson.

Roll call vote as follows:

Mrs. Patterson- Aye
Mr. Weaver-Aye
Mrs. White- Aye
Mr. J. Johnson- Abstained (Absent December 7th meeting)
Mr. Neese - Aye

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(4) Certificate of Appropriateness: **Frederick C. Boucher, 107 W. Main St., Abingdon, VA 24210, owner; Tim Williams representative;** request for COA for installation of fiberglass shingles.

Being that representatives for Mr. Boucher were not present at the meeting. Mrs. White asked membership of the Review Board if each of them wished to proceed with the application. With the membership in agreement Planning Department staff presented the application for consideration. Assistant Town Planner Sean Taylor spoke that Mr. Boucher is wanting to replace the rapidly deteriorating asbestos shingles on his mother's former home. Mr. Taylor presented that the asbestos shingles would be replaced with architectural asphalt shingles per the Design Review Guidelines.

Mrs. Patterson made a motion to approve the application as submitted, Second by Mr. Neese.

Roll call vote as follows:

Mrs. Patterson- Aye
Mr. Weaver-Aye
Mrs. White- Aye
Mr. J. Johnson- Aye
Mr. Neese - Aye

(5) Certificate of Appropriateness: **Joe and Donna Levine, 340 Green Spring Rd., Abingdon VA 24210, Owner;** request to construct retaining wall and landscaping.

Joe Levine presented plans and images of building a retaining wall between the two structures on his property. Mr. Levine stated the retaining wall would be constructed out of a natural stone material and would not be visible from Green Spring Road. Mr. Levine also presented plans for future landscaping on the property.

Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the COA application in consideration that the material to

construct the retaining wall is of natural stone. Second by Mr. Neese.

Roll call vote as follows:

Mr. Weaver – Aye
Mrs. Patterson- Aye
Mrs. White- Aye
Mr. Neese - Aye
Mr. Johnson - Aye

- (5) Certificate of Appropriateness: **John and Janice Reeves, 247 W. Valley St., Abingdon VA 24210, Owner;** request to construct carport behind main structure.

John and Janice Reeves presented an application to construct a new carport near the rear of the main structure on their property. Mr. and Mrs. Reeves stated that the carport would be similar to the one located on the property adjacent to them. Mrs. Patterson asked if the roofing material was going to be the same as on the main structure, Mrs. Reeves affirmed that it would.

Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the COA with the roofing material being the same as on the main structure. Second by Mr. Weaver.

Roll call vote as follows:

Mrs. Patterson- Aye
Mr. Weaver- Aye
Mrs. White- Aye
Mr. J. Johnson- Aye
Mr. Neese - Aye

- (6) Certificate of Appropriateness and Tax Credit Request: **Anne Johnston DDS PC, 160 E. Valley St., Abingdon, VA 24210, owner;** request for repair and maintenance of brick walkways and Local Historic Tax Credits in the amount of \$9200.00 for work performed in repairing brick walkways.

Mr. Taylor presented that application for the COA and Tax Credits are complete and meet the standards of the guidelines. Mr. Johnson commented that the guidelines specify that the COA is to be obtained prior to the application for tax credits. However, the intent of the guidelines is for individuals to take the initiative to restore their properties. Ms. Johnston was not aware of the tax credits at that time. Since the issues is waivable Mr. Johnson does not see an issue to why we should not approve the COA and tax credit application.

Mr. Neese made a motion to approve the COA as submitted, Second by Mrs. Patterson.

Roll call vote as follows:

Mrs. Patterson- Aye
Mr. Weaver- Aye
Mrs. White- Aye
Mr. J. Johnson- Aye
Mr. Neese - Aye

After the approval of the COA, Mr. Taylor presented that Ms. Johnston is making a tax credit application in the amount of \$9200.00. Mr. Taylor further presented that all receipts for the completed work have been received by the planning department. Mrs. White stated that a motion would need to come in the form of a recommendation to the Town Manager.

Mr. Weaver made a motion to recommend the tax credit application to the Town Manager for approval. Second by Mr. Johnson.

Roll call vote as follows:

Mrs. Patterson- Aye

Mr. Weaver-Aye

Mrs. White- Aye

Mr. J. Johnson- Aye

Mr. Neese - Aye

(7) DISCUSSION ITEMS—

a. Recommendation to Town Council for inclusion of the Meadows property into the Old and Historic District.

Mrs. White stated she has already asked to place this property on the study list, for our current discussion of the preservation plan. Mrs. White further stated that we have a preservation plan that comes out of this committee, and we do update it. We have placed the Meadows property on the list to be studied. We have other extensions that are on our list to study on East Main St. and West Main St. as well as a few other spots. So what we really want to do is present a package recommendation to the Town Council, rather than one property at a time. Mrs. White suggested that the board wait and go thru the review process, which would allow us not to hurry, and to do the studies that the board thinks may need to be made, for the Meadows as well as other properties. Mrs. Patterson stated our job as a board is to protect the historical district. She feels very strongly that we need to protect this property. Mr. Taylor stated in 2012 the Code of VA section 15.2-2306 was updated and that our local ordinance does not reflect this Code of Virginia update.

After further discussion, Mrs. Patterson made a motion to recommend to the Town Council that the 44 acres associated with the Meadows property owned by the Town of Abingdon, that the Virginia Department of Historical Resources has deemed eligible for inclusion on the National Register for Historic Places be put on the National Register. Being no second, motion failed.

(8) Mrs. Patterson made a motion to amend the agenda to hear public comment, limited to 3 minutes per speaker. Second by Mr. Neese.

Roll call vote as follows:

Mrs. Patterson- Aye

Mr. Weaver-Aye

Mrs. White- Aye

Mr. J. Johnson- Aye

Mr. Neese - Aye

Each person below spoke during the public comment period of the Historic Preservation Review Board.

James Moore - Spoke about the naming of the board.

Kathy Shearer - Discussed Slavery at the meadows. Typically slaves were buried on the property where they worked in unmarked graves.

Stephen Jett – Followed up on what Kathy was saying, stating the Magic Mart shopping center development located some graves.

Mark Hurt – Commented he understands the evaluation of properties. Mrs. Patterson's motion would

be something that needed to be acted upon now.

Joe Levine – Couple of points, the 40 acres that has been recommended eligible is not part of the lawsuit, the lawsuit is specifically about the 34 acres retail development. Second the code of ordinance specifically still calls this group the Architectural Review Board. It's probably time to update the code. It is the charge of the board to make recommendations to the Council.

Leslie Bradley- She would like to see the board embrace your opportunity in this matter. If you have not studied the history of the Meadows property it is broad and deep from the colonial times.

Michael Treppichonni - Spoke about the non residents that signed the petition.

Edison Jennings-He feels you need to act on your duties as a board on the Meadows property.

Bob Neeb – He feels the board doesn't want to take any action on the Meadows.

Nan Arrington Harmon – She finds it hard to believe we are not trying to save the Meadows.

Mrs. Patterson made a motion to reconsider her original motion, being no second, motion failed.

Mr. Neese made a motion to adjourn. Second by Mr. Johnson.

Roll call vote as follows:

Mrs. Patterson- Aye


Mr. Weaver-Aye

Mrs. White- Aye

Mr. J. Johnson- Aye

Mr. Neese - Aye

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.



Sean Taylor, Secretary



Mrs. Betsy White, Chairperson