

TOWN OF ABINGDON  
BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW  
WORK SESSION  
AUGUST 18, 2003 - 7:00 P.M.

The Town of Abingdon Board of Architectural Review held a Work Session on Monday, August 18, 2003, at 7:00 P.M. The meeting was held in the Municipal Building, Downstairs Meeting Room.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Charles R. Day, Chairman.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mr. Charles R. Day  
Mr. Thomas C. Phillips, Jr.  
Mrs. Betsy White  
Mrs. Doris Shuman  
  
Comprising a quorum of the Board

Members Absent: Mr. Andrew Hargroves

Administrative Staff: Mr. Garrett Jackson, Town Planner  
Mr. Kevin Sigmon, Town Arborist

Visitors: Mr. Gibson Worsham  
Mr. Luther Cain

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(2) CONTINUED DISCUSSION - Barter On The Green Project

Mrs. White introduced Mr. Gibson Worsham, Architectural Historian, who offered his thoughts on the project.

Also, Mr. Kevin Sigmon, Town Arborist, was introduced. Kevin gave his assessment and recommendation of six trees on Barter Green. He explained resistograph measurements...sound wood vs. rotten wood. Mr. Sigmon recommended a fence be built around Hemlock #1 and #2, if the Board of Architectural Review should decide to preserve them. He also recommended that Hemlock #3 and #5 be removed due to disease and blight, caused by the Wooly Adelgid. He had contacted Virginia Tech and Bartlett Tree Specialists in Kingsport for consultation. Lightning protection was also discussed.

Mr. Worsham described the placement of buildings throughout the Barter Green's history. The proposed layout resembled the placement and location of buildings in 1800's. The proposed "green" resembled the "courtyard" at Stonewall Jackson Institute.

After a brief break, discussion continued on moving building identified as "C" forward so that it would be closer to Main Street.

Mr. Cain suggested that the meeting try to address two specific topics and get an approval or disapproval from the Board of Architectural Review. The two topics were: (1) preserve or remove all trees in question and (2) should there be a unified building design or multiple building design.

After discussion, Mr. Phillips made a motion to remove Hemlock #1 and #2 and replace with similar trees. Mrs. Shuman seconded the motion, with unanimous approval.

There was brief discussion of the pros and cons of unified and/or diverse buildings.

Mrs. Shuman made a motion to accept a three-building concept, to include the removal of the building identified as "A", extend building "C", keep building "D", and combine buildings "E" and "B". Her reasoning for this was one large building would not be viewed well by the public, as it would be seen in competition with the Martha Washington Inn. Mr. Phillips seconded the motion. Mrs. White asked if there was a need for further discussion before voting. Mr. Worsham was asked for his opinion. After further discussion, the vote was called for and the motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was recessed for continuation to resume on Wednesday, September 3, 2003, at 1:00 P.M. for Regular Meeting and a work session on REVIEW GUIDELINES for the Old and Historic District, and Wednesday, September 3, 2003, at 7:00 P.M. for continuation of discussion of Barter On The Green Project.

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There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

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Charles R. Day, Chairman

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Albert C. Bradley, Secretary