

TOWN OF ABINGDON  
BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW  
WORK SESSION  
APRIL 21, 2010 - 5:00 P.M.

A work session was held by the Board of Architectural Review on Wednesday, April 21, 2010 at 5:00 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  
Mr. Jason Berry  
Mr. Peyton Boyd  
Mr. Byrum Geisler

Comprising a quorum of the Board

Members Absent: Mrs. Doris Shuman

Administrative Staff: Mr. W. Garrett Jackson, Director of Planning  
Mr. Sean Taylor, Assistant Director Planning/Zoning  
Mrs. Deborah Icenhour, Town Attorney

Visitors: Mr. Christopher Lowe

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**CONTINUED DISCUSSION**

- (2) **CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS - Buckhead-Abingdon, dba Martha Washington Hotel and Spa, Christopher Lowe, General Manager/Representative, 150 West Main Street, Abingdon, VA 24210; application for Certificate of Appropriateness for approval of canopy, used as a weather breaker for all patrons (located in front of Litchfield Hall), located at 150 West Main Street. Tax Map No. 12 (1) 121. (Tabled from the January 6, 2010 meeting)**

The reason for discussion of this application at this meeting was to inform Mr. Christopher Lowe of the Board's decision, after reviewing the most recent plans he submitted to Mr. Jackson.

This application was originally discussed at the January 6, 2010 meeting and after a lengthy discussion motion was made and approved to deny the requested existing canopy. At that time the Board members agreed to recess the meeting and gather at the site for further discussion.

After taking measurements of the unapproved structure, it was suggested that an awning be connected to the existing covered walkway between the main building and Litchfield Hall. This addition would be similar in size to the pull-thru area (measuring 11 feet, east and west of the centerline of the existing covered walkway, 22 feet overall). From the existing walkway, the new structure would protrude 17.5 feet into the drive, allowing vehicles to pass by the pull-thru. The new structure would have the same material and color as the existing awning, not vinyl. The existing canopy should be turned 90° and the clearance height should be lowered, with the barrel shape facing the street. After this discussion, Mr. Lowe indicated he would have the awning company return and prepare plans, per the Board's recommendation.

After Mr. Jackson received the new drawings of the proposed awning addition at Litchfield Hall this application request was a discussion item at the April 7, 2010 meeting. The new proposed “drive-thru” awning was approved, subject to the following conditions:

- The awning leading up the stairs and connecting to Litchfield Hall will be removed in its entirety.
- The structure presented in 2008 as ‘temporary’ for inclement weather, to create an air-lock at the entrance to Litchfield Hall, will be removed and used only during the months of October 1 through April 1 annually.

After explaining the Board’s decision to Mr. Lowe, as referenced above, he stated he followed the recommendations made to him at the January 6, 2010 meeting and met with the awning company as recommended by the Board, in order to re-work the previously requested awnings, which was a great expense. He had concerns with the most recent conditions that the Board’s approval was based on, stating there is an absolute need for the awning leading up the stairs and connecting to Litchfield Hall, due to various functions held at the Martha Washington Inn, such as weddings and he felt the need to leave this awning in place, as well as having the air-lock in place.

After a lengthy discussion, Mr. Boyd made a motion to approve the awning configuration, as presented, and that the previous action concerning the temporary air-lock be rescinded and that representatives of the Board of Architectural Review meet with Mr. Lowe and the awning company representatives before any work is done in order to confirm the details of the re-working. Mr. Geisler seconded the motion.

VOTE:

Mr. Boyd	Aye
Mr. Geisler	Aye
Mr. Berry	Aye
Dr. Owens	Nay

The motion passed.

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(3) DISCUSSION - Revisions of Guidelines

A discussion of the revisions of the Guidelines continued. The Board will meet again on Wednesday, May 19, 2010 at 5:00 P.M. when further discussion of the revisions of the Guidelines will continue.

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There being no further business, motion was made, duly seconded and unanimously approved that the meeting be adjourned.

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Dr. Charles M. Owens, Chairman

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W. Garrett Jackson, Secretary