

TOWN OF ABINGDON  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING  
OCTOBER 1, 2014 – 5:15 P.M.

The Regular meeting for the Historic Preservation Review Board was held on Wednesday, October 1, 2014, 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.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mrs. Betsy White, Chairperson  
Mr. Byrum Geisler  
Mrs. Jayne Duehring  
Mr. Peyton Boyd  
Mr. S. Andrew Neese

Comprising a quorum of the Board

Members Absent: None

Administrative Staff: Mr. Sean C. Taylor, Assistant Town Planner  
Mrs. Deborah Icenhour, Town Attorney  
Mr. John Dew, Director of Public Services and Construction (Absent)  
Mr. C. J. McGlothlin, Code Enforcement Officer  
Mrs. Jenny Carlisle, Administrative Assistant, Planning and Public Works (Absent)

Visitors: Mr. Richard Morgan  
Ms. Jane Threatt  
Ms. Cliffreda Reed  
Ms. Quinn Craughwell  
Mr. Douglas Ellis

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(2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES: **Regular meeting, September 3, 2014.**

Ms. Duehring made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular meeting, September 3, 2014, as presented. Second by Mr. Geisler. Approved unanimously.

**Regular meeting, August 6, 2014.**

Mr. Geisler made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular meeting, August 6, 2014, as presented. Second by Ms. Duehring. Approved unanimously.

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- (3) CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS: **Richard Morgan, owner;** 171 West Valley Street, Abingdon, VA 24210; application for Certificate of Appropriateness for handrail to be located at **171 West Valley Street. Tax Map No. 012 (6) 5A.**

Mr. Morgan presented the application for Certificate of Appropriateness to install a handrail for the front steps of their property. He presented evidence of past existing handrails on the property. The Morgan’s consulted with Mr. Boyd in an effort to closely duplicate the balusters on the existing porch railings, and to restore the step railings to their approximate original design. After discussion, Mr. Geisler made a motion to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness, as presented. Second by Mr. Boyd. All in favor. Motion carried.

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- (4) CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS: **Rachel Fowlkes, owner; Peyton Boyd, representative;** 127 East Main Street, Abingdon, VA 24210; addition to application for Certificate of Appropriateness for restoration already approved. **Located at 127 East Main Street. Tax Map No. 12 (1) 91.**

Mr. Boyd presented the application for Certificate of Appropriateness to replace two upper front windows with more efficient windows. Discussion centered on how the change to simulated divided light windows instead of true divided light windows would change the look of the façade greatly, and the importance of preserving the maximum amount of original materials as possible.

After due consideration, Mr. Geisler made a motion to deny the application for Certificate of Appropriateness due to the fact that the board is tasked with preserving as much original material as possible and this would go against their preservationist cause. Second by Mrs. Duehring. All in favor with Mr. Boyd abstaining. Motion carried.

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- (5) CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS: **Jim and Cliffreda Read, owners; Quinn Craughwell, representative;** 111 West Valley Street, Abingdon, VA 24210; application for Certificate of Appropriateness for new construction **located at 111 West Valley Street. Tax Map No. 12 (1) 26**

Ms. Craughwell presented the application for Certificate of Appropriateness for a detached garage to be constructed at rear of the property. The property is currently under contract to be purchased by the Reads. The existing front section of the single car garage, which does not appear to be historic, would be removed. The historic outbuilding on the property will be preserved. They will also save the current door and use it with a new addition, to be proposed at a later time.

Mr. Geisler made a motion to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness, as presented. Second by Mr. Neese. All in favor. Motion carried.

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- (6) CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS: Continuation. **Yvonne L. Ellis, owner; H. Douglas Ellis, representative;** 211 West Main Street, Abingdon VA 24210; application for Certificate for sign and fence located **at 211 West Main Street. Tax Map No. 012 (1) 71.**

Mr. Ellis came before the board for his third appearance on this Certificate of Appropriateness application. He presented two descriptive videos describing the need for fencing around his property.

After thorough discussion, Mr. Boyd made a motion to accept the current sign, painted gun metal gray. Second by Mrs. Duehring. All in favor. Motion carried.

Following further discussion regarding the fence/barrier, Mrs. White stated that because the issue has been on the agenda in excess of 60 days, a decision needs to be made. Mr. Boyd made a motion to deny the fence/barrier, as presented. Second by Mr. Neese. Further information revealed that Penn-Stuart is representing Faith in Action, one of the businesses involved in the lawsuit with Mr. Ellis, thus Mr. Geisler recused himself from the vote. All in favor with the exception of Mr. Geisler. Motion carried.

Mr. Ellis will work with Mr. Taylor and Mr. Boyd to come up with another alternative for the board's consideration. As reported last month, Mr. Ellis has filed a suit against the Snead's as well as those leasing space in the building. Mr. Ellis requested that the board provide him in writing, that he must remove the current temporary barrier and come up with a better alternative at his expense. The board said that the meeting minutes would include this information.

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Another agenda item was added for consideration.

- (7) CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS: **Findlay House; Town of Abingdon, owner;** 300 Green Spring Road; application for Certificate of Appropriateness for sign to be located at **300 Green Spring Road, Abingdon, Virginia 24210. Tax Map No. 021 (1) 4.**

Mr. Taylor presented the board with an application for Certificate of Appropriateness for a sign for the Findlay House property.

After discussion, it was agreed that the background color would be changed from what was presented to off-white, the lettering would be green, and the Virginia Creeper Trail logo would be black. A motion for approval was made by Mr. Geisler, with the above listed changes. Second by Mr. Boyd. All in favor. Motion carried.

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The board also recognized Mr. Geisler's outstanding service on this board as his term ended with this meeting. Mr. Geisler has offered valued insight and wisdom and will be missed.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

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Mrs. White, Chairperson

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Sean Taylor, Secretary