# TOWN OF ABINGDON HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW BOARD WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2019 – 5:15 P.M. ARTHUR CAMPBELL ROOM – MUNICIPAL BUILDING

A Regular meeting of the Historic Preservation Review Board was held on Wednesday, December 4, 2019, at 5:15 pm in the Arthur Campbell Meeting Room in the Municipal Building.

# A. WELCOME by Jeff Johnson - Chairman

# B. ROLL CALL - Jason Boswell, Director of Planning

Members of the Board Present: Mr. Michael Weaver

Mr. Byrum Geisler Mr. Andrew Neese Mr. Jeff Johnson

Members of the Board Absent: Mr. Derek Webb

## Comprising a quorum of the Board

Administrative/Town Staff: Mr. Jason Boswell, Director of Planning

Mrs. Janice Dornon, Administrative Assistant Mr. Mason Gragg, Code Compliance Officer

Mr. James Morani, Town Manager

## C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- October 2, 2019, Regular Meeting
- November 6, 2019, Regular Meeting

On a motion by Mr. Geisler, seconded by Mr. Neese, the Board approved the minutes for October 2, 2019, and November 6, 2019, Regular Meeting as presented.

#### The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Weaver	Aye
Mr. Geisler	Aye
Mr. Neese	Aye
Mr. Johnson	Aye

The board approved October 2, 2019, and November 6, 2019, Regular Meeting minutes as presented.

#### D. CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

COA for Dan Beiger, 212 Valley Street was moved to the beginning of the agenda due to the first applicant being late.

1. Certificate of Appropriateness –Dan Beiger, 3 Woods Way, Bristol, TN 37620; owner. Gil Walden, P.O. Box 16938, Bristol, VA 24209; representative. Application for Certificate of Appropriateness for signage will be removing the existing sign and replacing it with the same size sign. Changing the business name and background color from blue to burgundy. Change in material from wood to High-Density-Urethane (HDU). Located at 212 Valley Street NW, Abingdon, VA 24210. Tax Map No. (012-1-65)

Mr. Gil Walden represented the property located at 212 Valley Street NW.

Mr. Walden state that the replacement sign would be made of synthetic wood, with a burgundy background and white lettering, 2 X 1.9 in size, not the exceed 4 square feet.

Mr. Weaver made a motion to approve the COA request as submitted and modified, second by Mr. Neese.

## The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Weaver	Aye
Mr. Geisler	Aye
Mr. Neese	Aye
Mr. Johnson	Aye

The board unanimously approved the COA as presented for 212 Valley Street.

COA for Saad Abdelbassett & Nick Short; 134 Wall Street, Abingdon, VA 24210 was moved per the agenda due to Mr. Bassett appearing late for the meeting.

2. Certificate of Appropriateness —Saad Abdelbassett & Nick Short; 134 Wall Street, Abingdon, VA 24210; owner. Saad Abdelbassett: representative. Application for Certificate of Appropriateness to add 6 feet of fencing. Located at 134 Wall Street, Abingdon, VA 24210. Tax Map No. (019-2-16)

Mr. Bassett represented the property located at 134 Wall Street.

Mr. Bassett began by apologizing for not being present at the November 6, 2019 meeting and starting the project without approval by setting, the fence posts in place.

Mr. Bassett is putting a privacy fence in place for the following reasons:

- 1. Safety of his children from the roadway.
- 2. Obscure dumpster.
- 3. Obscure boxes from the restaurant.

Mr. Bassett will be constructing a wooden fence not to exceed six feet in height and will be painted white to match the restaurant building color. A paint sample will need to be approved by the Town staff.

Mr. Johnson suggested that the paint be Sherwin Williams's exterior white paint, #7006.

Mr. Bassett asked if the fence could be extended around the corner to enclose the dumpster and back yard, the board agreed.

Mr. Neese made a motion to approve the COA request as submitted and modified, second by Mr. Weaver.

# The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Weaver	Aye
Mr. Geisler	Aye
Mr. Neese	Aye
Mr. Johnson	Aye

The board unanimously approved the COA as presented for 134 Wall Street.

#### E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. Mr. Jason Berry addressed the HPRB board to discuss options for the renovations to the Washington County Courthouse, stating that they wish to keep an open dialog with the board and the Town during the renovation process.

Mr. Berry told the board that the Board of Supervisors will be meeting on January 14, 2020, and he anticipates the re-constitution of the Courthouse Committee at that time.

Mr. Kevin Hill, General Services Director for Washington County VA., explained the three proposed options for the Courthouse renovations.

Option 1) Demolish the Elliott building which is located at 179 & 180 Main Street. The current façade of the building does not match anything in the Historic District.

Mr. Johnson sited that the HPRB regulations frown upon demolition of anything within the Historic District, but in this case, it could be a possibility.

Mr. Geisler said that there is very little of the original building left due to past renovations.

Mr. Neese agreed with Mr. Geisler that the board would be willing to work with Washington County to help in the preservation of the Courthouse.

Mr. Weaver said that he did not think that there was enough of the historic fabric left of the building to be of concern.

Option 2) to build a structure on the current parking lot located at the back of the Courthouse, between Valley Street and Plumb Alley. The board stated that they regulate structures, not parking lots.

Option 3) could it be an option to tear down the Treasury building located at 174 E. Main Street. The board stated that this would not be an option.

Mr. Geisler said that not only is the Treasury building a historical structure but it is also a significant structure to the Town of Abingdon.

Mr. Johnson said that the HPRB would be more than willing to work with the county in the preservation of the Washington County Courthouse in any way possible.

2. Mr. Walter Jennings, president of the Historical Society, stated that the Historical Society would like to be part of the discussions on the future of the Washington County Courthouse.

#### F. OLD BUSINESS/MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

1. Re-schedule the January 1, 2020 HPRB meeting.

The regularly scheduled meeting for January 1, 2020, HPRB has been rescheduled for January 8, 2020, due to the regularly scheduled meeting falling on New Year's Day.

## G. ANNOUNCEMENTS - None

## H. ADJOURNMENT

On Motion by Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mr. Neese, for the Board to adjourn the meeting.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Weaver	Aye
Mr. Geisler	Aye
Mr. Neese	Aye
Mr. Johnson	Aye

Mr. Johnson declared the meeting adjourned.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 P. M.

Jeff Johnson, Chairman

Jason Boswell, Director of Planning