# TOWN OF ABINGDON HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW BOARD REGULAR MEETING WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2021 – 5:15 P.M. COUNCIL CHAMBERS- MUNICIPAL BUILDING

A Regular meeting of the Historic Preservation Review Board was held on Wednesday, December 1, 2021, at 5:15 pm in the Council Chambers in the Municipal Building.

# A. WELCOME by - Mr. Byrum Geisler

# B. ROLL CALL - Mrs. Mayana Rice, Director of Community Development

Members of the Board Present:

Mr. Peyton Boyd

Mr. Mike Owens

Mrs. Kristi Hartshorn

Mrs. Betsy White

Mr. Byrum Geisler

Members of the Board Absent:

None

# Comprising a quorum of the Board - Yes

Administrative Town Staff:

Mrs. Mayana Rice, Director of Community

Development

Mrs. Janice Dornon, Administrative Assistant

# C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (VIDEO 2:36 – 3:47)

- November 3, 2021, Regular Meeting
- November 17, 2021, Preservation Plan Work Session

On a motion by Mrs. White seconded by Mr. Owens, the board approved the minutes for November 3, 2021, Regular Meeting, as presented.

The roll call vote was as follows:

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| Mr. Peyton Boyd       | Aye |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Mr. Mike Owens        | Aye |
| Mrs. Kristi Hartshorn | Aye |
| Mrs. Betsy White      | Aye |
| Mr. Byrum Geisler     | Aye |

On a motion by Mrs. Hartshorn, seconded by Mr. Boyd, the board approved the minutes for November 17, 2021, Preservation Plan Work Session as presented.

# The roll call vote was as follows:

| Mr. Peyton Boyd       | Aye |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Mr. Mike Owens        | Aye |
| Mrs. Kristi Hartshorn | Aye |
| Mrs. Betsy White      | Aye |
| Mr. Byrum Geisler     | Aye |

### D. CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

1. Certificate of Appropriateness –LSN LLC (Ned Loyd); 158 East Main Street, Abingdon, VA 24210; owner. Nestor Robles (Bundy Architecture and Engineering) 190 E Main Street, Abingdon VA 24210; representative. Application for Certificate of Appropriateness of an addition of a new second story on an existing structure. Located at 158 East Main Street, Abingdon, VA 24210. Tax Map No. (013-1-114)

Mr. Jim Bundy and Mr. Ned Loyd presented to the board on behalf of the property located at 158 East Main Street, Abingdon, Virginia.

Mr. Loyd is requesting to build a one-story addition to the existing structure. Mr. Bundy said that they would like to change the picket style leaving off the detailed section.

Mr., Loyd explained that the block would be covered with stucco from top to bottom. To match the existing structure. Stucco will be used on three sides. New brick will be used on the front façade to match the existing.

Mr. Geisler said that new construction in the Historic District should be compatible to blend in.

Mr. Boyd suggested that the cornices be paint a color other than white to blend in. Using a pre-fab cornice product with a simpler design, would be better. Steel being used for framing will be painted. Square columns to be used on second-story balcony/

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en de la companya de la co La companya de la co Mr. Loyd said that the new windows would be operational. Door will be paint to match existing colors. The window will match the buildings architectural design.

Mr. Geisler suggested that the design be simplistic, down to scale with a use of paint schemes to make the building blend into its historic setting.

Mr. Geisler suggested that the COA be tabled until the January 5, 2022 to give Mr. Loyd time to reevaluate the design and material use.

On a motion by Mr. Boyd, seconded by Mrs. Hartshorn, the board approved to table the COA until the January 5, 2022 meeting.

### The roll call vote was as follows:

| Mr. Peyton Boyd       | Aye |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Mr. Mike Owens        | Aye |
| Mrs. Kristi Hartshorn | Aye |
| Mrs. Betsy White      | Aye |
| Mr. Byrum Geisler     | Aye |

# E. VIRGINIA FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ADVISORY COUNCIL, FOIA, PRESERNTED BY Cam Bell.

Mr. Cam Bell informed the committee on how to handle FOIA requests. There are two kinds of FOIA requests, 1.) Access to documents and two.) Access to meetings. The Historic Preservation Review Board is a public body; it is required to follow the FOIA guidelines. The guidelines state that all records are public to include meeting documents, voicemails, Facebook posts, social media, etc. Mr. Bell told the group to be careful as to how they communicate, that this could be a FOIA request. Personnel records, town manager records. Etc. cannot be released as a FOIA request.

Mr. Bell also said that for a board to make decisions that it must have a quorum; this can be anywhere that three members are together discussing board activities. If more than, two members congregate and discuss board matters it is considered an open public meeting.

Public meetings can be legally recorded. A board must adopt a policy to allowing a member to join a meeting electronically, a person can only join twice a year electronically. For a member to join electronically it must be due to an illness or other applicable reason. If the board should need to hold a closed session, the board would need to adopt the code section to allow such a meeting.

Meeting are to be advertising three days prior to meeting date.

If a board member should be sued, it would be a suit against the Town not the individual.

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### E. PUBLIC COMMENTS - NONE

# **F. DISCUSSION (VIDEO 26:56 – 43:30)**

- 1. Preservation Plan Discussion
- 2. Follow up items for the next Regular HPRB Meeting on December 1, 2021:
  - 1. List the objectives underneath the goals as supplied by Mrs. White to include key assets.
  - 2. Select a kick-off meeting date.
  - 3. Compile a list of potential speakers for the Historic District expansion meeting to include the main speakers as well as citizens who are currently in the Historic District.
  - 4. Sign up for addresses for individual visits with those located in the DHR District.

The board discussed the following objectives to add to the goals created by Mrs. White.

Goal 1 - \*improve an understanding of and efficiency in administering the historic district by expanding it to match the footprint of the federal / state footprint.

### Objective for Goal 1:

- 1. It was suggested that goal 1 be the main priority.
- Goal 2 \*Improve awareness of and appreciation for the District among its property owners, its potential property owners, and the general public;

### **Objectives for Goal 2:**

- 1. Host a public event
- 2. Prepare and educational pamphlet
- 3. Hold training workshop
- 4. Develop outline, talking points, (such as tax credits), when visiting homeowners in the proposed expansion of the Historic District.
- Goal 3 \*improve the value of the Historic District to those who live in and visit the Historic District through the mitigation of traffic speed and noise violations;

### Objective for Goal 3:

- 1. Recommend specific to Town Council about mitigation of traffic control, speeding, noisy, lighting and landscaping on Plumb Alley.
- 2. Enforcement of compliance for homeowners. Regulate un-approved COA items.

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Goal 4 - \*improve the effectiveness of the historic preservation review process through ongoing education of its review board and through regular review and updates of its preservation ordinance;

Objectives for Goal 4:

- 1. Update ordinances
- 2. Train board members, develop a training schedule
- 3. Amend Historic District Town footprint to match the states
- 4. Match homeowners to addresses in proposed expansion of the Historic District.
- 5. Mrs. White to draft the new objectives.

Board is proposing a public meeting to be help in the spring for public education. Perhaps visit proposed homeowners a month before the public meeting to extend an invitation to attend the public meeting. Mrs. Rice has been in contact with Aubrey Von Linden and Mike Pulice from the DHR about coming to the public meeting, both have agreed to attend.

Mr. Boyd suggested that they invite Dr. Will "Bill" Kennedy from Jonesborough, TN as a speaker for the public event. Mrs. White is to draft the objective for the January 5, 2022 meeting. Mr. Geisler suggested that the main focus be on matching the states footprint.

### G. OLD BUSINESS/MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA – NONE

### H. ADJOURNMENT

On Motion by Mr. Boyd, seconded by Mr. Owens, for the board to adjourn the meeting.

The roll call vote was as follows:

| Mr. Peyton Boyd       | Aye |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Mr. Mike Owens        | Aye |
| Mrs. Kristi Hartshorn | Aye |
| Mrs. Betsy White      | Aye |
| Mr. Byrum Geisler     | Aye |

Mr. Geisler declared the meeting adjourned.

Meeting adjourned at 6:56 P. M.

Byrum Geisler, Chairman

Mayana Rice, Director of Community Development

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