TOWN OF ABINGDON HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW BOARD REGULAR MEETING WEDNESDAY, June 1, 2022 – 5:15 P.M. COUNCIL CHAMBERS– MUNICIPAL BUILDING

A Regular meeting of the Historic Preservation Review Board was held on Wednesday, June 1, 2022, 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. Mike Owens

Mrs. Kristi Hartshorn Mr. Byrum Geisler Mr. Peyton Boyd

Members Absent: Mrs. Betsy White

Comprising a quorum of the Board – Yes

Administrative Town Staff: Mrs. Mayana Rice, Director of Community

Development

Gabe Cristofari, Planner/GIS Specialist

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

May 4, 2022, Regular Meeting

On a motion by Mr. Owens seconded by Mr. Boyd, the board approved the minutes for May 4, 2022, Regular Meeting as presented. (VIDEO 2:05 – 2:35)

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Mike Owens Aye
Mrs. Kristi Hartshorn Aye
Mr. Byrum Geisler Aye
Mr. Peyton Boyd Aye

D. CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

1. Certificate of Appropriateness – Bradley Kinder, P.O. Box 426, Cedar Bluff, VA.; applicant. Application for Certificate of Appropriateness for signage. Located at 112 East Main Street, Abingdon, VA 24210. Tax Map No. (012-1-100) (VIDEO 2:36 – 26:40)

- A. Staff report
- **B.** Applicant presentation
- C. HPRB discussion and decision

The Staff report was given by Mr. Gabriel Cristofari

Mr. Cristofari stated the applicant is proposing to install a freestanding sign located at the front of the property, measuring 3 ft. x 5 ft. = 15 sq. ft., be roughly 5 ft. high, and affixed permanently to the ground. According to 42-C of the Design Review Guidelines, signs are allowed to be only 4 sq. ft., but the HPRB does have the authority to allow larger signs in the OH District if they deem it appropriate.

The proposed sign will be double sided and will read "Healing Waters Counseling Center", be constructed of high density urethane (HDU), the lettering and design will slightly protrude from the face of the sign and be painted white. The background will be painted a navy blue color, an interior border will be painted gold, and the outer border will be painted a bluish teal color.

Supporting the sign will be two 6 in. x 6 in. or 8 in. x 8 in., poles on either side of the proposed sign. Upon discussing with the applicant the construction details of the proposed sign and support poles on May 17, 2022, the applicant mentioned having a vinyl sleeve over the poles to prevent deterioration, but stated he would have wooden posts painted white with no vinyl sleeve if the board saw the vinyl sleeve to be inappropriate.

Upon further discussion with the applicant on site on May 19, 2022 the applicant intends on illuminating the sign. The applicant has already run a water electrical lines out to the area in the front yard of the property. The proposed sign will be directly over the outlet if not close nearby. The lines are underground and cannot be seen from the right of way. Section 23-A of the Design Review Guidelines stated,

i. Lighting should be concealed and should not use visible bulbs, flashing lights or luminous paints. Spot or up-lit lighting for signs is recommended, but they should not be backlit or internally lit.

Mr. Kinder was accompanied by Dr. Offield following Mr. Cristofari's staff report.

Mr. Kinder stated he had looked at other signs in town, specifically how they are illuminated.

Mr. Kinder stated the business' name is long and is difficult to fit "Healing Waters Counseling Center" on a smaller area. The dimensions of the proposed sign matches what his other locations' signs in Wytheville, Wise, and Cedar Bluff are currently. Another concern is there is another business, a day spa called "Healing Waters" in town, and afraid there may be confusion if they are unable to add "Counseling

Center". Also Mr. Kinder is concerned if the sign needs to be smaller the lettering would have to be smaller causing people to encounter difficulty in finding the business.

Mr. Kinder stated eventually he would like to put a water feature underneath the proposed sign. Mr. Kinder mentioned whatever the policy is with illuminating signs he would comply.

Mr. Kinder stated he had mentioned the proposed height to be 5 ft., but was willing to have the sign at whatever height the HPRB found appropriate.

Mrs. Hartshorn stated she had concerns about the size of the sign and say the HPRB tries to stick to the allowed 4 sq. ft. for signs in the OH District.

Mr. Geisler asked if there was a possibility of making the sign smaller. When looking at the sign it appears the sign could be brought in on the sides, bottom, and remove HWCC.

Mr. Kinder agreed HWCC could be removed. However, the reason the sign being 60 in. long is to fit the business' long name. Mr. Kinder stated is was open to the idea of shrinking the sign, but did not want to make it so small that you cannot read it.

Mr. Boyd asked if Mr. Kinder had a lot of walk-in business. Mr. Kinder stated it has been a mix.

Mr. Owens stated he thinks the sign is great, but is firm on the 4 sq. ft. requirement.

Mr. Geisler inquired how the applicant intends on illuminating the sign. Mr. Kinder said whatever the guidelines allow he would follow.

Mr. Geisler stated the guidelines would not allow any vinyl wrapping of the post, and stated wooden posts would be appropriate.

Mrs. Hartshorn asked who is making the applicant's sign. Mr. Kinder stated a Mr. Tim White out of Kingsport is making the sign.

Mrs. Rice stated the sign does not need to be 2x2 exclusively, but can be 4x1 or any other arrangement of dimensions so long as the sign is 4 sq. ft.

Mr. Kinder added the Building Official notified him he would need a ramp and is willing to comply, but is concerned the ramp will not be ready in time, and push back the opening day of his business.

Mr. Cristofari stated him and Mr. Statzer the Town of Abingdon's Building Official would give him a temporary COA stating the applicant would return with a ramp approved by Mr. Statzer first and then be forwarded to the HPRB for design review, so as to not push back the applicant's opening day.

On a motion by Mr. Owens seconded by Mrs. Hartshorn, the board approved the COA with the conditions the proposed sign's square footage be within the allowed 4 sq. ft., with wooden posts painted white, and the total height of the sign and support structure (posts) be 5 ft.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Mike Owens Aye
Mrs. Kristi Hartshorn Aye
Mr. Byrum Geisler Aye
Mr. Peyton Boyd Aye

2. Certificate of Appropriateness – Bruce Compton, 301 West Valley Street, Abingdon, VA.; applicant. Application for Certificate of Appropriateness for exterior changes. Located at 301 West Valley Street, Abingdon, VA 24210. Tax Map No. (011-5-110) (VIDEO 26:45 – 57:34)

- A. Staff report
- **B.** Applicant presentation
- C. HPRB discussion and decision

The Staff report was given by Mr. Gabriel Cristofari

Mr. Cristofari stated the applicant is proposing to replace the current door with a new insulated four paneled wooden door with a fanlight. The existing door facing W. Valley Street is an unpainted wooden door with horizontally oriented panels. The upper half includes a decorative inlaid glass panel. Wood carved details can be seen in the upper and middle sections of the existing door. Hardware for the existing door is intricate and most likely original. The door itself is most likely original or a very early alteration. From site visits the existing door is in good condition and is in no need of repair. According to sections 9-A and 9-C-1 of the Design Review Guidelines, original doors and hardware should not be removed or replaced.

The applicant is proposing to refinish the exposed portion of the foundation wall with a manmade stone veneer. From observation on site a small section of the brick foundation wall is exposed to the elements because the brown/tan stucco has begun to break away from the brick substrate. The small section is located on the West elevation of the building. Historically stucco acted as a protective barrier for the bricks against the elements. According to 15-A of the Design Review Guidelines, foundations should not be replaced but repaired as needed adhering to the original design features. Also 15-C states foundations should not be concealed by non-original materials.

The applicant is proposing to paint the original wooden clapboards a similar if not exact identical shade of yellow to match the existing paint color. The original clapboards are painted yellow. Much of the paint has or is peeling away from the wood substrate leaving the wood exposed to the elements.

According to discussions with the applicant's contractor Wade Nunley, they intend on reattaching window casings around the windows. There are currently no window casings around the windows, and were probably removed when the siding was removed.

The applicant is proposing to not replace the 5 pair of louvered shutters which were removed from the elevation. The only existing shutters found on the building are on the primary elevation. A majority of the houses in the area surrounding 301 W. Valley Street do not have shutters. It is unknown if these are original or not to the building. However, the building not having shutters would match the other buildings found throughout the immediate area.

The applicant is proposing to replace in kind new wooden clapboards to match existing where a replacement is needed. The existing clapboards appeared to have been encapsulated whenever vinyl siding was applied over the clapboards. While on site a few of the clapboards had either rotted off or are in bad condition because of rot.

Mr. Geisler stated the HPRB can't permit the removal of any original doors or windows unless the door or window is so deteriorated it is beyond repair.

Mr. Boyd stated the proposed door does not match the architectural style of the house.

Mr. Owens stated there are options to make the door more energy efficient.

Mr. Boyd asked if the applicant believes the door was stained wood at one time. Mr. Compton stated he does believe the door was stained.

Mr. Compton said he was told by the women who owned the house previously got the door off of Craig's list and was installed improperly.

Mr. Geisler asked if it fits the opening and Mr. Compton said it does not.

Mr. Owens recommend going to the Historical Society to see if they have a picture of the house showing the original door. If the existing door is indeed not original than they could work with.

Mr. Compton stated due to the door being improperly installed the door has a bow in it, letting heat out and bugs in. Additionally, bees have caused damage to the door. The door also has cracks in it.

Mr. Boyd asked if the applicant would be open to if they intend on replacing the door to replace the existing door with one that has a half glass light.

Mr. Geisler stated to move to the second issue being the foundation. He states the guidelines do not allow modern imitation rock to be place over the existing foundation. The applicant would need to repair the foundation and stucco over the repair to match existing. The appropriate repair would consist of replacing brick with brick and stucco over the brick.

Mr. Boyd asked if there was much damage to the brick foundation itself or was it isolated to where the stucco has come off. Mr. Compton stated there are several bricks missing. No foundation across the front.

Mrs. Hartshorn asked if the applicant had a basement. Mr. Compton stated he had a crawlspace.

Mr. Geisler stated the applicant matching the proposed paint to the existing paint was not a problem. Mr. Geisler asked if the applicant would be putting the window casings back around the windows and add new wooden clapboards were they are needed.

Mr. Compton confirmed both questions as true. Wade Nunley intends on taking some of the bottom boards and using those to replace the rotted or missing clapboards further up the façade of the building.

Mrs. Hartshorn asked what color the window casings would be. Mr. Compton stated the window casings would be painted white.

Mr. Geisler asked if the existing shutters were original or a modern imitation. Mr. Compton stated the existing shutters are plastic.

Mr. Geisler stated since the shutters are not original there is no problem with not replacing them.

Mr. Owens asked how does the applicant intend on finishing the space below the windows where there are no clapboards. Mr. Compton said he was going to use new clapboards and paint them yellow.

On a motion by Mr. Owens seconded by Mrs. Hartshorn, the board approved the COA with the conditions:

- The proposed yellow paint is appropriate and can be used.
- Repairing of the wooden clapboard siding with new wooden clapboards to match the existing where repair is needed is appropriate.
- The casings around windows painted white are appropriate.
- The repair of the foundation with brick and stucco over is appropriate. Stucco color must match existing stucco color.
- The existing door cannot be replaced and is tabled until a suitable replacement is reviewed by the HPRB.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Mike Owens	Aye
Mrs. Kristi Hartshorn	Aye
Mr. Byrum Geisler	Aye
Mr. Peyton Boyd	Aye

- **3.** Certificate of Appropriateness David Siegner, 1088 Hillman Hwy. NE, Abingdon, VA.; applicant. Application for Certificate of Appropriateness for signage. Located at 306 Depot Square SW, Abingdon, VA 24210. Tax Map No. (019-2-15) (VIDEO 1:02:25 1:14:40)
 - A. Staff report
 - **B.** Applicant presentation
 - C. HPRB discussion and decision

The Staff report was given by Mr. Gabriel Cristofari

Mr. Cristofari stated the applicant is proposing to install a freestanding sign located at the front of the property fronting Depot Square, measure 32 in. x 18 in. = 4 sq. ft., roughly 5 ft. to 6 ft. tall, constructed of CNC carved high density urethane (HDU), and be permanently affixed to the ground. The proposed sign will be double sided and will read "Mr. SIEGNER'S MENS SHOP".

Supporting the sign will be a pole either of wood or metal, have a wooden frame with metal rustic accents and be primed and painted. The proposed sign frame as described by the applicant will be similar to the Tavern's on E. Main Street.

Illumination of the sign was not mentioned in the proposal; staff assumes the sign will not be illuminated.

Color scheme for the sign is as follows:

- Two black right angle triangles in the top left and bottom right of the sign. Lettering within the two black right angle triangles are white.
- Within the center of the sign running diagonally across from the bottom left corner to the top right corner is a white strip with black lettering.

Mr. Siegner stated for clarification the address given to the applicant is 304 Depot Square SW.

Mr. Siegner stated he wishes to have the sign lit, but was unable to submit the lighting intended to be used in the proposal submitted due to time constraints.

Mr. Geisler stated they would have to see the lighting to be used before approval can be granted for lighting the sign.

Mr. Siegner mentioned the purple tie on the sign was going to be of a reflective material. But if the tie being reflective would be a problem he is happy with simply painting it purple as seen on the design submitted.

Mr. Owens asked if the tie was reflective would the tie still be purple. Mr. Siegner stated the tie would still be purple.

Mr. Siegner clarified the proposed sign will not be two sided, but one sided instead with a finished back.

On a motion by Mrs. Hartshorn seconded by Mr. Owens, the board approved the COA as presented.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Mike Owens Aye
Mrs. Kristi Hartshorn Aye
Mr. Byrum Geisler Aye

Mr. Peyton Boyd Aye

4. Certificate of Appropriateness – Matt Smith, MNS Rentals LLC & Do It All Services, Kevin Reap, 212 W. Valley Street, Abingdon, VA.; owners. Application for Certificate of Appropriateness to construct a new 3 ft. x 5 ft. porch landing, stairs, and install a new metal railing. Located at 212 W. Valley St., Abingdon, VA 24210. Tax Map No. (012-1-65) (VIDEO 1:15:18 – 1:21:18)

- A. Staff report
- **B.** Applicant presentation
- C. HPRB discussion and decision

The Staff report was given by Mr. Gabriel Cristofari

Mr. Cristofari stated the applicant is proposing to construct a wooden 3 ft. x 5 ft. landing directly in front of the previously approved enclosed porch door with four new wooden treads leading down to the existing walkway. The new wooden landing and stairs will be painted the same color as the front porch which was approved at the April 6th meeting. The proposed railing is metal painted black.

The existing balustrade is wooden and painted white. The existing covered landing and stairs are painted a bluish gray color matching the color of the building. There are five treads leading down to an existing walkway. According to section 33-B of the Design Review Guidelines, new construction porches should employ a traditional design which is compatible with the architectural style and period of the particular associated building. Sections 34-A and 35-A both state that original material should be maintained or restored back to existing design if removed or replaced.

Mr. John Bright represented Matt Smith and Kevin Reap.

On a motion by Mr. Owens seconded by Mrs. Hartshorn, the board approved the COA as presented.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Mike Owens Aye
Mrs. Kristi Hartshorn
Mr. Byrum Geisler Aye
Mr. Peyton Boyd Aye

5. Certificate of Appropriateness – Tonya Triplett, Town of Abingdon, P.O. Box 789, Abingdon, VA.; owner. Application for Certificate of Appropriateness for two screen doors. Located at 208 West Main Street, Abingdon, VA 24210. Tax Map No. (012-1-125) (VIDEO 1:21:27 – 1:21:18)

- A. Staff report
- **B.** Applicant presentation
- C. HPRB discussion and decision

The Staff report was given by Mrs. Mayana Rice

Mrs. Rice stated the applicant is proposing to install two screen doors. The two proposed screen doors will be located at the main entrance facing W. Main Street and the back door facing Remsburg Drive. Staff conducted research to see when and if a screen door was ever put on the house. The house is known as the Fields-Penn House, was built 1859 and there have been numerous owners over time. In "Places In Time" Volume I, there was a screen door in front of the main entrance door. When looking at the overall history the screen door was removed in 1989. Overall a screen door was only part of the building for 12 years out of the total 163 years of the buildings existence. The back screen door would be simplistic, and the front door would be a little more intricate with panels on the bottom section of the screen door mimicking details of the wooden panel located underneath the sidelights.

Mrs. Triplett stated the doors would be built by a Hunter Danhart.

Mr. Geisler asked if the screen door would be painted white. Mrs. Triplett confirmed the screen doors would be painted white.

The HPRB noted the simpler the better and recommend the back door would be appropriate for the front as well.

Mrs. Triplett stated she would return with designs for a storm door.

The proposed COA was tabled. The applicant will return at a later date with designs for a storm door.

- **6. Certificate of Appropriateness** Derek H. Webb, 147 Valley Street NE, Abingdon, VA.; applicant. Application for Certificate of Appropriateness for roof replacement. Located at 147 Valley Street NE, Abingdon, VA 24210. Tax Map No. (012-1-43) (VIDEO 1:31:24 1:36:06)
 - A. Staff report
 - **B.** Applicant presentation
 - C. HPRB discussion and decision

The Staff report was given by Mrs. Mayana Rice

Mrs. Rice stated the applicant is proposing to replace the existing pressed tin shingle roof with a painted black standing seam roof. The roof is part of a more extensive project involving the roof. The roof is leaking and the applicant wanted to get it approved as soon as possible. In "Places In Time" Volume II written by Nanci C. King, the building was built in 1909 and the existing roof appears to be the original.

On a motion by Mr. Owens seconded by Mrs. Hartshorn, the board approved the COA as presented.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Mike Owens Aye
Mrs. Kristi Hartshorn Aye
Mr. Byrum Geisler Aye
Mr. Peyton Boyd Aye

F. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

G. BUSINESS/MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

- 1. Update on the Abingdon Historic Preservation Day
 - a. Panel Members
 - b. Timeline for August 18th

We were able to secure The Martha Ballroom. Donna Marie offered to do a cemetery tour and is an option if we want to set that up. The DHR supplied us with various names of other governments and organizations who they thought should attend. The goal of the day is to provide various types of trainings, and promote historic preservation to all who want to participate throughout the various activities throughout the day.

The only aspect not nailed down at the moment is the availability of the Summers Building.

H. MAY 2022 WAIVERS

289 W. VALLEY STREET WAVIER

127 E. MAIN STREET WAVIER

152 E. MAIN STREET WAVIER

I. ADJOURNMENT

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

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Mike Owens	Aye
Mrs. Kristi Hartshorn	Aye
Mr. Byrum Geisler	Aye
Mr. Peyton Boyd	Aye

Mr. Geisler declared the meeting adjourned.

Meeting adjourned at 7:06 P. M.

Byrum Geisler, Chairman

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Mike Owens	Aye
Mrs. Kristi Hartshorn	Aye
Mr. Byrum Geisler	Aye
Mr. Peyton Boyd	Aye

Mr. Geisler declared the meeting adjourned.

Meeting adjourned at 7:06 P. M.

Byrum Geisler, Chairman

Mayana Rice, Director of Community Development