

**TOWN OF ABINGDON  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW BOARD  
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 2023 – 5:30 P.M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS– MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

A special called meeting of the Historic Preservation Review Board was held on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 at 5:30 pm in the Council Chambers in the Municipal Building.

**A. WELCOME BY– Mrs. Betsy White (Chair)**

**B. ROLL CALL – Mr. Gabriel Cristofari, Senior Planner/GIS**

Members of the Board Present:      **Mr. Dwayne Anderson**  
   **Mr. Peyton Boyd**  
   **Mr. Brooke Bunn**  
   **Mrs. Betsy White**  
   **Mrs. Kristi Hartshorn**

**Members Absent: None**

**Comprising a quorum of the Board – Yes**

Administrative Town Staff:              Mrs. Mayana Rice, Assistant Town Manager  
   Mr. Gabriel Cristofari, Senior Planner/GIS  
   Mr. Nick Howard, Planning Tech

**C. CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS**

**1. *Certificate of Appropriateness – Mary Sorenson, 117 W. Main Street, Abingdon, VA 24210. Owner. Certificate of Appropriateness for Landscaping & Railing Installation. Located at 117 W. Main Street, Abingdon, VA 24210. Tax Map (012-1-84)***

**A. Staff report**

**B. Applicant presentation**

**C. HPRB discussion and decision**

Gabriel Cristofari provided the staff report.

Mary Sorenson (Applicant/Owner) has requested approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness for landscaping, a metal railing, and concrete steps. The property is located on 117 W. Main Street (Parcel 012-1-84).

The property is within the Old and Historic Zoning District (Sub-District 1).

The one and a half story Craftsman style structure dates back to the early 1930's and is a contributing structure. The garage located at the rear of the property is noncontributing.

Refer to March 2023 and April 2023 staff reports and decision letters for details concerning previous portions of this project and approvals.

The applicant proposed various types of foliage and a decorative rock formation in the southeast corner green space of the property. The ground cover for the southeast corner green space will consist of pea gravel of various earthen tones.

Within the front courtyard running along the concrete retaining wall will be garden beds. The existing brick walkways will be torn out and replaced with earthen tone concrete pavers set in a herringbone pattern. The bricks from the existing walkways will be re-laid in a herringbone pattern as a perimeter around the centrally located earthen tone concrete pavers.

Leading from the central courtyard to the green space in the southwest corner are proposed concrete steps. The proposed concrete steps will match as close as possible to the existing concrete steps and retaining wall.

In the southwest corner of the property will be a 10 ft. metal flagpole with associated gardens nearby throughout. The garden beds as depicted on the site plan will be covered with pea gravel of various earthen tones. The remaining space will be brown pea gravel.

The applicant also proposed a metal railing/handrail for the steps leading from the applicant's front courtyard to the Town owned sidewalk. The newel post will resemble a log, whereas the remaining features of the railing will resemble tree branches. No historical evidence could be found showing this railing design was located at 117 W. Main Street.

Mrs. Sorenson clarifies that the brick being proposed for the courtyard will not be laid in a herringbone pattern, but rather in a soldier pattern.

Gravel being proposed would be similar to a smooth river rock, colored in earthen tones.

Public comments were made by an individual. He stated that the Department of Interior guidelines specify that additions to houses are supposed to be consistent with the historic use of the property as well as consistent with the existing structure of the property. He states that the type and style of the proposed handrail should be consistent with the style of the house.

**On a motion by Mrs. Hartshorn, seconded by Mr. Anderson, the board voted to approve all of the items on the application except the proposed handrail in the front courtyard.**

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

<b>Mr. Dwayne Anderson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Peyton Boyd</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mrs. Brooke Bunn</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mrs. Betsy White</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**Mrs. Kristi Hartshorn      Aye**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS - None**

**D. BUSINESS/MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

- 122 Valley Street COA Waiver, Landscaping
- 164 Valley Street COA Waiver, Like for Like Window Replacement
- 227 E Main Street COA Waiver, Painting House Same Paint Scheme

**G. ADJOURNMENT**

**On a motion by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mrs. Hartshorn, the board voted to adjourn the meeting.**

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

<b>Mr. Dwayne Anderson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Peyton Boyd</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mrs. Brooke Bunn</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mrs. Betsy White</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mrs. Kristi Hartshorn</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**Mrs. White declared the meeting adjourned.**

**Meeting adjourned at 6:00 P. M.**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Betsy White, Chairman**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Gabriel Cristofari, Senior Planner/GIS Specialist**

- 164 Valley Street, COA Waiver, Like for Like Window Replacement
- 227 E. Main Street, COA Waiver, Repainting House Same Paint Scheme

**G. ADJOURNMENT**

**On motion by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mrs. Hartshorn, the board voted to adjourn the meeting.**


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

<b>Mr. Dwayne Anderson</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mr. Peyton Boyd</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mrs. Brooke Bunn</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mrs. Betsy White</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mrs. Kristi Hartshorn</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**Mrs. White declared the meeting adjourned.**

**Meeting adjourned at 5:58 P. M.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_ **Betsy White, Chairman**

  
\_\_\_\_\_ **Gabriel Cristofari, Senior Planner/GIS Specialist**