

The Smithfield Board of Historic and Architectural Review held its regular meeting on July 21st, 2015. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Members present were Mr. Roger Ealy, Chairman; Mr. Trey Gwaltney, Vice Chairman; Mr. Ronny Prevatte, Mr. Gary Hess, and Mr. Jeff Yeaw. Mr. Russell Parrish and Ms. Julia Hillegass were absent. Staff members present were Mr. Joseph Reish, Planning Technician and Mr. William H. Riddick III, Town Attorney. There were five (5) citizens present.

Chairman Ealy – I would like to call the July 21st, 2015 Board of Historic and Architectural Review meeting to order. The first item on the agenda is the Town Planner's Report.

Planning Technician – Thank you, Chairman. Mr. Saunders is at a conference. There have not been any administrative approvals lately. We do have the Cary and Main Street project on the agenda. The process is ongoing. I believe the rezoning application is complete. Mr. Saunders asked that all of the Board members bring their items from the June meeting to the August meeting.

Town Attorney – There will be a public hearing at the next Planning Commission meeting.

Chairman Ealy – Next is Upcoming Meetings and Activities. We do not have any Public Comments tonight. Are there any Board Member Comments? Hearing none, we will move on to Proposed Sign – 121 N. Church Street – Jullian & Carolyn Ricks. Is there anyone to speak on behalf of this? Does anyone have any comments?

Vice Chairman Gwaltney – It meets the criteria.

Chairman Ealy – It meets the criteria. In my opinion it is very unobtrusive.

Mr. Yeaw – I would like to make a motion to approve as presented.

Mr. Hess – Second.

Chairman Ealy – A motion has been made and properly seconded. All those in favor signify by saying aye, opposed say nay.

On call for the vote, five members were present. Chairman Ealy voted aye, Vice Chairman Gwaltney voted aye, Mr. Hess voted aye, Mr. Yeaw voted aye, and Mr. Prevatte voted aye. There were no votes against the motion. The motion passed.

Chairman Ealy – The next item is Proposed Window Replacement – 119 North Church Street – Robert Redlin.

Planning Technician – I was asked to distribute this color chip to the Board members if anyone would like to see it.

Chairman Ealy – Is this the bronze color that the windows will be? Is there anyone to speak on behalf of this?

Mr. Redlin – My name is Bob Redlin. I am the property owner for 119 North Church Street. I am proposing to replace the eighty-four year old windows. The current windows are single pane wooden windows. I propose to install double pane vinyl windows with a bronze exterior and a white interior. The grid work in the half moon windows will be the same as what is currently in the building

Chairman Ealy – Will the door itself be replaced?

Mr. Redlin – The door is not currently planned to be replaced.

Chairman Ealy – Will you be replacing the transom over the door?

Mr. Redlin - No.

Chairman Ealy – It will strictly be the two large windows.

Mr. Redlin – The two rectangular windows and the half moon windows above them will be replaced.

Vice Chairman Gwaltney – Will the sashes be operational?

Mr. Redlin – No.

Vice Chairman Gwaltney – They will be solid fixed windows.

Mr. Redlin – Correct.

Chairman Ealy – We have allowed this on a number of buildings. I can understand people wanting to do it.

Mr. Prevatte – It will definitely cut down on maintenance.

Mr. Redlin – The current windows in the building have been repaired and caulked for numerous years. The building gets a lot of exposure to the sun and heat. It is a case where the window panes are starting to fall out because the wood dividers have dry rotted over the last eighty years.

Chairman Ealy – Are there any comments?

Vice Chairman Gwaltney – I would like to make a motion to approve as presented.

Mr. Yeaw – Second.

Chairman Ealy – A motion has been made and properly seconded. All those in favor signify by saying aye, opposed say nay.

On call for the vote, five members were present. Chairman Ealy voted aye, Vice Chairman Gwaltney voted aye, Mr. Hess voted aye, Mr. Yeaw voted aye, and Mr. Prevatte voted aye. There were no votes against the motion. The motion passed.

Chairman Ealy – Our next item is Proposed Privacy Fence – 211 Washington Street – Russell Hill.

Mr. Hill – My name is Russell Hill. I am the owner of the property.

Mr. Prevatte – The house looks nice.

Mr. Hill – Thank you. I apologize for the length of time it took to get it done. It was worth the wait I think.

Chairman Ealy – From what I can tell this fence is strictly going to be in the backyard.

Mr. Hill – Yes.

Chairman Ealy – It will be really hard to see it from the road.

Mr. Hill – I think Mr. Reish took a few pictures and added them to the packet. There is only one two foot section that will be seen from the road. We are trying to get some privacy from the homeowner on the left hand side. That property is pretty dilapidated. I am just trying to fence off the backyard.

Vice Chairman Gwaltney – I am looking at the survey. It goes through a shed.

Mr. Hill – The shed is no longer there.

Vice Chairman Gwaltney – I guess the people on Lot 7 keep their yard in an acceptable level so you do not need a fence on that side.

Mr. Hill – If I could afford it I would put a fence on that side too. It is a rental property. They have someone renting it now.

Mr. Hess – What is the clearance between the fence and the ground?

Mr. Hill – It is probably about four or five inches. It is a pretty flat lot.

Mr. Prevatte – I would like to make a motion to approve as presented.

Mr. Hess – Second.

Chairman Ealy – A motion has been made and properly seconded. All those in favor signify by saying aye, opposed say nay.

On call for the vote, five members were present. Chairman Ealy voted aye, Vice Chairman Gwaltney voted aye, Mr. Hess voted aye, Mr. Yeaw voted aye, and Mr. Prevatte voted aye. There were no votes against the motion. The motion passed.

Planning Technician – Mr. Hill come get a zoning permit for this sometime in the future.

Chairman Ealy – The next item is Proposed Awning Replacement – 215 Main Street – Jessica Casper.

Planning Technician – Mr. Chairman, I have a sample of the fabric to pass around to the Board members.

Chairman Ealy – This is going to mimic what is there right now other than the color.

Vice Chairman Gwaltney – It has a stripe. If I am correct what is there right now is solid. They are adding a striped fabric.

Mr. Prevatte – Can you get these treated against dirt?

Ms. Casper – My name is Jessica Casper. I am the owner of Vintage Potential at 215 Main Street. The guy from Virginia Canvas told me that it had about a ten year life expectancy. I think the current one has been up there for quite some time. My understanding it was damaged when they did the construction next door. It just has not been taken care of by the previous owner. I think this will be good for the beautification of the town and the store front.

Mr. Prevatte – It is definitely an improvement.

Chairman Ealy – I think that canvas has been up for close to fourteen years.

Vice Chairman Gwaltney – This is a maintenance issue. It appears to me like there are one or two spots on the existing awning where there is excessive amount of residue. I am questioning whether there is something going on with the roof where it is pouring down over those spots.

Ms. Casper – I am sure that is a possibility.

Vice Chairman Gwaltney – Three or four years from now you could have the same issue because the water is not draining right. There is not a tree there.

Chairman Ealy – The roof slopes the opposite way.

Vice Chairman Gwaltney – I am just wondering what is causing it. Something has been pouring on it. I do not know if it was a leak from the sign that was there previously.

Ms. Casper – It has been like that since I have been there.

Vice Chairman Gwaltney – It has been there for a long time. I have not stood out there in the rain to see what happens. I do not know if there is something pouring off of

the roof. I assume it is just like a little façade wall at the top of the roof. The rest of the roof runs flat off the back.

Chairman Ealy – I cannot recall the sign that was there before.

Ms. Casper – It was a flat sign. I have mounted mine to it.

Vice Chairman Gwaltney - I do not know how much of this is our discussion to have tonight but that would be my only concern. In a few years if you have the same problem then you will be cleaning it or coming back to us.

Ms. Casper – We will be taking much better care of it. I do not think it has ever been properly cleaned. We will stay on top of it.

Vice Chairman Gwaltney – I have seen something with the Modlin's sign before there may be some birds nesting in it.

Mr. Hess – I would like to make a motion to approve as presented.

Mr. Prevatte – Second.

Chairman Ealy – A motion has been made and properly seconded. All those in favor signify by saying aye, opposed say nay.

On call for the vote, five members were present. Chairman Ealy voted aye, Vice Chairman Gwaltney voted aye, Mr. Hess voted aye, Mr. Yeaw voted aye, and Mr. Prevatte voted aye. There were no votes against the motion. The motion passed.

Mr. Prevatte – This sign will pop when you come through town. It will help your business too.

Ms. Casper – Thank you.

Chairman Ealy – Our next item is Approval of the June 16th, 2015 Meeting Minutes.

Town Attorney – Mr. Chairman and members of the Board, I made some minor revisions and recommend that the minutes be approved as revised.

Vice Chairman Gwaltney – So moved.

Mr. Yeaw – Second.

Chairman Ealy – A motion has been made and properly seconded. All those in favor signify by saying aye, opposed say nay.

On call for the vote, five members were present. Chairman Ealy voted aye, Vice Chairman Gwaltney voted aye, Mr. Hess voted aye, Mr. Yeaw voted aye, and Mr. Prevatte voted aye. There were no votes against the motion. The motion passed.

Chairman Ealy – Is there any other business? We are adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Roger Ealy
Chairman

Mr. Joseph Reish
Planning Technician