

The Smithfield Board of Historic and Architectural Review held its regular meeting on April 16th, 2013. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. Members present were Mr. Roger Ealy, Chairman, Mr. Cecil Gwaltney Ms. Nancy Fortier, Vice Chair; Ms. Julie Hillegass, Mr. Trey Gwaltney, and Mr. Ronny Prevatte. Mr. Russell Parrish was absent. Staff members present were Mr. William G. Saunders IV, Planner/GIS Coordinator; and Mr. William H. Riddick III, Town Attorney. There were nine (9) citizens present.

Chairman Ealy – I would like to call this meeting of the Board of Historical and Architectural Review to order. The first item on the agenda is the Town Planner's Report.

Planner/GIS Coordinator – Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to report that there was an administrative approval for shingles and trim paint of similar colors and materials at 103 Cary Street. Also, there was approval for shingles of similar materials and colors at 331 South Church Street since the last meeting.

Chairman Ealy – Next we have a list of Upcoming Meetings and Activities. Next is Public Comments. We do not have anyone signed up for public comments. Next is Board Member Comments. Are there any comments from the Board? Next we have Proposed Color Change – 207 North Mason Street – Contributing – Jim and Kathie Kline, applicants. Is there anyone to speak on behalf of this? Please come to the podium and state your name for the record.

Mr. Kline – My name is Jim Kline. We just moved here from Wyoming last summer. The house that we purchased needs painting. The historical guidelines said that we needed to paint it brown, green, or rust. We did not like the dark baby food spinach color that it is now. We wanted to make it a lighter color. We are proposing to paint it a tan color like this room and put dark brown trim on it. There are quite a few of the porch railings that have the balusters painted the same color as the siding as opposed to the same color as the trim around town. We thought that would give it a real nice appearance. We would like to keep the balusters the siding color instead of the trim color.

Chairman Ealy – Are there any questions or comments?

Mr. Prevatte – Is this a simple Queen Anne?

Mr. Kline – Yes sir. It is a Victorian with two and a half stories. It is at the top of the hill on Mason Street.

Mr. Cecil Gwaltney – Have you tried a large sample of this?

Mr. Kline – Have we tried a large sample? No sir.

Mr. Cecil Gwaltney – It looks like it is a little pink. You may end up with a pinker trim than you think.

Mr. Kline – It might look a little bit salmon. We might make sure that we get a tan.

Mr. Cecil Gwaltney – It may turn out that way.

Mr. Prevatte - You know a dark brown is going to fade quickly.

Mr. Kline – On the trim? Our second choice was having it a brick color.

Mr. Prevatte – I am just saying as a helpful hint that it will fade.

Mr. Kline – It is a good thing to comment. When we contract with a painter we will certainly address that issue with them.

Mr. Prevatte – If you go with a product such as a waterborne product it will not fade as quick because the pigments are different and stronger. That is just a little helpful hint.

Mr. Kline – Thank you.

Vice Chair Fortier – I make a motion that we approve as presented.

Ms. Hillegass – Second.

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

On call for the vote, six members were present. Ms. Hillegass voted aye, Mr. Prevatte voted aye, Mr. Cecil Gwaltney voted aye, Mr. Roger Ealy voted aye, Mr. Trey Gwaltney and Ms. Nancy Fortier voted aye. There were no votes against the motion. The motion passed.

Chairman Ealy – Next is Proposed New Shutters – 336 Main Street – Landmark – Ronny Prevatte, applicant.

Mr. Prevatte – I am Ronny Prevatte. I live at 351 South Church Street. I am requesting approval to put board and batten shutters at 336 Main Street. It is a simple Queen Anne. I am making these fit to the proportions of the window for the width and height. They will not be operable because I have storm windows. I will have them screwed on but I will probably use pintles so they will swing. I am making them out of 1” x 4” pressure treated tongue and grooved wood. The color that I presented was wrong but this is the color. As you can see in the drawing I did a set to show you what it would look like. I think board and batten shutters are probably some of the best looking

shutters there is. They are simple to make and economical to use. I think they look good on a Victorian house.

Vice Chair Fortier – They will not be on the front at all because there is not room.

Mr. Prevatte – No. They will be on the sides mainly at the top. I could make them operable but I would have to use larger hinges.

Chairman Ealy – With storm windows then you cannot use them anyway.

Mr. Trey Gwaltney – Is this comparable to what is on the front door/storm door in the picture?

Mr. Prevatte – No.

Mr. Trey Gwaltney – Would it be used anywhere else on the house?

Mr. Prevatte – No. The house is missing something and I think it is shutters. I like shutters. You can make a set of these for about sixty dollars. It takes about an hour.

Vice Chair Fortier – I think that they will look very nice. I make a motion to approve as presented.

Mr. Cecil Gwaltney – Second

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

On call for the vote, six members were present. Ms. Hillegass voted aye, Mr. Cecil Gwaltney voted aye, Mr. Roger Ealy voted aye, Mr. Trey Gwaltney and Ms. Nancy Fortier voted aye. Mr. Prevatte abstained. There was one abstention. There were no votes against the motion. The motion passed.

Town Attorney – For the record, Mr. Prevatte did not vote on his own application.

Chairman Ealy – Next is Proposed Siding Change – 203 Main Street – Landmark – Jeffrey Stark, applicant. Is there anyone to speak on behalf of this?

Mr. Stark – My name is Jeffrey Stark. I am the owner of the Parker house on the corner of Main Street and South Mason Street. I know that everybody is very familiar with it because of its rather salacious reputation over many years when Dr. Parker lived there and since I have been living there as well. I am requesting a siding change. In the thirteen years since I undertook the renovation of that house we have replaced about eighty-five percent of the wood siding with new wood siding. In that length of time, I have probably spent about another three or four thousand dollars replacing siding that has rotted faster than I have been able to replace it. My proposal is that we replace all of that siding on the original portion of the house with a beaded hardie plank siding.

Essentially the same color with some trim replacement as well. The trim is also rotted. It will look virtually identical to how it looks now. On the Victorian section of the house we do not plan to replace the siding. In the front, it is actually not the beaded board siding so it should not make any difference. It should not change the look of the house from what it is right now. I would like to have Mr. Michael Hatchett from Hatchett Renovation come up and give you a brief explanation of how he put together the proposal for these changes.

Mr. Cecil Gwaltney – Did Mr. Dameron do your house before?

Mr. Stark – He did.

Mr. Hatchett – My name is Michael Hatchett. I have the color sample here I do not know if that would be helpful for you to pass it around. Navajo Beige is the color. This is the closest match with hardie plank. As Mr. Stark said, we are taking the siding off and replacing it with hardy plank to have the same feel and the same look. It is beaded siding. We will replace the window trim when we replace the siding.

Chairman Ealy – I have no qualms with the siding whatsoever. For the window trim, I want to see it replicated to match what is coming off.

Mr. Hatchett – Okay.

Chairman Ealy – What do you intend to do that with?

Mr. Hatchett – I talked to Mr. Saunders this morning. He suggested the Azek bed molding. We can either use that trim to replicate that look or we can just replace the trim that has to be replaced because it is rotten and just go back with wood.

Chairman Ealy – Basically, it is a pretty simple molding. It is just a flat board with a bead on the inside edge with an OG back band running around it. I have no qualms with either way. I just want to retain that detail because it is a landmark structure.

Mr. Hatchett – Sure.

Chairman Ealy – I am glad to see that you are leaving the Victorian end as is.

Mr. Stark – My goal with this project is to have it outlast me so that I will not have to come back here again.

Mr. Cecil Gwaltney – In the presentation you did, which quite honestly is very thorough and very detailed. You did not mention the railing on the front porch. Do you plan to remove it or repair it?

Mr. Hatchett – No sir. There is nothing in our agreement with Mr. Stark to do that.

Mr. Stark – I was not making that part of this project.

Mr. Cecil Gwaltney – The front porch is what you see when you ride down the street.

Chairman Ealy – Do you intend to duplicate what was originally there?

Mr. Stark – The rail is still there but the pickets are gone.

Ms. Hillegass – I make a motion to approve as presented.

Mr. Trey Gwaltney – Second

Chairman Ealy – Can we include the stipulation that the window trim be duplicated?

Ms. Hillegass – Certainly.

Mr. Cecil Gwaltney – What is the motion?

Chairman Ealy – To approve the package as presented with the understanding that the window trim will be replicated or repaired.

Mr. Trey Gwaltney – And the porch railing.

Chairman Ealy – And the porch railing.

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

On call for the vote, six members were present. Ms. Hillegass voted aye, Mr. Prevatte voted aye, Mr. Cecil Gwaltney voted aye, Mr. Roger Ealy voted aye, Mr. Trey Gwaltney and Ms. Nancy Fortier voted aye. There were no votes against the motion. The motion passed.

Chairman Ealy – Next is Proposed Exterior Renovations – Hayden’s Lane – No Designation – Carolyn Burke, Smithfield Gourmet Bakery, applicants. Is there anyone to speak on behalf of this?

Ms. Burke – My name is Carolyn Burke. I own the Smithfield Gourmet Bakery and Café. We are proposing to install a wrought iron fence around the patio that is being installed to replicate exactly the fence that is already there along Hayden’s Lane. He is part of the operations so he can explain better to you exactly what we are going to do if that is okay.

Chairman Ealy – That is fine. Please give your name for the record.

Mr. Slabinski – My name is Joseph Slabinski. I am the President of Country Landscaping here in Isle of Wight. The wrought iron fence that was proposed I believe you got a copy of the drawing. It is a simple drawing because it is a simple fence. The posts are 2” x 2” boxed tubing. The crossbars are half inch U-channel. The pickets are

half inch square stock. The half inch square stock protrudes both the upper and the lower crossbars by an inch and half. They are four inches apart. The only thing we have to play around with is the cap. The cap that is on the existing fence now has either been stamped with a half inch ball bearing or a three quarter inch ball bearing. After we make our caps we will actually play around a little bit and see what mirror images what is already on the fence that goes across the front and back of Hayden's Lane. It will be exactly the same thing that is there now. The posts will be thirty six inches. The other thing that is going to be unique about this fence too is because there are so many utilities running through that section we are actually going to make the fence removable. The posts and the panels will be removable so that Columbia Gas or whoever needs to get in there can. The patio that we just started laying today is actually removable as well. There is no concrete underneath it. It is all dry set. We will be putting polymeric sand in there tomorrow into the joints. It is something that can be completely removed for access. The fence will be sprayed black with heavy oil based paint to kind of mirror image what is there. Unfortunately, you cannot dull it down to what is on the existing fence so it will be darker for a while until the sun takes over.

Vice Chair Fortier – I think you are approaching this in a very smart way. I think it will be pretty. I make a motion to approve as presented.

Mr. Cecil Gwaltney – Second.

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

On call for the vote, six members were present. Ms. Hillegass voted aye, Mr. Prevatte voted aye, Mr. Cecil Gwaltney voted aye, Mr. Roger Ealy voted aye, Mr. Trey Gwaltney and Ms. Nancy Fortier voted aye. There were no votes against the motion. The motion passed.

Chairman Ealy – Next is a Proposed Fence – 115 Main Street (Bank of Southside Virginia Bank) – Contributing – Town of Smithfield, applicant.

Planner/GIS Coordinator – I do not know if anybody is going to be here to represent this tonight with the Town as the applicant. Mr. Riddick may know more about this agreement than I do. From what I understand, this is a case where the Town is going to install a fence along the Bank of Southside Virginia retaining wall on the back of their parking lot adjacent to where the Farmer's Market is held. There is a drop off on that retaining wall and I guess it is a safety issue for the Farmer's Market. Bank of

Southside Virginia is the owner of the property. The Town is asking for approval for the fence along the top of the retaining wall because the town's use for it as the Farmer's Market.

Town Attorney – That is correct. The Bank of Southside Virginia entered into a license agreement with the Town. They are allowing the town to use that parking lot, as it has for several years now, as the site for the Farmer's Market. The Farmer's Market organization wanted to make some improvements. One thing that came to their attention was the fact that there is a significant drop off there. The wall is only about eighteen inches tall at the most. Fortunately, though it has been there since 1953, to our knowledge there have not been any accidents or tragedies of any nature but it is still unsafe. They came to the conclusion that it would be safe and a nice decorative feature to put that fence along the retaining wall. This is the design that has been selected by the Town in consultation with the bank. They are asking for your approval.

Mr. Trey Gwaltney – Mr. Saunders, I do not know if you know this but I am assuming it goes out to Cedar Street or the sidewalk.

Town Attorney – Yes, it will run the whole length.

Town Planner/GIS Coordinator – There is actually a diagram on the invoice but I do not know how detailed it is. It is in your packet.

Mr. Trey Gwaltney – I was not sure if I saw where it said that. It is two hundred and thirty four linear feet from point A to point B.

Ms. Hillegass – I make a motion to approve as presented.

Vice Chair Fortier – Second.

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

On call for the vote, six members were present. Ms. Hillegass voted aye, Mr. Prevatte voted aye, Mr. Cecil Gwaltney voted aye, Mr. Roger Ealy voted aye, Mr. Trey Gwaltney and Ms. Nancy Fortier voted aye. There were no votes against the motion. The motion passed.

Chairman Ealy – Next is a Proposed Color, Roof and Siding Changes – 318 South Church Street – Landmark – Ernst and Faye Grootenboer, applicants.

Ms. Grootenboer – My name is Faye Grootenboer. We are proposing the changes that I sent to Mr. Saunders. Did you all get the colors? I change my mind sometimes. I changed from black to gray for the trim colors and shutters.

Chairman Ealy – Does anyone have any questions or comments?

Vice Chair Fortier – I have lived on this street most of my life that house has been white. I think this will be a nice change of pace. I am very excited for you all. I would like to make a motion to approve as presented with the shutter color that was presented this evening.

Mr. Cecil Gwaltney – Second.

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

On call for the vote, six members were present. Ms. Hillegass voted aye, Mr. Prevatte voted aye, Mr. Cecil Gwaltney voted aye, Mr. Roger Ealy voted aye, Mr. Trey Gwaltney and Ms. Nancy Fortier voted aye. There were no votes against the motion. The motion passed.

Chairman Ealy – Next is a Proposed Exterior Renovation - 211 Washington Street – Non-Contributing – Russell Hill, applicant.

Mr. Hill – My name is Russell Hill. The house right now has a lot of additions and a lot of roof lines as you can see in the picture. It does not have good curb appeal. I figure with the full “A” across the front and enclosing the front porch that it will make it a lot better looking house. The back of the house will be exactly the same “A” covering what is there. There are two or three roof additions back there too that are pretty hideous.

Mr. Trey Gwaltney – You are going to take this picture window here and take the two side sashes out?

Mr. Hill – The front door is going right where that picture window is now. If you are looking at the front of the house the left hand side of the door will be the left side of that small window. Can you see that?

Mr. Trey Gwaltney – Because you have extended the roof and are doing the whole roof line.

Mr. Hill – Yes. Right now it has those two little small additions. It will have an “A” roof line on both sides. The small addition on the right of the picture on the old house; the roof line will come up to the same height as the old house so that the “A” covers it all. That was a sun porch at one time on that side.

Mr. Trey Gwaltney – Is the 4 x 4 picture window in the drawing related to the one that is there?

Mr. Hill – No. It will look just like that. It is the same size.

Mr. Trey Gwaltney – Less the two sashes on the other side.

Mr. Hill – Right. In the old picture the door will be on your left and the picture window will be on your right. There will be about a foot and a half in between each one of them.

Chairman Ealy – I noticed that you are going to add brick veneer around the existing foundation. How are you going to handle that transition from that to your siding?

Mr. Hill – Just like we did the other house. I do not know if you ever looked at it. The brick skirt has a water table on it. We would run a piece of Ameritec on it and drop the siding on top. Since we are adding the front porch to it all the way across and I want that to be brick. I want the whole house to be brick because it has cinderblock on it now and is not real attractive. It adds so much character to the house.

Mr. Trey Gwaltney – What room does this little octagonal go into?

Mr. Hill – It is actually a half bath on the front of the house. You should be able to see the half bath on the floor plan.

Mr. Trey Gwaltney – Did you choose that octagonal window for any reason other than it is small?

Mr. Hill – If I could find an oval window I will use that instead. I drew it like that because I knew you all would have a bunch of questions about that. If I can find an oval window then I will change it.

Mr. Cecil Gwaltney – You certainly would not want to use a full size window.

Mr. Hill – I cannot. I just cannot get it in there. There is not enough room. I figured a transom window would look even worse than an octagonal window.

Chairman Ealy – I am not objecting to it. I am just curious. Why are you hanging on to that old picture window?

Mr. Hill – I am not. It is not the same window. I am just moving it over. Every window is coming out of there. If you rode by the house in the last two to three days; it does not look like the picture in your hand. There is no siding on it right now.

Chairman Ealy – I assume you are going with vinyl windows.

Mr. Hill – Yes. There will be all vinyl windows. The color of the hardy board is light grey and trimmed in white. It will have black shutters. There will be black handrail on the steps. The shingles will be black.

Mr. Trey Gwaltney – Please let the record show that I am making a face about the octagonal window.

Mr. Hill – I got that. I knew that when I drew it. It will look better than it does right now.

Ms. Hillegass – I make a motion to approve as presented.

Vice Chair Fortier – Second.

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

On call for the vote, six members were present. Ms. Hillegass voted aye, Mr. Prevatte voted aye, Mr. Cecil Gwaltney voted aye, Mr. Roger Ealy voted aye, Mr. Trey Gwaltney and Ms. Nancy Fortier voted aye. There were no votes against the motion. The motion passed.

Chairman Ealy – Next we have the Approval of the March 19th, 2013 Meeting Minutes.

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

Ms. Hillegass – So moved.

Vice Chair Fortier – Second.

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

On call for the vote, six members were present. Ms. Hillegass voted aye, Mr. Prevatte voted aye, Mr. Cecil Gwaltney voted aye, Mr. Roger Ealy voted aye, Mr. Trey Gwaltney and Ms. Nancy Fortier voted aye. There were no votes against the motion. The motion passed.

Chairman Ealy – Does anyone have any other business? The meeting is adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.