

The Smithfield Board of Historic and Architectural Review held its regular meeting on May 21st, 2013. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. Members present were Mr. Roger Ealy, Chairman, Mr. Cecil Gwaltney, Ms. Julie Hillegass, Mr. Trey Gwaltney, Mr. Ronny Prevatte and Mr. Russell Parrish. Ms. Nancy Fortier was absent. The staff member present was Mr. William G. Saunders IV, Planner/GIS Coordinator. There were three (3) 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 have one item the replacement of three tab shingles with architectural shingles with the same or similar color at 601 Cedar Street located at the Cedar Street Apartments.

Chairman Ealy – Next is Upcoming Meetings and Activities. There are no Public Comments tonight. Are there any Board Member Comments? The next item is a Window Change – 112 Main Street, The Smithfield Inn – Landmark – Wayne Davis, Smithfield Foods, applicants. Is there anyone to speak on behalf of this? Please give your name for the record.

Mr. Davis – My name is Wayne Davis. I am with Smithfield Foods representing the Smithfield Inn. We would like to replace all fifty one windows in the main building from the current wood frame to aluminum clad window. The windows mainly upstairs are in bad shape. The Inn is losing money with guest because the windows are so bad that they have to refund guests because they are not comfortable. We are proposing the aluminum clad for maintenance and energy efficiency. The color would be white. This example that I have here is the only one that I could get. The windows would not include a screen. The aluminum clad as far as maintenance is a cost savings in itself.

Chairman Ealy – Are there any trim changes whatsoever? It is a slide in sash.

Mr. Davis – No sir, there will not be any trim changes. Hopefully, it will be from the inside and nothing on the outside will be touched.

Chairman Ealy – My only other qualm since this is a landmark building which is held to a little higher standard I do not like the mullion between the glass. All of the others that we have approved on landmarks have been exterior applied mullions.

Mr. Davis – What are other landmarks in town that I could take a look at?

Chairman Ealy – Mr. Bill Riddick and Mr. Trey Gwaltney house.

Mr. Trey Gwaltney – In the first picture that we have is that what you have already?

Chairman Ealy – That is what he has.

Mr. Wayne Davis – This is exterior actually.

Chairman Ealy – I can understand that but being a landmark building it is held to a little higher standard.

Mr. Davis – I understand. That should not be terrible for us to do. Like I said, the between the glass is just an easier option. It is one less thing that we have to worry about years down the road. I understand that it is a landmark. It is certainly something that we can make sure that we have the exterior mullions and not between the glass.

Chairman Ealy – Would you like to amend your application for the record.

Mr. Davis – Yes sir.

Chairman Ealy – If you want to do that verbally right now then it would be sufficient.

Mr. Davis – Instead of the proposed mullions between the glass I propose the exterior mullions in replacement since it is a landmark building.

Mr. Parrish – Chairman are you also hoping that they will use the optional grill between the glass?

Mr. Trey Gwaltney – I think when you get them that it comes like that.

Mr. Parrish – No it is optional. You can see it.

Chairman Ealy – What the appearance is inside basically is his business. What the appearance is outside is our concern.

Mr. Trey Gwaltney – I know that when I had to decide on mine my concern was that if you did not have a spacer between them then you would see the glue from the backside of the piece applied. I thought that it could be a different color particularly if they are white. My windows have the center piece done in white. It all ties in together pretty well. If the windows are done like picture on the far left then you will have a nice looking window.

Mr. Davis – I do not see why we could not just go with the white to match the mullion itself. We are proposing white anyway.

Mr. Trey Gwaltney – It will cost more money. The picture of the window on the left will cost more than the picture in the middle.

Mr. Davis – I will have to talk to some people about that.

Mr. Trey Gwaltney – Given the fact that this is a historic landmark property and the appeal and ambiance of this building given the fact that the windows on the front porch are protected from the weather; I am wondering if anyone else on the board or Smithfield Foods would give some consideration to preserving the original windows on the front porch. One of my concerns is the antique glass that is in the windows I am assuming that it is in at least some of them still. The appearance of a historic building change dramatically when you take the antique glass out and put in new glass. I am wondering with just four windows on the front porch since they are parlors and dining rooms where people would be seated near those windows and noticing those types of thing. I do not know if any of the other Board members have any opinion about that. It is just a thought.

Chairman Ealy – I think it is a real nice point if they want to do it. I can see on the other hand from the energy standpoint.

Mr. Trey Gwaltney – I am sure that the building has other cracks and leaks in it than those four windows. I put those windows on the back and side. My house is close to the street and people stand looking at the windows.

Mr. Davis – I do not see why we would not consider that. There are more people involved than just me but I will share that with them as a concern from the Board. If you are willing to work with us I am sure they will be willing work with those four windows. I did come in with owner's representation but there is a hierarchy above me that will handle a matter like that. I will mention it and be glad to get back with the Board on their decision.

Mr. Trey Gwaltney – Only for those windows on the front porch because of the antique glass.

Mr. Davis – I understand because they are the most visible. I wish that I could tell you yes or no right now.

Mr. Parrish – I would like to make a motion that we approve the new windows with the simulated divided light including the grill between the glass option for fifty one windows.

Chairman Ealy – Hopefully, they will give consideration to the four on the front porch.

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 Mr. Parrish voted aye. There were no votes against the motion. The motion passed.

Chairman Ealy – Next is a Proposed New Fence and Playground – 236 Washington Street – No Designation – Janet Owen, The Children's Center, applicant.

Please give your name for the record.

Ms. Owen – My name is Janet Owen. I am with the Children's Center. I turned in the proposal to expand the playground that is currently at that location to include a playground that serves Headstart children age's three to five. We will preserve the playground equipment that is currently there for the five to twelve year olds and make it accessible for the town. There will be gates on both sides. We do plan to put in a black fence. Those are the colors that we have to choose from. The rendition that I turned in was something that the Virginia Playground Services put in there. We do not plan on putting a blue poured in play surface. We either would like to do brown or green. I think there is only one light brown in the color choice. It would kind of already match the mulch that is already at the five to twelve year old playground.

Mr. Parrish – Is this surface compatible for wheelchairs?

Ms. Owen – Yes. The playground equipment is also.

Mr. Parrish – I think the fence will certainly look better than what is there now.

Ms. Owen – There is a chain linked fence there currently.

Mr. Trey Gwaltney – It is this fence but in black?

Ms. Owen – Yes, in black. Not too long ago, Mr. Harry Kristy came before you all and got a fence approved at our Early Headstart Building which is right across the vacant lot from the Headstart building. It will be very similar to that fence if not the same one as long as we can still get it.

Mr. Cecil Gwaltney – What is your preference between green and brown?

Ms. Owen – My preference is the light brown or any of the greens. I do not know if you all have a preference as to which is the better color green close to the grass. We will have grass around it to hold it in place.

Chairman Ealy – What is your preference Mr. Gwaltney?

Mr. Cecil Gwaltney – I would pick this brown since it would look closest to mulch.

Mr. Parrish – I like the green because it is more fun for kids.

Mr. Trey Gwaltney - What is the basic color scheme of all of the equipment?

Ms. Owen – It will be that same color that is on the picture.

Mr. Trey Gwaltney – The primary colors.

Ms. Owen – It will be primary colors. It is similar to the playground equipment that is already there.

Mr. Parrish – Do we really have to approve the ground surface?

Chairman Ealy – No.

Planner/GIS Coordinator – If it was coming by itself then I would say no. I am just bringing everything that she brought for the change so that you can see it as a whole.

Mr. Cecil Gwaltney – I think it is their preference since they are the ones living with it.

Chairman Ealy – I am willing to let them make their own selection between green and brown.

Mr. Parrish – I make a motion to approve the application allowing them to make the selection for the flooring material color as they see fit.

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 Mr. Parrish voted aye. There were no votes against the motion. The motion passed.

Mr. Trey Gwaltney – Could I ask what company is doing this for you?

Ms. Owen – Virginia Playground Services is doing it. They have done a playground for us at our Franklin site. They are out of Asheville.

Chairman Ealy – Next is Proposed Window Change – 201 Cedar Street, Trinity Methodist Church – Landmark – Florine Moore, Trinity Methodist Church, applicants.

Ms. Moore – My name is Florine Moore. I am representing Trinity Methodist Church. You have the picture and the proposed color. Those windows are on the steeple on two sides and the other two sides do not have any windows. Right now they

are a very bright blue Plexiglas. That has disturbed some members. They need to be worked on anyway so they decided to change the color to make it a little better.

Chairman Ealy – I do not have a color on mine.

Planner/ GIS Coordinator – If you look at the bottom two windows in the right hand corner because it is kind of a shadow you can see the blue. I guess the color did not show up on some of the copies. It is a light gray that will kind of match the stonework.

Mr. Trey Gwaltney – Does the church plan to put any lighting in that?

Ms. Moore – There is a light in there when somebody goes in there but they would also like for light to come through.

Mr. Trey Gwaltney – I mean is there a night light?

Ms. Moore – No. It is only for when someone wants to go up and ring the bell.

Mr. Trey Gwaltney – Does the church feel that it would add to the appearance of the church at night to light those windows in any way?

Ms. Moore – I do not think so because the inside is not very pretty.

Mr. Trey Gwaltney – My goal was not to see the inside but to see light coming through.

Chairman Ealy – Do you know what was in them originally?

Ms. Moore – No. They were probably open. Rain does come in. I do not think that they ever had stained glass.

Mr. Parrish – I make a motion to 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 Mr. Parrish voted aye. There were no votes against the motion. The motion passed.

Chairman Ealy – Next is the Approval of the April 16, 2013 Meeting Minutes.

Ms. Hillegass – I make a motion to approve revised and corrected by the Town Attorney.

Mr. Parrish – 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 Mr. Parrish voted aye. There were no votes against the motion. The motion passed.

Chairman Ealy – Is there any other business? The meeting is adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Roger L. Ealy
Chairman

William G. Saunders, IV
Planner/GIS Coordinator