

The Smithfield Board of Historic and Architectural Review held its regular meeting on August 19th, 2014. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. Members present were Mr. Roger Ealy, Chairman; Mr. Trey Gwaltney, Vice Chairman; Ms. Julia Hillegass, Mr. Ronny Prevatte, Mr. Russell Parrish, Mr. Gary Hess and Mr. Jeff Yeaw. Staff members present were Mr. William G. Saunders IV, Planner/GIS Coordinator and Mr. William H. Riddick III, Town Attorney. There were six (6) citizens present.

Chairman Ealy – I would like to call the August 19th, 2014 Board of Historic and Architectural Review meeting to order. The first item on the agenda is the Town Planner's Report.

Planner/GIS Coordinator – Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There was administrative approval granted for 308 Grace Street to paint and repair the exterior with the same or similar materials and colors.

Chairman Ealy – Next we have a listing of Upcoming Meetings and Activities. We do not have anyone signed up for Public Comments. Are there any Board Member Comments? We move to Proposed Exterior Renovation and Addition – 223 Cedar Street, Kenneth W. Pretlow Cultural Center – Contributing – Stuart & Bonnie Resor, applicants. Is there anyone to speak on behalf of this item?

Mrs. Resor – My name is Bonnie Resor. We mainly would like to ask permission to change the color of the shutters. We found that the blue shutters are hard to find. We thought that the black shutters have a nice historic look to them.

Chairman Ealy – Are there any comments?

Mr. Parrish – I will make a motion to approve as presented.

Ms. Hillegass – 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, six members were present. Chairman Ealy voted aye, Ms. Hillegass voted aye, Mr. Prevatte voted aye, Mr. Parrish voted aye, Mr. Yeaw voted aye, and Mr. Hess voted aye. Vice Chairman Gwaltney was not present to vote. There were no votes against the motion. The motion passed.

Chairman Ealy – The next item is a Proposed Exterior Renovation – 215 Chalmers Row – Contributing – Elaine Schweitzer, applicant.

Mrs. Schweitzer – My name is Elaine Schweitzer. This is a 1960's cottage that I am trying to restore.

Chairman Ealy – In the brochure it states that you want to put in new vinyl windows.

Mrs. Schweitzer – I would like to have vinyl windows. I cannot afford to do it more than once.

Chairman Ealy – You also asked for a wrap but the windows that you have specified come with the vinyl molding already.

Mrs. Schweitzer – I think so.

Chairman Ealy – No. There is nothing to wrap. Are there any other comments? There is a side porch that she wants to demolish and close the door up. Do you want to replace the back window with a door?

Mrs. Schweitzer – There is already a window in the back. We are just going to close up the door and replace all of the vinyl siding on that side. The kitchen is very small that is why we want to take the door out. It is only 1,140 square feet.

Mr. Hess – Are you replacing the front door?

Mrs. Schweitzer – Yes, sir. It is rotted. Almost all of the doors and windows are mostly rotten. The door we are going to use is pictured in the packet.

Chairman Ealy – Are there any comments? Usually we try to avoid vinyl as much as possible. We have been allowing replacement windows but keeping the original molding. But considering the age of this house and the fact that it already has vinyl siding on it I cannot see where we are dealing with a significant change in the looks to allow this. It is a bungalow from the 1960's

Ms. Hillegass – I will 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, seven members were present. Chairman Ealy voted aye, Vice Chairman Gwaltney voted aye, Ms. Hillegass voted aye, Mr. Prevatte voted aye, Mr. Parrish voted aye, Mr. Yeaw voted aye, and Mr. Hess voted aye. There were no votes against the motion. The motion passed.

Chairman Ealy – Thank you. The next item is a Porch Demolition and Deck Addition (After the Fact) – 211 Clay Street – Contributing – Wyoming Lucille Dowd, applicant.

Mr. McKay – My name is Sidney McKay. I am representing my cousin, Mrs. Wyoming Lucille Dowd's home at 211 Clay Street. She had a contractor re-do the porch because it was rotten. I remember the house when it did not have a closed in porch. She added the closed in portion in 1959 or 1960. We were concern that the house is in a historical area and by adding the deck that we did not meet the requirements. The contractor told her that he had contacted the town. I knew that you had to get permission before doing any type of building like that. The contractor told her that he had permission from the town to build deck.

Chairman Ealy – I would like to interrupt for one minute. Can you give us the name of the contractor?

Mr. McKay – It is in the packet.

Chairman Ealy – Thank you.

Mr. McKay – She has been upset. Are we going to have to tear it down? I will take care of the maintenance on the house until she is able to come home. I would like to know what it is that the town is requiring of her to do.

Chairman Ealy – It is a shame that the contractor was not honest about this.

Mr. McKay – Yes, I know. He ripped her off for the amount of money that she paid for the deck. He told her that he had contacted the town to do the work. We found out later that it was not the case.

Chairman Ealy – I went by and looked at it. It is really hard to see from the road. I do not have that much objection to it. I think it is far better looking than what was there. Are there any other comments?

Vice Chairman Gwaltney – Is this pressure treated lumber?

Mr. McKay – Yes.

Vice Chairman Gwaltney – How long has it been in place now?

Mr. McKay – Just a few months.

Vice Chairman Gwaltney – Do you have plans to paint it?

Mr. McKay – Yes. I did not want to do anything to it until I found out what we had to do.

Vice Chairman Gwaltney – Would it help the appearance if it was painted white like the rest of the house to blend it in a little bit?

Chairman Ealy – I think so. I do not think he necessarily needs to paint the deck itself but the railings and posts would look better painted.

Mr. Parrish – It should be painted.

Mr. McKay – Okay.

Mr. Parrish – Did the contractor have a building permit for it?

Mr. McKay – No but he told her that he did.

Chairman Ealy – If he had a permit they would have called the town.

Planner/GIS Coordinator – You cannot get a zoning permit without BHAR approval. You cannot get a building permit without a zoning permit.

Mr. Prevatte – Is the railing the right height? Is it safe?

Vice Chairman Gwaltney – Does it meet code?

Planner/GIS Coordinator – This is the first step. They need approval from the Board after the fact. Then we will work on the zoning permit for the town and then it has to go to the building inspection department. We have to go in order.

Mr. Prevatte – There are no drawings showing that it is in regulation with anything.

Chairman Ealy – From what I saw, it looks like the pickets are within the four inch guideline. The rail height looks close to correct. I will not say that it is but it is close.

Mr. Prevatte – Is that forty-two inches?

Chairman Ealy – It is thirty-six inches for residential.

Planner/GIS Coordinator – What you all are doing tonight is basically determining if you can live with the style of it. The town and county will get involved in the permitting process to determine if it is built correctly.

Chairman Ealy – As far as I am concerned if they paint it I can live with it.

Vice Chairman Gwaltney – I think it would look better painted. It sounds like you have thought about going that route.

Mr. McKay – Yes.

Mr. Hess – I took a look at it today. It obviously looks better than what was there. Appearance wise nothing seem to be wrong with the structure. If they paint it then you really will not notice it.

Mr. Parrish – It will rot eventually if you do not paint it.

Mr. McKay – I know. We have two houses on Drummond Lane.

Vice Chairman Gwaltney – I will make a motion to approve the proposal after the fact with the request that it be painted when the wood has dried appropriately.

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, seven members were present. Chairman Ealy voted aye, Vice Chairman Gwaltney voted aye, Ms. Hillegass voted aye, Mr. Prevatte voted aye, Mr. Parrish voted aye, Mr. Yeaw voted aye, and Mr. Hess voted aye. There were no votes against the motion. The motion passed.

Mr. McKay – What do I need to do now?

Planner/GIS Coordinator – We will be in contact with you about how we are going to handle the permitting after the fact. This is just the first step to make sure that it was okay with the Board for us to work on permitting it as it is.

Mr. McKay – Okay.

Chairman Ealy – The next thing will be going to the building official. They will make sure that it meets the code.

Planner/GIS Coordinator – Would you prefer to be the contact for Mrs. Dowd or would you rather we handle it with her?

Mr. McKay – I will be the contact person. I am going to let her know anyway.

Planner/GIS Coordinator – Can I get a phone number from you?

Mr. McKay – Thank you very much.

Chairman Ealy – Thank you. Our next item on the agenda is Approval of the July 15th, 2014 Meeting Minutes.

Town Attorney – Mr. Chairman, I reviewed the minutes and recommend they be approved as presented.

Ms. Hillegass – So moved.

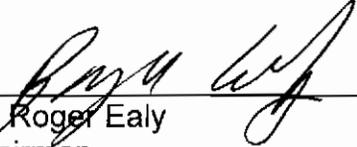
Mr. Yeaw – Second.

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

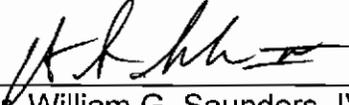
On call for the vote, seven members were present. Chairman Ealy voted aye, Vice Chairman Gwaltney voted aye, Ms. Hillegass voted aye, Mr. Prevatte voted aye, Mr. Parrish voted aye, Mr. Yeaw voted aye, and Mr. Hess voted aye. There were no votes against the motion. The motion passed.

Chairman Ealy – Is there any other business? Hearing none, this meeting is adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.



Mr. Roger Ealy
Chairman



Mr. William G. Saunders, IV
Planner/GIS Coordinator

