

Architectural Review Board  
June 2, 2005

Jeffrey Plank, chair, called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. in the municipal conference room in Victory Hall; other members present were Lillian Copeland, Ruth Klippstein, and Fred Schneider. Steven Meeks and Brian Lafontaine also attended. We adjusted the agenda and unanimously approved the minutes of the April meeting. There was no meeting in May.

Summary of Actions: We recommend approval of the sign permit for Leslie Davis, Scottsville Saddlery, with the condition that the sign be illuminated only during business hours and until 10 p.m., and be wired to a timer to assure this schedule.

Repair and Maintenance: Fred reviewed our charge by the ordinances to provide an assessment of the condition of buildings in the Historic District. Begun in September 2002, this list has allowed us to alert owners about problems, and have baseline information on each structure if further action is considered. We noted several potential problems in the Masonic building in November 2002, mostly with the brickwork. Brian Lafontaine, treasurer of the Masonic lodge, described their financial situation and work already done on the structure. In response to his question about available funds, Fred and Lillian described the town's revolving fund for loans, and Jeffrey suggested the ARB would work with the Masons to develop a program for addressing prioritized problems and possibly to find appropriate workers. Brian will ask the Masons to form a committee for this work at their next meeting.

The property owner of 135 Warren St. did not attend the meeting, as invited. Fred described the problems of the house, some of them fairly easy to remedy, and some—like the chimney pulling away from the structure—more structural. We decided that Fred will draft a letter for Jeffrey to review and give to Barry Clark to send to the owner, asking for action on the simpler fixes, such as windowpanes and doors, within 60 days, and a longer-term plan for repairing the chimney.

New Business: We discussed the sign permit from Leslie Davis, Scottsville Saddlery, in reference to other illuminated sign permits we have approved. Our precedent has been to ask for lights off at 10 p.m. downtown; now we must consider, Jeffrey noted, the characteristics of the Entrance Corridor, and the possible extent of development there. We agreed to a motion to permit installation of the sign in the new location with the provision that illumination be permitted during business hours and through evening hours only to 10 p.m., and that the sign be wired to a timer to insure this. The motion was passed unanimously.

Other Business: We discussed plans for display of the Charlottesville AIA chapter's "How Architects Work" panels, and decided to show them, at Victory Hall if we are permitted, June 22—Batteau Festival, and July 4. We will have to secure docents to be available during opening hours. Steve Meeks reported on another exhibition, on area country stores, we can show at the same time. Fred will help coordinate this.

Jeffrey reported on status of the inventory project. If we cannot move ahead by the end of the summer, he suggests "we go to Plan B." Lillian noted that funds are still available in the Scottsville budget for the publication.

Steven Meeks said there was no public announcement of cancellation of the ARB May meeting, either by a sign on the door or note in the town website. We apologized and bring the matter to the town office's attention, so that in the future such meeting changes will be public.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Klippstein, secretary