

Architectural Review Board
September 1, 2005

Jeffrey Plank, chair, called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers; also present were members Ruth Klippstein and Fred Schneider; Barry Clark; and Walter Neighbors. Minutes of the July and August meetings were approved as presented.

Summary of Actions: We recommend approval of Walter Neighbors' application for outdoor wall lanterns at 380-392 Valley St. with the condition that Fred Schneider will review their proposed position.

Old Business: Walter Neighbors described his proposal for exterior lighting at the Beal building as being in relation to the new Streetscape lighting. Fred commented on the appropriate size of the lanterns for a commercial structure, and will check on their position after our meeting and report to Barry. The COA was approved unanimously based on Fred's acceptance of their position on the building.

We continued the discussion with Walter by talking about possible restoration of the "graceful, generous" brick parapet on the north end of the building, taken down by a previous owner. We will try to supply a useful photograph of this important architectural detail. We discussed the placement of electric meters at the rear, rather than the side, of the building. Barry counseled us not to intervene in this process now, but assume it can be fairly easily changed later. He will assist with this. Walter showed a possible color scheme for the building, a cool gray for the main color, with a dark sea green trim; Fred praised this as bringing "vitality" to the street. After discussion of the dark trim, Walter said he would try some it on the windows to ascertain its appropriateness.

Barry reported on Steven Meeks' 732 Valley St. property, stating that its "nonconforming" status necessitates off-street parking and a greater setback. Steven has proposed a parking situation, and Barry said ARB must request a variance from Town Council for the setback. Zoning Ordinance 18.3.5.c allows this measure to "prevent removal or destruction" of the building. We will not wait for a ruling from the state Department of Historical Resources on the property, but will write a letter for Barry to give to Council immediately.

Barry reported on two issues of nonconformity raised at the July meeting: the Warren St. porch did not need a permit, though ARB should have been notified; and the shed on Poplar Spring Rd. is adjacent to a non-contributing structure and did not need approval.

New Business: No one was present to discuss the Museum's plan for a handicapped-access lift at the front of the building. We reviewed the design submitted in relation to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and to its visual impact, and tabled further action for continued discussion.

Repair and Maintenance: We have not been able to schedule a meeting with the Masons to review needed repairs to their building. We discussed 135 Warren St. repairs, and agreed that Barry is to ask property owner Barbara Lane and Steven Meeks, her representative, for a plan to begin work within 60 days on those issues we have already identified.

Inventory Project: Jeffrey showed a mock-up of the cover, using a Burgess picture of Valley Street, and sample interior pages of the booklet. We agreed to the concept of using photos of each structure mentioned in the guide. This will help in projecting the number of pages and cost of the booklet. Jeffrey will continue to meet with his committee and to report to us.

Other Business: Fred showed a bibliography of National Trust books, several of which would be useful for us as a board, for property owners, and for the town. We will try to obtain some of these for review, and pursue buying some to keep in the town offices. Fred showed a brochure from Jonesborough, TN, with consideration that the town might offer some help as a model for Scottsville, or as a sister city.

With no further business, we adjourned at 8:15.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Klippstein, secretary