

# TOWN OF SCOTTSVILLE

## Architectural Review Board

### Regular Meeting

Thurs., August 4, 2022

Victory Hall

401 Valley Street

Scottsville, Virginia

## Mayor

Ron Smith

## Members

Zachary Bullock, *Chair*

*/Town Council Liaison*

John Rhett, *Architect*

Erin Root, *Vice-Chair*

Austin Twitchell

Josh Peck

## MINUTES

1. *Call to order, establish a quorum, and agree to agenda:* Mr. Bullock called the meeting to order at 7:06pm. Members Rhett was absent, with the rest of the board present. The Town Administrator, Matthew Lawless, and the Town Clerk, Javier Raudales, were also in attendance. Root made the motion to approve the agenda; Twitchell seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously at 7:06pm via voice vote.
2. *Approval of past meeting minutes from July 7<sup>th</sup> ARB meeting:* Root made the motion to approve the meeting minutes; Twitchell seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously via voice vote at 7:07pm.
3. *Matters from the public:* Matters for the public opened and closed at 7:07pm with no request to speak from the public.
4. *Old business:* No old business, Mr. Lawless shared that recently approved Certificate of Approval are progressing forward with improvements.
5. *New business:*
  - a. *350 Valley Street COA procedure:* Starting at 7:09 the board reviewed a previously approved COA for 350 Valley Street, sharing that the trim upstairs on 2nd floor was absent from the approved COA. The board discussed how ARB should consider all the façade of the building under consideration, Bullock is not worried about changes to the first floor with the exclusion of changes to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor since the function of each floor is distinctly different due to stucco being unique to the first floor. No action was taken.
6. *Consultation with any property owners in attendance:*
  - a. *Repair, Maintenance, and enforcement issues:* Starting at 7:14pm, Mr. Lawless mentioned that Marshall was asked to stop by and discuss 2 properties they have that are currently in poor condition under the ARB Inventory.
  - b. *Landscaping violation at 969 Valley St.:* At 7:14pm, Mr. Lawless shared that he is continuing to speak with the property manager to ask them to fall in line with compliance. Both the property owner and the tenant want to express that maintenance is the responsibility of the other party; it is moving slowly but the owner is moving in the direction of complying.
  - c. *Poor condition notices for multiple properties:* Bullock shared that the board has the approval of Town Council to take an initiative to enforce ordinance and to

focus on enforcing improvement to poor condition properties, and that last year they did not pursue a legal approach to the Doll House under the recommendation of the Town Attorney who this year has supported staff to have a stronger framework and a better position to enforce poor condition properties via the court. The Board then reviewed and discussed the poor condition inventory, speaking on 165 Hardware St., 260 Jefferson St., 380 E. Main St. which is also known as The Doll House and Bullock shared that it has not complied for years and non-communicative in the last 3 years while also mentioning that it is historically important to Scottsville. Additionally, the Board discussed 390 E. Main St., the old Local Train Station at 493 East Main Street which was discussed as it could be taken off the list since CSX granted the town funds to repair the building. Additionally, the board discussed 215-255 South Street has an owner that has been communicative and discussing repairs with the ARB. Root and Bullock requested a follow up Harrison 737-736 & 727-725 which has issues with the front porch that was not included in the final COA, Mr. Lawless shared that the site has a history of poor condition. ARB reviewed their priorities for choosing a property to prioritize for enforcement, the criteria formulated was 1) historic importance, 2) location in town, 3) length of time with no communication with time, 4) envelope/structure of building condition, and 5) use of structure when condition improved. ARB then used this criterion to review Harrison St. 715, 717, 725, 727 and then reviewed 390 E. Main Street. ARB next assessed the Doll House, 380 E. Main St. As fulfilling 4 of the 5 criteria, Mr. Lawless shared that it is currently in a complicated legal situation regarding ownership and sale. The Stinson House at 550 Valley Street was discussed, the Town Administrator shared that the new tenant has been communicative about the property and that the place is fully occupied and has begun interior repairs and suggest that the ARB take it off the list for consideration. Next the Canal Warehouse was discussed to also have 4 of the 5 criteria. Peck made a motion to recommend to Town Council for the Town of Scottsville to move forward with legal action on 380 E. Main St., the Doll House, the motion was seconded by Root and at 8:06 pm the motion passed via unanimous voice vote. Follow the vote, Bullock shared two updates, first being that Government Services is reviewing a clutter ordinance and that that the organization Preservation Piedmont has a grant that might be applicable to Canal Basin Square repairs or to Victory Hall.

7. *Adjournment:* Peck carried out a motion to adjourn; and the motion passed unanimously by consent. The meeting adjourned at 8:14 pm.