

Architectural Review Board, July 1, 2015

This meeting was rescheduled from its regularly scheduled day. Chair Jeffrey Plank called us to order at 7:05 in the Council chambers of the Municipal building; others present were Barry Grove, Seth McDowell, Ruth Klippstein, and Craig Stratton; George Goodwin attended. We reviewed the agenda and discussed minutes of June 4, 2015. Following suggestions, we changed, P. 2, “pending final details” to “pending ARB aesthetic suggestions”; P. 5, we excised the final sentence, “A detailed COA including these points will have to be submitted”; and on the second page, Repair and Maintenance, we excised the phrase “take the matter to Albemarle County,” leaving the sentence to read, “As there has been no response, the Town will likely go to court.” With these corrections, the minutes were unanimously approved.

Summary of Business: We recommend for approval the COA for the deck at 502 Valley, with stated stipulation of a solid cap railing and stain color suggestions by ARB; we approved the colors for repainting 350 Valley Street; and we recommend approval of the submitted signs for Om Tattoo and Massage at 430 Valley and 440 Valley, Beijing Kitchen.

Old Business: 496 Valley Street, the former Telephone Exchange, we discussed meeting on site to talk with the brick contractor and develop plans for restoration work, which will happen before our August meeting. Nevertheless, a COA will need to be approved before work can begin; at the on-site meeting, we can indicate what could be approved.

148/178 Warren Street: window replacement has been done.

Methodist Church storage shed: the shed cannot be located where originally planned, due to underground utilities. They will organize another onsite meeting soon.

440 Valley, former Dew Drop: We had made suggestions for a replacement front door, and now that the applicant has chosen one, we need a drawing or tear sheet of this choice to see that it approximates the style and age of the building. Our approval is likely, but we must have an amended COA.

New Business: Deck behind 501 Valley Street, former Twist. We discussed ARB’s consideration of new construction that cannot be seen from the road; it was pointed out that new Creekscape developments may make anything visible from the rear of buildings, so we see this as an opportunity to offer assistance. The deck is to code, Grove said; we concentrated on detail of the railing and on finishing. McDowell suggested staining the wood, and we noted we have always recommended a solid cap rail, rather than 1960s deck construction finishing. With FEMA still to review the project, we unanimously agreed to recommend the COA for approval, with a solid cap railing and an offer to provide suggestions about stain.

Repainting, 350 Valley Street, former F&M Bank: We considered the color palette offered by the property owner and unanimously voted to approve it.

420 Valley, Om Tattoo and Massage: the signs, as submitted, meet code, and will use a mounting bracket already on the building. We unanimously approved the signs.

440 Valley Street, former Dew Drop, sign permit: The sign meets code, and we recommend it approval.

Repair, Maintenance, and Enforcement: 135 Warren Street: there has been no activity at this property; the 90-day notice will run out early this month.

380 East Main, the Doll House: Plank and McDowell have not been able to meet there, and will do so before our next meeting, as Grove urged.

560 East Main: Michael Tocci has been asked to attend our August meeting for consultation.

220 South Street, Canal Warehouse: we are satisfied that progress is being made on exterior renovations.

300 Valley Street: a replacement window has been made and is to be shipped July 2.

Application Form Update: no new suggestions are yet available.

Other: Plank gave Goodwin a digital copy of Fred Schneider's Scottsville Inventory photographs for the town's use. We discussed possible ARB jurisdiction in the problem of trash in the yard of 340 Jefferson; we will make a site visit if asked.

With no further business, we adjourned at 7:50.

Respectfully submitted, Ruth Klippstein, secretary