

Architectural Review Board

August 2, 2012

Jeffrey Plank, chair, called the meeting to order in Council chambers at 7 p.m. Also present were Ruth Klippstein, Steven Meeks, Bob O'Halloran, Fred Schneider, and Craig Stratton; George Goodwin, Kat, and Bruce Lugn also attended. We adjusted the agenda; we approved the minutes of June 7 and July 5, 2012.

Summary of Actions: We unanimously approve to Town Council the COA for Jeffrey Plank's outbuilding at 10 Harrison Street.

New Business: Bruce Lugn, pastor of the Scottsville Methodist Church, discussed the church's wish to add a roughly 24 foot square, fenced playground with one piece of equipment, which he showed, in their parking lot. We discussed access to the parking lot, safety for the children, the possibilities of bollards around the fence, which according to OSHA cannot be pressure treated lumber, and possible VDOT requirements. The church accepts the idea of children using the equipment out of church hours; the Town will be added to their insurance policy. We wondered if this installation was a precursor to a church-run day care; Bruce said it is possible in the future.

We said we need a complete plan for all changes envisioned on the east side of the building, including another ramp, with samples of materials to be used, or tear sheets. If this work is to be done in a hurry, we are able to meet between regularly scheduled meetings. Our goal is help create an area consistent with the new StreetScape for revitalizing the commercial and residential aspects of Main Street.

Old business: Second storey windows at the former Dew Drop, 440 Valley St., have been replaced without a COA; they do not meet our requirements. The owner of the property could not attend the meeting. Kat, his representative, said a window broke and was too deteriorated to fix, so four new windows were purchased at Lowes. Steven Meeks said those were the building's original windows, and we noted that when we spoke with the current owner's past partner, when work began on this in 2010, we made clear the importance of preserving original materials wherever possible, for reuse or copying. We explained about the exterior mullions, or divisions, of the panes, and how the current windows are inappropriate for the historic district. Fred voiced our opinion that the replacement windows should be removed and windows appropriate to the character of the building and in harmony with the surrounding buildings, even if they are in modern materials, should be installed. We will meet at the Municipal Building Monday, August 13 at 3 p.m. with all parties to try to resolve this issue. We note that it does not help much to have meetings without the property owner or a legal representative present.

Jeffrey presented his COA and recused himself from the following proceedings, with Fred, vice-chair, taking over. As we had already had extensive information and discussion about the new outbuilding requested, modeled on the current summer kitchen, we had little new discussion. Bob O'Halloran abstained from voting due to lack of familiarity with the project; the other four of us voted unanimously to recommend this COA to the Town Council.

265 Valley Street, the old jail: Fred distributed sketches he made of our ideas for the tool shed between the jail and Coleman's, a basically triangular-shaped, free-standing building, set back slightly from the north wall of the jail, and with an overhanging roof with gutter. We looked at his version of the sign on the roof—"some tricky things are involved," Fred said, and he wonders if this work is necessary.

We note that the ARB has been presented with serial idea for the corner, with a lot to encompass in a small area. In the spirit of contributing and cooperation we are offering Fred's designs and considering solutions of various types; these drawings open our eyes to possibilities. Eventually we will have to take an integrated approach and prioritize items. We also need to identify the applicant for this project as well as a clear scope of the work in order to help guide the town's options.

StreetScape: George reported on the condition of the curb and sidewalk on the south side of Main. Replacement would cost \$8,000 or more; Jeffrey said the ARB gives a "positive signal" to George's plans. We feel, however, the corner at Valley and Main needs further attention and detailed design work. We are interested in the green space, how the various buildings will correlate visually, and where the clock is to be placed, not just the application of brick to the sidewalks.

We looked at the suggested town sign and thought the arrows need to be emphasized, and the color at least a different blue for both the sign and the logo, if not a different color altogether, such as a deep red. We preferred the dark background, light lettering.

Other: With Bob O'Halloran's membership on the board, we now have one more member than authorized by the Ordinances. We recommend that Council adjust this, giving us six members of equal standing. Craig proposed a "meet and greet" with citizens in the autumn. We will discuss this in September.

With no further business, we adjourned at 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Klippstein, secretary