

**FAUQUIER COUNTY
ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD**

Meeting Minutes

October 5, 2016

11:45 a.m.

Warren Green Building, 1st Floor Conference Room
10 Hotel Street, Warrenton

Attendance:

Reta Rodgers (Cedar Run District Representative)
John Toler (Scott District Representative)
Mary Root, Chair (Citizen-at-Large)
Jack LaMonica (Marshall District Representative)
Bryan Jacobs (Lee District Representative)
Virginia Gerrish (Center District Representative)
Bob Lee (Planning Commission Representative)

Staff:

Wendy Wheatcraft, Preservation Planner
Maureen Williamson, Staff

1. Ms. Root called the meeting to order at 11:45 a.m.
2. The September 7, 2016 meeting minutes were reviewed. Ms. Root made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Gerrish seconded the motion. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Ms. Wheatcraft presented an idea for a public workshop centered on the mills of Fauquier County. While on the NBA Barn tour on September 9, 2016, the ARB group encountered the archaeological remains of Wolf's Mill, a historic tub mill, removed from Fauquier County around 1998 through an archaeological investigation. (DHR owns this large artifact, and it is currently stored in a barn at Clermont Farm in Clark County.) Ms. Wheatcraft described the mill artifact, distributed pictures of it, and showed the location of the Wolf's Mill site on a map. She noted that historic mills and mill sites are often forgotten cultural resources but are still very important. Several have been identified in Fauquier County. The ARB discussed many mill sites. Mr. Lee specifically mentioned Beverly's Mill, located at the base of Bull Run Mountain, which was a seven-story structure. He added that this mill has a foundation with an executive director, and the foundation may be willing to partner with the ARB to present a public educational event.

3. New Business – Begin Revision of *Fauquier County Historic Resources Plan* (Create Contents outline)
 - The ARB had a discussion that focused on the revision of the *Fauquier County Historic Resources Preservation Plan*, adopted in 2001 and incorporated as an addendum to the Comprehensive Plan in 2016. Ms. Wheatcraft explained that the revision would be based on the goals, objectives, and actions for implementation that are found in *Section 2B* of the Comprehensive Plan Chapter 2. Ms. Wheatcraft said that the preservation actions in this section are quite general and ARB members may want to go into more detail during the revision. She asked the ARB for their input as to an outline for the revision.

Mr. Lee noted that Mr. Toler was one of the original Historic Resources Plan committee members.

Ms. Wheatcraft told the ARB that she will search for the National Park Service recommended best elements of a local preservation plan and present them at the next meeting. At Ms. Gerrish's suggestion, Ms. Wheatcraft agreed to email the document to members prior to the next meeting.

Mr. Lee suggested that Ms. Wheatcraft identify one goal, objective and one action under that objective and submit that to the ARB for discussion. He also suggested that she take a first stab at what might work as an organizational framework for the revision and bring it to the next meeting. Ms. Root said that having a model to follow will help considerably.

Ms. Wheatcraft encouraged the ARB to focus on the protection of physical cultural places (buildings, structures sites, objects), instead of historic archival material.

Mr. Lee noted that the revised *Historic Resources Preservation Plan* will not need the Planning Commission or BOS approval, as it was adopted it was an appendix of the Comprehensive Plan.

Ms. Rogers asked how the Plan would control what property owners do to preserve their historic properties. Ms. Wheatcraft said that the Plan offers recommendations, but it's not law. The Zoning Ordinance, rather than the Comprehensive Plan, controls land use in the County. Ms. Gerrish noted that people usually wanted to do the right thing in regards to preservation, but may not know how to go about it. The use of the Plan as an educational tool would be key.

4. Ongoing Business – Brief Presentation of NBA Barn Tour

- Mr. LaMonica presented photographs and sketches taken during the National Barn Alliance Barn Tour on September 9, 2016.
- Ms. Wheatcraft proposed an idea to the ARB of hosting a historic farm day with a focus on the preservation and reuse of historic outbuildings. Federal and state tax credits for the rehabilitation of outbuildings, century farm status, a barn tour (real or virtual), and a farm to table lunch or dinner were all mentioned as ideas for such an event. Ms. Wheatcraft noted that there are currently eighteen century farms within Fauquier County. She added that this event could be presented in partnership with the County Agricultural Extension Office, the National Barn Alliance, and others. Mr. Lee noted that the Fauquier County Agricultural Development Department hosts a fall farm tour, and the ARB may be able to partner with this event hoping to focus on historic barns.

5. Announcements

October 16-17, 2016 – Annual Virginia Preservation Conference – Charlottesville
<http://preservationvirginia.org/programs/annual-conference>

6. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 2, 2016

7. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m.