

**FAUQUIER COUNTY  
ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD**

**Meeting Minutes**

September 6, 2017

4:00 p.m.

Warren Green Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Meeting Room  
10 Hotel Street, Warrenton

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**Attendance:**

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

**Absent:**

Virginia Gerrish (Center District Representative)

**Guests:**

Suzanne Obetz  
Roland Word  
Julie Bolthouse, PEC

**Staff:**

Wendy Wheatcraft, Preservation Planner  
Maureen Williamson, Staff

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1. Ms. Root called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.
2. The August 2, 2017 meeting minutes were reviewed. Ms. Root made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion carried 6 – 0.
3. Ongoing Business
  - Farm Tour Stop - Saturday, October 14, 2017
    - McCormick House & Workshop Site. Tour stop set up at 4499 Old Auburn Road. Ms. Wheatcraft presented an alternative idea for the ARB to participate on Farm Tour day. She and Julie Bolthouse of Piedmont Environmental Council (PEC) outlined an activity to showcase the Stephen McCormick House and Workshop Site in Auburn, providing a stop on the Farm Tour located on the private property across the road from the site. The owner has been contacted to hosting it and is agreeable.

Ms. Wheatcraft said that PEC has offered to create temporary, interpretive signage. She noted that the objectives of the event is to bring attention to the importance of the site and encourage the protection of a conservation easement. Ms. Wheatcraft reminded the ARB that Sue Sheer recently purchased a small parcel around the threatened site.

The ARB discussed parking for the event, which Ms. Wheatcraft described as a small gravel parking lot. She said that while the owner is being gracious about the use of his property, Ms. Wheatcraft said that we must leave it as we found it. Ms. Rodgers offered the use of her personal directional parking signage, as it would be useful to event participants while also being sensitive to private property. Ms. Bolthouse told the ARB that PEC also has event parking signage.

Ms. Root said that she liked the proposed event and feels the ARB needs to highlight the McCormick House and cemetery. She asked who was buried in the McCormick family cemetery, and Ms. Wheatcraft replied that Stephen McCormick himself, his two wives and at least one of his children, all of whom preceded Stephen McCormick in death.

Ms. Wheatcraft commented on locating some of Stephen McCormick's papers including farm/plow sale accounting books in the Wisconsin State Archives, copies of which would be available at a particular cost. This source is the only known material that outlines this information.

Ms. Wheatcraft said that the hours of the Farm Tour event will be from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. She noted that any assistance on the day of the event would be appreciated, but did realize that there are other community events running concurrently that ARB members might be committed to. She told the ARB that Kristie Kendall will be on site at the event during a portion of the day to represent PEC. Mr. LaMonica expressed his availability to attend the event.

Ms. Wheatcraft said that the Agricultural Development office would be including the McCormick House and Workshop site within the annual Farm Tour & Field Day brochure. She said that there would be no need for the ARB to create a flyer or pursue advertising opportunities for this reason.

#### 4. New Business

- Internship for Documenting Cemeteries

Ms. Wheatcraft told the ARB that the County is able to offer a small stipend to an intern for the purpose of documenting cemeteries. She is hoping that the intern, over the course of a semester, could survey approximately twenty-five cemeteries. She said the intern would record cemetery findings using the existing Fauquier County Cemetery Field Documentation Form and then, the information would be uploaded into the County GIS.

Mr. Lee suggested that this may be an opportunity to partner with the University of Mary Washington. Ms. Wheatcraft noted asking Professor Michael Spencer about developing the internship with UMW, but she felt the opportunity should be understood by the student to be a professional job. Ms. Wheatcraft noted that there would be no professor interaction and added that she would be overseeing the work with the timeframe of the project being late winter to early spring 2018.

- PIF (Preliminary Information Form) for Vint Hill Farms Station District

Ms. Wheatcraft said that in 2012 when the Vint Hill Parkway was in the planning stages, the grant applicant was required to go through a State Environmental Review Process (SERP), as more than \$500,000 of state funds were to be used. She said that because buildings were slated for demolition to accommodate the Parkway, the Department of Historic Resources (DHR) determined project was to have an adverse effect to the Vint Hill Farms Station historic district. A Memorandum of Agreement

was developed to provide options that mitigated the adverse effect, one of which was a stipulation to develop a PIF (preliminary information form) to reevaluate the district. She said that the 1996 survey shows the military base as 700 acres, and today it is significantly less due to development in the area. She said that staff would not actually be going forward with a NRHP nomination, but would be soon completing a PIF. She said that a reevaluation of the property is needed to determine if enough physical integrity remains for the existing buildings to be designated as a district.

Ms. Wheatcraft told the ARB that she plans to use historian John Salmon's write-up of the base to assist in completing the PIF. She said that Mr. Salmon's history is written with information through World War II with some aspects of activity during the Cold War. She said she will follow up with Mr. Toler and Ms. Bolthouse who, during a discussion with the ARB about the original buildings, seemed to have additional information about the property when it was a military base.

## 5. Announcements

- Waterloo Bridge Rehab Project Notification

Ms. Wheatcraft told the ARB that VDOT sent a letter to consulting parties regarding commenting, through section 106, on a proposed rehabilitation project for the Waterloo Bridge. She said that VDOT within the letter is reporting that all work will be done according to the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and therefore, VDOT stated there would be no adverse effect. She again stressed that rehabilitation and vehicular reuse is the optimal solution, but noted feeling VDOT might choose to replace more of the elements than necessary, which would not follow the *Standards*.

Mr. LaMonica mentioned having seen another truss bridge outside of Hume, close to Marriott Ranch. He said he would get an exact location and provide more information at the next meeting.

## 6. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:12 p.m.

## 7. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 4.