

**FAUQUIER COUNTY
ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD**

Meeting Minutes

June 6, 2019

4:00 p.m.

Warren Green Building, 2nd Floor Meeting Room

10 Hotel Street, Warrenton

Attendance:

Mary Root, Chair (Citizen-at-Large)

John Toler (Scott District Representative)

Jack LaMonica (Marshall District Representative)

Bob Lee (Planning Commission Representative)

Virginia Gerrish (Center District Representative)

Bryan Jacobs (Lee District Representative)

Kristie Kendall (Cedar Run District Representative)

Staff:

Wendy Wheatcraft, Staff

Maureen Williamson, Staff

1. Chair Mary Root called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.
2. The May 1, 2019 meeting minutes were reviewed. Ms. Root made a motion to approve the minutes with the noted revision. Mr. Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion carried 7 – 0.
3. Ongoing Business

- May 2019 Public Program Wrap-up & Review

Ms. Wheatcraft told the ARB that the public program was a success with over forty people in attendance. She mentioned that at the end of the presentation, there were several questions and comments. She gave credit to the ARB as a whole, thanked Mr. Jacobs for his photographs, and the Afro American Historical Association (AAHA) for their source material. She said that the AAHA is an invaluable resource for the county.

An attendee of the program asked Ms. Wheatcraft about enslaved women and if she had done research to bring their contributions to light. Ms. Wheatcraft said she told the attendee that she did come across some free women of color with noted occupations, particularly midwives, however, she said intensive research for this was a topic would unfortunately have to wait for another time due to time constraints.

Ms. Wheatcraft said the next public program will be for Virginia Archaeology Month in October. She said she was contemplating contacting an archaeologist from Montpelier, Matthew Reeves, to speak about the archaeological work done to learn more about the enslaved quarters at the historic site. Ms. Gerrish proposed Ms. Wheatcraft ask Mr. Reeves what dates he is available in October and work around those dates. Ms. Kendall said that if Mr. Reeves is unavailable she mentioned Tom Chapman as an alternative speaker, as he is the historic preservation person at Montpelier and could speak on the same level as Mr. Reeves.

4. New Business

- Development of an Annual County Preservation Award Program

Ms. Root expressed caution about the proposed program, hoping that it would not take up a lot of staff time as attempts at a similar program have in the past. Ms. Wheatcraft described the proposed awards program. It is not meant to be a historic marker program. She said that it would allow the ARB to review annual applications to choose one entity (i.e. individual, group, business, non-profit) to be celebrated for a preservation-related project (for example, a successful rehabilitation of a historic building, an educational program, a National Register nomination, archaeological site protection, etc.). It would give attention to those who have done something good for preservation in Fauquier County.

Mr. Lee mentioned former ARB member, Reta Rodgers, as a possible recipient for the award. He told the ARB of Ms. Rodgers having saved several historic buildings by relocating them to her property including a recent acquisition from Montpelier. Ms. Root said she would nominate the First Baptist Church in Warrenton for the restoration of their stained glass windows.

Ms. Gerrish suggested the program could include more than one category. She cautioned the ARB to research the ownership of a property so as to ensure all owners are recognized. Ms. Wheatcraft said that if the program consisted of two categories, perhaps it would not be mandatory to fill both categories each year, if no applications were received.

Mr. Root asked if the ARB would open nominations to the public or would it make nominations themselves. Ms. Wheatcraft replied that she has seen it done both ways. She said that it may be a conflict of interest if the ARB is submitting and reviewing applications. Ms. Gerrish said she liked the idea of encouraging the public to submit nominations. Ms. Wheatcraft said that perhaps if an ARB member would submit a nomination, he/she might then recuse themselves from the evaluation of that particular project. Ms. Wheatcraft said that the program particularly for the first year would have to be widely advertised. Ms. Gerrish said that maybe the program might be small for the first year with the potential to grow.

Ms. Wheatcraft presented examples of award programs from Fairfax County and the City of Bristow. She noted that Fairfax County has two different award programs. The first program is called The Fairfax Heritage Awards, which is made up of six different monetary awards. The second program, she said, titled Recognition Awards, closely aligned with her ideas for a program in Fauquier. She said this program has four categories of awards to recognize contributions to preserving history in Fairfax County. This program requires applicants to submit a completed application along with a brief written description of why the nominee should be considered for the award. For this program, the public submits the nominations, and at least three judges evaluate a submission. The Fairfax program permits judges to be members of the History Commission or simply "knowledgeable members of the community."

Ms. Wheatcraft said that Stafford County's program sends out applications to specific county groups, like the Historical Society and Cemetery Committee. In this program, the general public is not permitted to submit applications.

Ms. Root asked for Ms. Wheatcraft's thoughts on how the awards will be given out. Ms. Wheatcraft said that perhaps the award would be presented by the Board of Supervisors through a Proclamation, particularly by the Supervisor in which whose district the project would occur. She said the award would be in a resolution format and a plaque will be

presented to the recipient. She said that the details are a work in progress and would be established by the Architectural Review Board.

The ARB noted areas in which to advertise including *Fauquier Now*, *Fauquier Times*, Community Development county website and Facebook page. Ms. Root said that it is important to advertise award recipients. Ms. Wheatcraft said that one of the objectives of the program is public awareness.

Ms. Wheatcraft said the Bristol Virginia District Preservation Award Program was being presented as an example of a city awards program. She said this program was established to recognize rehabilitation work within a particular historic district.

Ms. Root asked if there was a timeframe to implement an awards program. She mentioned that she would like to see the use of the ARB's insignia, the Fauquier heraldic crest, on the certificates. Ms. Wheatcraft suggested that the program could be launched in January 2020. She asked the ARB to think about requisites for an awards program and to bring ideas and suggestions to the meeting in July. Mr. Lee asked if Ms. Wheatcraft was proposing to implement a recommendation made in the Comprehensive Plan. Ms. Wheatcraft said that establishing a preservation awards program is an action item of Chapter 2, Section B.

5. Announcements

- Update – 2019-2020 Survey And Planning Cost Share Grant Application

Ms. Wheatcraft told the ARB the County's 2019-2020 cost share grant application was denied. She said that an application was submitted for survey of Fauquier County African American schools and churches, which was to be done in preparation of a Multiple Property Documentation (MPD) form that was going to be completed as a part of a 2020-2021 cost share grant application. It was meant to be a two-year project. Mr. Lee asked if jurisdictions with the Certified Local Government status were chosen for survey grant money over those without the certification. Ms. Wheatcraft said she did not believe so as Certified Local Governments have their own grant program. She said she was disappointed and noted that she and the State Survey Coordinator discussed possible reasons for not being awarded the grant. One reason mentioned was the fact that the Upperville District update is not yet complete. She noted that Cheryl Shepherd is currently checking the Upperville survey data and making corrections.

- June 20, 2019 – State Review Board Meeting – Review of Vint Hill Historic District PIF

Ms. Wheatcraft said that she will not be in attendance at the June 20, 2019 State Review Board meeting in Richmond. The Vint Hill Historic District Preliminary Information Form (PIF) will be presented for the Board's consideration.

There was a discussion about a developer's preliminary proposal to rehabilitate the men's and women's historic barracks at Vint Hill into apartments. Mr. Lee commented that it is nice to know that the buildings are being considered for adaptive use. He suggested that perhaps the developer could speak to the ARB about what they have proposed. Ms. Wheatcraft said that the developer intended to use historic tax credits to complete the rehab. If he intended to take the credits, the work would have to be done according the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation*. She said that the project would require a rezoning.

6. The next ARB meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 3, 2019.

7. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:19 p.m.