

**FAUQUIER COUNTY
ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD**

Meeting Minutes

November 10, 2015

4:00 p.m.

2nd Floor Conference Room, Warren Green Building, 10 Hotel Street, Warrenton

Attendance:

Mary Root, Chair (Citizen-at-Large)
Hilary Gerhardt (Cedar Run District Representative)
Bob Lee (Planning Commission Representative)
Jack LaMonica (Marshall District Representative)

Not in Attendance:

Julie Broaddus (Scott District Representative)
Virginia Gerrish (Center District Representative)
Lee District Representative (position open)

Staff:

Wendy Wheatcraft, Preservation Planner
Maureen Williamson, Staff

Guests:

Julie Bolthouse

1. Call to Order.

Ms. Root called the meeting to order at 4:14 p.m.

2. Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes – October 7, 2015

The October 7, 2015 meeting minutes were reviewed. Mr. LaMonica made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Gerhardt seconded the motion. The motion carried 4 – 0.

3. Ongoing Business

- October Archaeology Workshops – Review & Assessment

Event #1 – Film Showing

A general discussion was had related to the October 9, 2015 film event. Board members discussed the glitch in technology but remarked that the film event seemed well received by those who attended.

Event #2 – Cemetery Conservation Panel and Discussion

Board members discussed the success of the October 22, 2015 Cemetery Conservation Panel and Discussion and felt the event was well received and attended.

Mr. Lee said that the event was impactful and suggested the key now is to decide what the Architectural Review Board (ARB) is going to do with the momentum. He advised Ms. Wheatcraft to begin drafting ideas for a cemetery ordinance soon. He recommended using the better sections of the Stafford and Prince William cemetery ordinances to create a hybrid of the best components of each. Ms. Wheatcraft told

the Board that she will begin pulling the best sections of each county's ordinance to outline ideas for a draft ordinance and have them available at the next meeting of the ARB for discussion.

Mr. Lee suggested that Ms. Wheatcraft schedule an informational meeting with each of the Board of Supervisors (BOS) to introduce them to the cemetery inventory database and the reasons for drafting a cemetery ordinance. Ms. Root noted that ARB members could attend the meeting with their district supervisor to assist with explanation.

Ms. Wheatcraft noted that a reoccurring theme spoken by both panelists during the discussion is the importance of identifying cemeteries and maintaining a cemetery inventory. Ms. Wheatcraft said that both Ms. Dodd and Mr. Patton agreed that an accurate inventory is a crucial step for cemetery protection.

Ms. Julie Bolthouse of Piedmont Environmental Council, a guest, asked for speak. She noted that the interest in assisting with cemetery preservation among the non-profit groups is high. She said this was evidenced by the representatives from Piedmont Environmental Council and Citizens for Fauquier County who attended the panel event. Ms. Bolthouse said that getting the word out about cemetery preservation through these groups would more than likely lend support to the cemetery inventory effort.

Ms. Wheatcraft referenced a planning and survey grant offered by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources. She noted that the grant is small and funds could fund cemetery survey work incrementally. Ms. Wheatcraft said that she will watch for the next offering of this grant.

- Update a Few Ongoing Development Applications

- Casanova Tower

- Ms. Wheatcraft reminded the ARB that the Casanova Tower application was put on an indefinite hold by the applicant in July 2015. She told the Board that no additional submission materials have been received on behalf of Verizon Wireless since the acceptance and review of the initial application. She reminded the ARB that their recommendation of the initial application was to minimize adverse effects to the cultural resources through modifications of the project's scale, design, and location.

- Hume Tower

- Ms. Wheatcraft said that all County approvals were granted for this project long ago; however, the applicant has made no move towards construction. She did note that CWS, a telecommunications tower company, has recently expressed some interest in the site.

ARB members are concerned that the community may have a false impression that the BOS is denying cell tower applications. This impression may lie in the fact that while the BOS has approved Special Exception requests to build new cell towers in the County, it is the applicants that, once approval is received, are not building the facilities. ARB members suggested that Ms. Wheatcraft discuss this concern with the Director of Community Development, Kimberley Fogle, to ask if community outreach is needed to mitigate this false impression.

Ms. Root suggested that Ms. Wheatcraft could submit an article to the quarterly Community Development newsletter to explain that once a Special Exception application is approved by the BOS to construct a tower that does not meet specific ordinance standards, it is up to the applicant to go forward with a site plan application to fulfill the construction expectation.

- Verizon Wireless Meadowville North Tower Application
Ms. Wheatcraft said that Verizon Wireless recently submitted revised application material for the Meadowville North tower project that is requested to be sited on the Great Meadow property.

- Prehistoric Reconnaissance Survey Project – Update
Ms. Wheatcraft showed ARB members the GIS layer for the prehistoric predictive model project completed by a student archaeologist. She displayed the project's high probability areas within a very small section of the County. She reminded the ARB that this earlier student project could be used to build a more-extensive reconnaissance level prehistoric predictive model of the County. Ms. Wheatcraft has confirmed the feasibility of conducting additional study during FY2016 with Ms. Fogle. Ms. Wheatcraft will request estimates for further study.

4. New Business

- County Cemetery Database & Cemetery Identification in the County GIS
Ms. Wheatcraft displayed the GIS cemetery layer for the Board. She also shared the cemetery database, which is in an Excel spreadsheet format. She informed the ARB that not all of the cemeteries on the spreadsheet are in the GIS layer.

Ms. Root recommended the use of several resources to identify cemeteries and burial sites, including a two volume book titled *Fauquier County, Virginia Tombstone Inscriptions*, written by Nancy Chappelle Baird, the website Find a Grave, and the WPA files. She asked Ms. Wheatcraft if a column could be added to the Excel spreadsheet database to note information sources for those cemeteries that have them.

5. Announcements

- Ms. Wheatcraft reminded the ARB of the Blackwelltown Cemetery clean-up day scheduled for Saturday, November 14, 2015. She noted there will be a Meet & Greet between 7:30 a.m.-7:55 a.m. at Ebenezer Baptist Church located at 4487 Ebenezer Church Road. She also mentioned that a lunch will be offered for clean-up volunteers.

6. **The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 9, 2015.**

The next meeting of the ARB will be held at Old Bust Head Brewery with the meeting starting at 4:00 p.m. Members are encouraged to bring a holiday treat to share.

Mr. LaMonica noted not being available to attend the next ARB meeting.

7. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:47 p.m.