

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD OF THE TOWN OF STRASBURG HELD ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2016 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE TOWN HALL.

ARB Members present: Chairperson Rathore and Board Members Keefe, Kimmons, Lefkowitz, and Poling. Absent: Board Member Massey.

Staff: Town Manager Spitzer, Planning and Zoning Administrator Pearson, and Clerk of Council Keller

Chairperson Rathore called the meeting to order.

Action Items:

1. Approval of Minutes: January 7 and January 26, 2016

The minutes of the January 7, 2016 were approved unanimously with a minor revision with a motion by Board Member Kimmons and second by Board Member Poling.

The January 26, 2016 were approved unanimously on a motion by Board Member Kimmons and a second by Board Member Wheeler.

2. Strasburg Rescue Squad, new residential accessory:

P&Z Administrator Pearson said the squad wants to put up a small shed along Washington Street. The proposed building is 8' x 10' and they would like it to be beside the building. Attachments included in the packet show the locations of where it could be located.

Board Member Poling said one issue is the ownership of the land. Once you walk out of the building, you are on the town's property.

Board Member Wheeler said she talked to **Richard Kleese**, a member of the Sons of the Confederate Veterans, who said they are hotly opposed to the storage building being placed behind the building. **Mr. Kleese** thought the shed was for lawn mowers and lawn tractors so people would be driving trucks back and forth along there. **Board Member Poling** said it is for equipment storage. **Board Member Wheeler** said **Mr. Kleese** is afraid the back of the building would be hit. **Board Member Wheeler** presented pictures she had taken, showing different locations for the building and said the Sons of the Confederate Veterans would like for the building to be placed at Location 1. She is concerned with the shed covering or hiding the Dosh house. When taking pictures, she walked to the back of the building and there are two parking spaces that are reserved for the rescue squad or fire department. She thinks this would be good since it is level and close to the building. She then showed another location for the building on the town's property. **Chairperson Rathore** said the parking lot is going to be re-done soon so he doesn't think they will allow the shed to be placed on the lot. **Board Member Wheeler** said she is an advocate of old buildings and an advocate of the Sons of the Confederates. **Board Member Poling** stated she is a member of the Strasburg Volunteer Rescue Squad Auxiliary.

Board Member Lefkowitz asked what the ARB's role is in this and **P&Z Administrator Pearson** said this would count as new construction so a Certificate of Appropriateness

needs to be applied for. The ARB can tell where they need to place the building.

Board Member Lefkowitz asked **Board Member Poling** what the spaces were for and they are for the responders to park and be able to get into the building quickly. **Board Member Lefkowitz** said it sounds like the parking spaces are necessary. **Chairperson Rathore** said previously these spaces were used daily, but he's not sure how much they are used now because the responders are parking in the front of the building. He said his thoughts on these two parking spaces were in perfect accordance with **Board Member Wheeler's** ideas. He doesn't think Option 3 is viable since it is a swampy area and could later cause mold problems in the main building and all were in agreement with this. The Rescue Squad building is owned by the organization.

Chairperson Rathore said in looking at the criteria for a "Certificate of Appropriateness", it is stated that general factors to be considered in the appropriateness of an application, the ARB *shall* be guided in their decision. He brought attention to item #2 which is the compatibility of the proposed change to the historic and architectural significance, quality, character, and scale of the surrounding properties. This is a direct correlation of what **Board Member Wheeler** brought up. He thinks the impacts of Locations 1 and 2 need to be considered in this decision.

P&Z Administrator Pearson said the shed would only be used for lawn mowers they use on their own land.

Board Member Poling said the town lot is used by the entire town and the eat stand is used by many groups and when there is a carnival, parking spaces at the squad are at a premium.

Board Member Wheeler showed a picture where she thought it could be located. The area did not show markings for parking and it was a flat surface. **Chairperson Rathore** said this is where the NVDaily loads papers in the early morning hours. He asked who owned the alleyway behind the building.

When asked by members, **P&Z Administrator Pearson** said his first inclination would be to place the building at Location 3.

Board Member Keefe asked what the timeframe is for putting up the building and **P&Z Administrator Pearson** said they aren't in a huge rush.

Board Member Poling thought it might be best to table this and talk further to the Sons of the Confederate Veterans. **Chairperson Rathore** asked if representatives of the Dosh Building and the Rescue Squad could both be invited to a future building.

Board Member Keefe asked if there had been any other proposals for the strip of grass as he doesn't really want to place a building there. **Board Member Poling** said a proposal had been made many years ago, but it wasn't passed. There has always been issues. She agrees that it should be tabled and talk to the other organizations.

Board Member Wheeler moved to table so that representatives of the Dosh House and the Strasburg Volunteer Rescue Squad can meet with the ARB to hear both sides; second by **Board Member Poling**. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

P&Z Administrator Pearson said he still needs one member's resume in order to complete paperwork he must submit to the Department of Historic Resources.

Board Member Keefe asked for an update on the marquee. **P&Z Administrator Pearson** said it was just a repair so they didn't need a Certificate of Appropriateness and they will start work as soon as the weather improves.

Chairperson Rathore asked if anybody had shown an interest in the taxi stand and nothing has been advertised yet. A new architect has been brought in for the CDBG project.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.