**Town of Washington | Architectural Review Board**

**Meeting Minutes - May 11, 2022**

***Present:***

Nanette Edwards (ARB Member)

Deb Harris (ARB Member – participated in working session, and last half of ARB meeting)

Wesley Kerr (ARB Member)

David McKnight (ARB Member)

Drew Mitchell (ARB Member)

Steve Gyurisin (Zoning Administrator)

An ARB Work Session was held at 4:00 PM on May 11 guided by Historic Preservation Consultant Maral Kalbian, who gave a PowerPoint presentation on the role of the ARB and its Design Guidelines, followed by a question-and-answer session. Maral discussed the role of the ARB including enforcement, community education, tourism/economic benefits, the stewardship of historic resources, and the promotion of harmony of style among old and new buildings. She also covered design guidelines and how decisions of the ARB can set precedent. No decisions or votes may be taken in a work session.

The ARB meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chair D. Mitchell.

D. McKnight made a motion to approve the April 2022 ARB meeting minutes, D. Mitchell seconded the motion. The meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

***Item a: 593 Gay Street – portico***

Fredette Eagle, the property owner, requested to install a small portico over the exterior door along Wheeler Street to the existing single-family residential home. The existing door has been replaced due to water damage. The new portico will protect the door from future damage.

N. Edwards made the motion to approve, seconded by W. Kerr. The motion was unanimously approved by all voting ARB members.

***Item b: 667 Main Street – cedar shakes and porch railing***

Butch Zindel on behalf of the property owners, Dave Millard and Mary Ann Best, requested to install scalloped cedar shakes on the front porch gable, Chippendale railing around the front porch, and front porch steps replacement.

D. Mitchell made the motion to approve, seconded by W. Kerr. The motion was unanimously approved by all voting ARB members.

***Item c: 309 Middle Street – kitchen windows***

Mike Russell on behalf of the property owner, The Inn at Little Washington, requests the replacement of existing windows for the kitchen addition at 309 Middle Street. The windows to be replaced are proposed as aluminum-clad rather than all wood for the exterior portion of the window due to supply chain issues. Once installed, the replacement windows will look nearly identical to the existing windows.

D. McKnight made the motion to approve, seconded by N. Edwards. The motion was unanimously approved by all voting ARB members.

**Item d: 335 Middle Street – shed demolition**

Request of Robert Fasce on behalf of the property owner, The Inn at Little Washington, for the demolition of an 11'x12', shed located at 335 Middle Street. Mr. Fasce asked that demolition of the shed be struck from the agenda.

***Item e: 335 Middle Street – fence demolition***

Robert Fasce on behalf of the property owner, The Inn at Little Washington, for the demolition of the board fence between 335 Middle Street and 325 Middle Street.

D. Mitchell made the motion to approve, seconded by D. McKnight. The motion was unanimously approved by all voting ARB members.

***Item (f) 335 Middle Street – demolition of the rear portion of the structure***

355 Middle Street was recently acquired by the Inn at Little Washington. The site has an original log cabin and an addition (non-historical) that, upon assessment from an engineer (Chuck Stevens), was found to be unsuitable for rehabilitation due to several issues. The front log portion of the structure is proposed to be saved and relocated nearby.

D. McKnight made the motion to approve, seconded by D. Harris. The motion was unanimously approved by all voting ARB members.

***Item (g) 335 Middle Street – relocation of the original cabin***

The front log portion of the structure is proposed to be saved and relocated nearby. Wes asked if a location for the log cabin has been selected. Bob noted that one is proposed but not finalized. Drew asked about the timing for re-assembling. Bob replied between 5 and 10 years. Deb asked about the timing and plan for the garden after dismantling. Bob noted plans are being developed now.

D. McKnight made the motion to approve, seconded by D. Harris. The motion was unanimously approved by all voting ARB members.

***Item (h): Welcome signs***

Request of Gail Swift on behalf of "The Washington Planters", to install two replacement "Welcome to Washington" entrance signs located along Main Street extended (Fodderstack Road) and Mount Salem Avenue at the entrances to the Town of Washington.

N. Edwards made the motion to approve, seconded by W. Kerr. The motion was unanimously approved by all voting ARB members.

***Open Session for Public Comments***

Kevin Adams noted that there are several neglected properties within the town limits and asked what action the ARB was planning to take. Drew mentioned that the ARB had a work session with a preservation expert earlier in the day who shared tools and resources on how the ARB can address this. Mayor Fred Caitlin said he was going to have a conversation with the owner of the packing shed. Deb noted that the ARB discussed options for enforcement and whether it was in the town or ARB jurisdiction. Washington resident, Nancy Buntin noted we’ve been too nice – need to look at ordinances to enforce people to maintain the property.

D. Harris moved to adjourn the meeting, and W. Kerr seconded.

The meeting was adjourned by D. Mitchell at 7:41 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

David McKnight