

**MINUTES OF HISTORIC AND ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD  
MAY 8, 2008**

**Members Present**

Jennifer Norris, Debbie Rountree, Ronald Askew, John Kish, George Nicholas

**Staff Present**

Rhonda Smith, Catherine Lindley

**Pre-Meeting**

The pre-meeting began at 5:40 p.m. Mr. Nicholas made a motion to approve the April 10, 2008 minutes, followed by a second by Mr. Kish. Motion carried.

Ms. Smith gave the administrative report. Ms. Rose was not present but did send a zoning report. Ms. Smith read the report. Ms. Lindley said that she and Ms. Rose had spoken about driveway issues. The Zoning Ordinance requires that new construction requires nine by eighteen pads for two cars.

**Old Business**

Ms. Norris reported that the demolition application at 1128 Seaboard Avenue was appealed to City Council at the April 22, 2008 meeting. The Council continued the application. There was discussion at this meeting about the possibility of selling the property to another owner who may be interested in restoring the house. The applicants could not answer this because the matter must be handled by church trustees. As of now the status of this appealed application is still open. More will be known when it returns to the Council agenda.

**New Business**

The new guidelines draft was distributed. A joint meeting with the Historic Preservation Commission will be held once the members agree on a date for maximum attendance as soon as possible.

**Regular Agenda**

**1012 Park Avenue – Paint metal roof. House is contributing. (Continued item).** The applicant presented pictures of the current color of the house. The paint samples for the roof were reviewed and a color was agreed upon. Mr. Askew made a motion to approve the paint color in orange clay (SW 63) satin finish because the color is in keeping with the guidelines of the Historic District. Mr. Nicholas offered a second to the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

**1416 Chesapeake Avenue – Remove and replace driveway. House is contributing.** There was extensive discussion about the proposal. Members were concerned about the amount of concrete and that the board had never approved such a large driveway. The applicants were concerned about parking on the street. They had four cars in their household and were trying to get the cars off the street. They said that they owned a lot and a half and their site was larger than most on the street. The proposed driveway would not be in front of the house and they would be willing to buffer portions of it with plants. Mr. Askew made a motion to approve the driveway as submitted because it is in keeping with the guidelines of the Historic District. Mr. Kish offered a second to the motion. Motion carried 3-2.

**1026 Chesapeake Avenue – After the fact driveway. House is non-contributing.** Board members had approved an application for the new house at the location in September, 2007. At that time there was no proposal for a driveway. The driveway was mentioned but not presented with the application. The after the fact driveway was placed directly in front of the house which would not have been approved by the board. Mr. Kish made a motion to deny the after the fact application because the guidelines do not recommend covering the front yard with very little grass or ground cover plants and it is not in keeping with the guidelines of the Historic District. Mr. Nicholas offered a second to the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

**903 Ohio Street – After the fact porch railings. House is contributing.** The railings were determined to be a style that the board would not have approved. The railings were thinner than railings that were appropriate to this type of house. There was a discussion about the whether railings were necessary since a picture of the house taken in 2001 showed no railings. Mr. Lilley of the South Norfolk Civic League spoke in opposition to the railings. He said that the League is in support of the Historic District and wants new owners to know how valuable it is to retain elements of historic homes. Ms. Rountree made a motion to deny the application as submitted because the railings were not consistent with the guidelines of the Historic District. Mr. Nicholas offered a second to the motion. Motion carried 5-0. The applicant was advised to check with Zoning to see if railings could be removed and not replaced. The applicant could re-apply with more appropriate railings if needed.

**1231 Seaboard Avenue – Apply vinyl siding. House is contributing.** Paint colors had been approved administratively and the applicant was not present to explain how the vinyl siding would be applied to blend with the paint colors. Mr. Kish made a motion to continue the application for more information. Ms. Rountree offered a second to the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Lilley spoke again to the Board and thanked them for their efforts to preserve the structures in the District. He appreciates what they do and sees the difference in the area. He said that preservation enhances the value of the buildings.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

