

**MINUTES OF THE  
BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW  
OCTOBER 20, 1992**

**Present:**

Kurt Wassenaar  
Blake Caravati  
Todd Bullard  
Pryor Hale  
Eldon Wood  
Dawn Thompson  
Peggy Van Yahres

**Absent:**

None

**Staff Present:**

Fred Boger  
Ronald Higgins  
Vera Mason, Recording Sec.

Mr. Wassenaar opened the meeting at 3:35 p.m. and stated the minutes would be dispensed with at the end of the meeting.

**A. FINAL PRESENTATION OF RIDGE STREET BRIDGE REPLACEMENT**

No members of the Urban Design Committee were present. Mr. Henry Kinnier of the old Ridge Street Bridge Committee, and Sheryl Nee of the Daily Progress were present. Mr. Reggie Beasley, representing the Virginia Department of Transportation, was present with his final drawings. He stated that after getting some direction from two committees, VDOT went ahead with project plans and acquired the right-of-way. Their plan is to have everything finalized in the next few months so they can put the project out to bid in February of 1993. The four-lane road would be 46-ft. wide with 5-ft. wide sidewalks. There would be brick facing on the parapet wall. The wall would be 3-ft. 6 inches at one end of the bridge and 4-ft. at the other end. The wall could be raised if necessary. The hand rail would be black and Mr. Beasley is looking into the desirability of adding another horizontal rail to improve the appearance of the wall. The light fixtures already purchased would match the light fixtures that will be used at the Corner.

Mr. Beasley showed the Board members three different types of brick, i.e. Londontowne, Virginia standard brick, and oversized brick. He stated there would be a brick cap on top of the wall, and that the concrete was pre-cast, pre-stressed and 21" thick. There would be curb cuts for the handicapped. Mr. Kinnier suggested that VDOT makes sure there is no vibration on the bridge. One of the Board members suggested that brick be placed around the end of the brick wall so it doesn't look as though it is a faced wall.

Mr. Wassenaar thought the old Virginia standard brick would be best and that the surface colors could be chosen later. He stated that the top of the

wall should have a full course of bricks. There was a question of whether the brick should match color of the brick on the adjacent church.

Mr. Wassenaar made the motion that the Board approves the final design plans as presented by Mr. Beasley, subject to the following conditions:

1. That brick be used to wrap the ends of the vertical concrete sections of the wall at the center part of the bridge.
2. That the brick topping the sidewalk section of the wall be a full course of brick and any tapering occur in the second course of bricks.
3. That the brick be standard size running bond with the final color being administratively approved by staff, and to match the church color as closely as possible.
4. That VDOT check the current applicable codes to make sure that are in compliance with BOCA and ADA requirements.

Mrs. Van Yahres made the recommendation that a brick cap be placed on top of the retaining wall at each end of the bridge.

The Board members expressed their appreciation of VDOT's working with the City in making the replacement bridge such a nice project.

Mr. Caravati seconded the motion and it passed by the following vote:  
Ayes: Kurt Wassenaar, Blake Caravati, Peggy Van Yahres, Pryor Hale, Todd Bullard, Eldon Wood and Dawn Thompson. Noes: 0; Abstentions: 0.

Mr. Eldon Wood and Fred Boger will look at brick and make a decision administratively concerning color.

### **B. 621 LEXINGTON AVENUE**

There was considerable discussion concerning the applicant's request for this property to be designated historical and come under the Board's control. Mr. Caravati said he would prefer that a complete block of houses or a neighborhood come under the Board's jurisdiction, rather than an individual house. Vera Mason, applicant's wife (and recording secretary) was present and said that when she was on the Executive Committee of the Martha Jefferson Area Hospital Association, she had tried to get the whole neighborhood designated as historically significant, but had not been able to get the support. When she learned that individual home owners could apply, she and her husband decided to take advantage of the opportunity.

Mr. Boger said he would look at the procedure and would ask Eugenia Bibb to do a survey of the house in preparation for it to be presented to City Council.

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C. MINUTES

Kurt Wassenaar made the motion that the September 16, 1992 minutes be approved subject to the following three corrections:

Page Two, third line from the bottom of the page. This should read that Todd Bullard abstained from voting on the Carter Gilmer Project - Tree Replacement Plan.

Page Four, second line from bottom of paragraph under the heading "221 E. Water Street". Ms. Thompson asked that the word "inappropriate" be substituted for the word "tacky".

Page Five, fourth paragraph down, second line. Instead of the words "rather than" attending a workshop, the words "in addition to" should be substituted in their place.

Mr. Caravati seconded the motion and it passed by the following vote:  
Ayes: Kurt Wassenaar, Peggy Van Yahres, Todd Bullard, Pryor Hale, Blake Caravati, Eldon Wood and Dawn Thompson. Noes: 0. Abstentions: 0.

D. DRAFT OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN

Jeanine Wolanski handed out a draft copy of the historic preservation plan to each Board member and said she had made some minor changes for the Board to review. Ms. Wolanski said she would like to present the final draft to City Council members at their November meeting, and would therefore like any feedback from the Board members as soon as possible.

E. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

vm