

## Smithfield 2020 Notes from project team meeting of May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014

### Present

Jim Abicht	Lee Duncan	Mark Hall
Priscilla Barbour	John Edwards	Randy Pack
Rick Bodson	Sheila Gwaltney	Russell Parrish
Andy Cripps	Trey Gwaltney	Peter Stephenson

### Admin

Current funds balance of \$24,855 reflects a \$5,000 grant from Historic Smithfield to replenish the façade improvement grant fund. A commitment from unrestricted funds of \$5,200 for a Riverview Campus master plan is outstanding as is \$8,000 from economic development funds for the street banner project.

The briefing to Town Council on the Riverview Campus initiative has been rescheduled to the May 20<sup>th</sup> Public Buildings & Welfare Committee meeting.

### Project and initiative updates

Sheila reported the street banner project is progressing along to the May 12<sup>th</sup> submission deadline; nine entries from three artists are in-hand and four have been turned back for not meeting format requirements. Judges will meet May 14<sup>th</sup> and announcement of selectees and top three prize winners will be on Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup> if a sufficient number of qualifying are available for selection.

Sheila, Judy, Mark and Rick have identified the target light poles on Main and Church Streets and total count is currently 38; some final adjustment of placement is likely.

Rick reported that the Wharf Hill working group's first working meeting was postponed due to inclement weather and rescheduled to the conclusion of this team meeting.

### New initiatives

A façade improvement matching grant application from Vicki Brown, owner of Victoria's Rose, 311 Main Street, was reviewed. A vigorous exchange of views on the nature of the project – a repainting of the building in a significantly different color scheme – evaluated whether this is a non-eligible maintenance effort or a qualifying “improvement [with] significant visual impact...” as defined by the grant guidelines. By a vote of 9 for and 2 against, a matching grant of \$1,000 contingent on submission of full supporting project cost documentation was awarded.

Randy noted that no organization had stepped forward this year to host a Town Council candidates' forum. By general consensus, it was agreed that should no other organization sponsor a forum in May 2016, Smithfield 2020 will offer to do so.

## Organization updates / announcements

Historic Smithfield: A professional engineering firm has been engaged to survey necessary repairs and moisture infiltration issues at the 1750 Courthouse. Expectations are that the remediation efforts will require funding in the range of \$250,000.

Chamber: Andy reminded the team of the Chamber's Business After-Hours programs and the Business Appreciation Luncheon on June 4; details are available on [theisle.org](http://theisle.org). A July 1 target to roll-out a significant update to the Chamber's Website and a general technology upgrade to its membership management system is tracking to plan.

Historic District businesses: The Paisley Pig, 202 Main, is under new ownership by Jen and Joe Gangemi. The shop will be open Monday through Saturday.

Town: Construction of the interior and roof area of the Smithfield Winery is well underway; a six month timeline to completion is tracking to plan.

The brick path linking the N. Church sidewalk to the Smithfield Station bridge to Windsor Castle Park is nearly complete; bordering landscaping will be installed this month.

The Town Council has committed to developing a plan to keep the County Museum open after July 1. Dialog between the Town, County and Museum Foundation is scheduled for several meetings by end of month.

**Next meeting:** Wednesday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 8:45 am, Arts Center @ 319.

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*These meeting notes submitted by Rick Bodson.*