

ARB News: Town of Occoquan's Architectural Review Board

Did you know that architecture was introduced over 12,000 years ago with the Neolithic Period? The people then were audacious builders and started a field that has since branched out to civil, sacred, naval, military, and landscape architecture. Reviewing architecture is as old as architecture itself. Architectural Review Boards, Architectural Review Councils, even Boards of Architectural Review abound throughout the world; including one small town just outside of Washington, DC.

The Occoquan ARB is responsible for ensuring the appropriateness of exterior architectural elevations of buildings, homes and other structures within the town's historic district. If you are in the historic district and want to make any changes to your building and/or property including alterations, relocations, construction, or demolition, you need to present the proposed changes to the ARB before moving forward. It is important that when a roof is about to be replaced or a door is about to be repainted, to have the texture, material, and color reviewed by the ARB. It's easy to do – simply stop by Town Hall during normal business hours (Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.) to complete an application and submit your plans. You can also visit www.occoquanva.gov to learn more and download an application.

Questions? Contact Town staff at (703) 491-1918 or info@occoquanva.gov. ARB meetings are normally held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at Town Hall; all meetings are open to the public.

OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

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TOWN OF OCCOQUAN

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NOVEMBER 2014

TOWN COUNCIL

Elizabeth A.C. Quist, Mayor
Patrick A. Sivigny, Vice Mayor
Tyler C. Brown
J. Matthew Dawson
Jim Drakes
Joseph McGuire



TOWN HALL STAFF

Kirstyn Barr Jovanovich, Town Manager
Sheldon E. Levi, Chief of Police
Abigail Breeding, CPA, Treasurer
Greg Holcomb, Town Clerk
Bucky Brill, Maintenance Supervisor
Krista Forcier, Craft Show Director

Mayor's Letter

Fall has definitely come to Occoquan, bringing with it cooler temperatures and a variety of festive harvest decorations on homes and businesses in Town. This change of seasons comes on the heels of a very successful Fall Arts & Crafts Show. Though the financial results won't be final for another month or so, preliminary calculations project that the September show's net revenue is the highest we've seen in at least the last three years. Congratulations and a heartfelt thank you to Craft Show Director Krista Forcier, the entire Town Staff, and the many volunteers who contributed to the success of this show. Congratulations and best wishes also go out to our Town Manager, Kirstyn Barr Jovanovich, who was married on September 27, and missed the Show!

We have a number of upcoming events to highlight this month. The 7th annual *Art on the Block* takes place at nine different Occoquan galleries on Saturday, November 8 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. On Friday, November 21, the Business Guild of Occoquan will hold its Holiday Open House from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. The Town Tree Lighting will take place at 8:05 p.m. that evening, followed by the Guild's gift certificate drawings at 8:15 p.m. in front of Hawthorne House. Planning is underway for a number of other Occoquan traditions in December, to include the Town Blessing at Ebenezer Baptist Church, the Town holiday party, and a variety of charity drives. Watch for details in the December newsletter.

And finally, don't forget to vote in the 2014 General Election on Tuesday, November 4. The polling location for Town residents is Occoquan Elementary School, and voters will be electing officials for the federal offices of the United States Senate and House of Representatives. Please remember that the Commonwealth of Virginia requires all voters to submit a valid identification card, which includes a photo. Virginia photo ID requirements can be found online at the Prince William County Office of Elections website.

Elizabeth A.C. Quist

Town Council Actions: October 7, 2014

The following items are extracts of recent Town Council actions and are not official meeting minutes. The most recent approved Town Council minutes and agendas are available online at www.occoquanva.gov. All votes are unanimous unless noted otherwise.

- Council authorized the Town Manager to chose and enter into a contract for snow removal for FY 2015 not to exceed \$2,500.00.

Tree of Hope: November 21 – December 31

Stop by *Off the Beading Path* from November 21 through December 31, to support the Hilda M. Barg Homeless Prevention Program. When you make a donation an ornament will be placed on the Tree of Hope, located in front of Town Hall showing your support.



All proceeds benefit the Hilda M. Barg Homeless Prevention Program, a year round 30-bed shelter for families and single adults that offers comprehensive services including case management, job readiness, mental health counseling and medical referrals. For more information, stop by *Off the Beading Path*, 310 Mill Street, during normal business hours.

Vehicle Decals: Display by November 15

The Town of Occoquan 2015 vehicle decals are now on sale at Town Hall. Town Ordinance Section 62-37 requires that owners of any motor vehicle principally garaged in the Town obtain a decal and “show a valid vehicle registration card showing an address within the limits of the Town of Occoquan.” **The 2015 decal must be displayed on your vehicle by November 15, 2014.**

Town Hall will open for extend hours on Saturday, November 15, from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Decals can be purchased with cash or check only.

Decals are to be displayed on the inside of your windshield on the passenger side of your Virginia inspection sticker.

If you have any questions, please contact Town Staff at (703) 491-1918, Extension 1 or at info@occoquanva.gov.



November 2014

Town Meetings and Events

All meetings are held at Town Hall, 314 Mill Street, unless otherwise noted.

Tuesday, November 4: Election Day, Occoquan Elementary, 12195 Occoquan Road, Woodbridge, 6:00 a.m.– 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, November 5: Town Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 8: Auto decal sales, Town Hall extended hours, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 11: Veterans Day, Town Hall closed.

Saturday, November 15: Auto Decals must be displayed in vehicles.

Monday, November 17: Planning Commission Meeting, 6:45 p.m.; Architectural Review Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 18: Town Council meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Friday, November 21: Holiday Tree Lighting, 8:05 p.m.

Thursday November 27 and Friday November 28: Thanksgiving, Town Hall Closed.

Holiday Shopping Event & Tree Lighting: November 21

Kick off the holiday season with an evening of shopping in Historic Occoquan on Friday, November 21, 2014 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Stroll through the many unique shops of Occoquan during the Business Guild of Occoquan’s Holiday Open House and enjoy special deals, refreshments and activities.

Immediately following this special shopping event, stop by Town Hall for the annual tree lighting event at 8:05 p.m. Then at 8:15 p.m. the Guild will hold it’s Open House drawing in front of Hawthorne House Fine Papers, and distribute \$1,500 in gift certificates!

Trash and Recycling Collection Reminders

Please place refuse to the curb **no earlier than 4 p.m.** on Tuesdays, but **before 7 a.m. on Wednesdays**, and remove your containers as quickly as possible after collection. Ensure there is a pedestrian path available at all times by not blocking public sidewalks and rights of way with refuse containers. **Do not place household refuse in or next to Town-owned trash receptacles.**