

**HERNDON ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD**  
**Work Session Minutes**  
**Wednesday, January 7, 2026**

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Blaker-Glass called the January 7, 2026, Architectural Review Board meeting to order at 8:10 p.m. in the Herndon Council Chambers Building, 765 Lynn Street, Herndon, Virginia. In attendance were: Amy Oleinick, Vice Chair Melody Fetske, and Chair Leslie Blaker-Glass.

Board Member Tamim Chowdhury was absent.

Staff present during the meeting: Lauri Sigler, Deputy Town Attorney; Angelina Jones, Lead Planner, Design and Development; Bob Williams, Director of Parks and Recreation; Amanda Kertz, Town Clerk; and Becky Skillin, Deputy Town Clerk.

**2. Public Hearings**

**a. Application for Alteration to an Existing Structure, ARB #25-005 [item moved during the meeting to 2a]**

Due to a potential timing issue, Chair Blaker-Glass sought consensus and amended the agenda to change the order of the applications, to review Item 2b, ARB #25-005 for 300 Elden Street, first. With the consensus of the Board, the agenda was amended to reflect this change.

Chair Blaker-Glass recognized Angelina Jones, Lead Planner, Design and Development, for the staff report. Ms. Jones presented an overview of the application for alteration to an existing structure. She discussed the style of the commercial property and adjacent properties, comparable cases listed in the staff report, and materials and design elements included in the application. She noted the importance of cohesive design with the adjacent bank building for placemaking purposes and commented on EIFS as a less durable design material. Ms. Jones asked the Board for feedback regarding the use of additional EIFS, requested the applicant submit updated color information, and noted the upcoming meeting schedule.

There were brief comments from Board Members.

Vice Chair Fetske asked about the relationship of the bank to the property under application and noted the uniqueness of the location. Vice Chair Fetske commented on standing seam roofing, the uniqueness of the design, and the landmark nature of the property within the Town, while expressing openness to ideas for refreshing the property.

Board Member Oleinick commented on EIFS material durability, drainage, fascia, and cohesion with area design. She also asked about the durability of the proposed paint for roofing.

Chair Blaker-Glass asked for clarification regarding Vice Chair Fetske's comments. Chair Blaker-Glass inquired about the design of adjacent properties and commented on potential implications for comprehensive planning, transit-related growth, modern design, and legacy considerations. Chair Blaker-Glass suggested brick as an alternative cladding material and asked whether there had been communication between the applicant and the owner of the bank. It was noted that EIFS on the building is original to its late-1980s construction.

Chair Blaker-Glass invited the applicant to provide comments. Tom Donaldson (owner), and David Bruhnke (applicant's agent) addressed drainage plans, signage constraints, the current use of EIFS, possible additional EIFS features, color considerations, and roofing details. They presented roofing material samples and stated that he has not communicated with the owner of the adjacent bank property. The applicant further stated that it was his opinion that EIFS allows for easy repairs and has lasted for over 40 years.

Following discussion between the applicant, staff, and the Board, the applicants indicated that they may request a continuance of this item to the February ARB meeting.

**b. Application for new Construction, ARB #25-004 [item moved during the meeting to 2b]**

Chair Blaker-Glass opened the public hearing and recognized Angelina Jones, Lead Planner, Design and Development, for the staff report. Ms. Jones presented an overview of the application for new construction at Harding Park. She discussed the location, park features, site plan waivers in place, and the proposed design, which includes equipment, walkways, ground cover, and accessibility components. Ms. Jones stated that the design process included a public comment period and that feedback from Town community members contributed to additional considerations in the site design. Public comments are included in the staff report.

There were brief comments from Board Members.

Chair Blaker-Glass invited Bob Williams, Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, the applicant, forward to provide comments. Mr. Williams outlined the

project, which included the community input process and proposed plans for the park. He noted that more than 180 respondents submitted feedback on the project and stated that installation is anticipated for spring or summer. The asphalt walkway will remain in its current location and meets required safety specifications.

There was discussion among the Board, staff, and the applicant regarding the application, including:

1. The purple dinosaur may be past its life cycle as a safety standard, but Chair Blaker-Glass asked for the dinosaur to stay as an artistic element, due to community interest.
2. Chair Blaker-Glass noted the importance of seating, the absence of additional seating, deteriorating benches, and the replacement cycle.
3. Chair Blaker-Glass asked if the picnic tables could be repaired or replaced and requested additional signage prohibiting construction waste and additional trash bins and collection times.

Responding to Chair Blaker-Glass, Mr. Williams stated that existing picnic benches will remain, and the Town plans to install new benches as part of the Capital Improvement Program, separate from the playground improvement project. He noted that the Department of Public Works frequently responds to trash overflow and property misuse at the park.

Vice Chair Fetske commented on the improvements to be well overdue. She asked about mulch grading and additional picnic tables.

Board Member Oleinick requested additional seating at the park.

**c. Application for new Construction, ARB #25-006**

Chair Blaker-Glass recognized Angelina Jones, Lead Planner, Design and Development, for the staff report. Ms. Jones presented an overview of the application for new construction at Bready Park, which is focused on the baseball area. There are two improvements bundled with the application: a seating wall and dugouts. Ms. Jones offered two design proposals with color options and material details and noted the exceptions to using chain link fencing. Staff are withholding a recommendation pending additional information on the seating wall, colors, capping the benches, sealing the benches, electricity, links between the old and new structures, and drainage. Ms. Jones offered to propose a resolution for changes permissible for administrative review. She requested input from Bob Williams.

There were brief comments from Board Members on the application, including the following:

Vice Chair Fetske noted this design is consistent with other fields, asked about the height of the seating wall, and recommended administrative review going forward.

Board Member Oleinick concurred with addressing safety issues.

Chair Blaker-Glass concurred with staff administrative decisions moving forward and the cement wall.

Chair Blaker-Glass invited the applicant forward for comments.

Bob Williams, Director of Parks and Recreation, the applicant, noted that the seating specifications reduce trip hazards, are multi-functional, and redirect storm water using a pollinator garden and wall drains. The Optimist Baseball team is in support of the improvements. He noted that signage and public art spaces can include the logo to maintain it in other locations. Budget constraints prohibit significant press box repairs.

There was brief discussion among the staff, applicant, and Board on the application.

### 3. **Comments**

#### a. **Comments from the Staff Members**

There were no comments from the staff.

#### b. **Comments from the Board Members**

There were no additional comments from the Board Members.

### 4. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, Chair Blaker-Glass adjourned the January 7, 2026, Architectural Review Board Work Session at 9:34 p.m.

*Becky Skillin*  
**Becky Skillin**  
**Deputy Town Clerk**



Minutes approved by the Architectural Review Board: **February 18, 2026**

