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**CITY OF MIDDLETOWN  
DESIGN REVIEW & PRESERVATION BOARD**

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**MINUTES**

*September-8-2004*

**Present**

J. BIANCO, CHAIRMAN  
P. EVANS  
B. KRONENBERGER  
J. FORTUNA  
N. STAMLER  
J. FRAZER

**Absent**

D. BROWN  
B. PLUMLEY  
B. SHOEMAKER

**Also Present**

M. WACKERS  
L. MICHEALS  
K. DETULIO  
T. CHARTON  
M. HADDAE  
B. JERMAINE  
A. SZEREJKL

The meeting commenced at 5:30 PM.

J. Bianco called for the approval the minutes from the previous meeting. P. Evans motioned that the minutes be accepted. J. Fortuna seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

J. Bianco seeing no old business called for new business.

First, Lew Michaels of Harbor Park Restaurant and Ken DeTulio of Sign Lite presented a proposal put up an animated sign onto the existing freestanding sign. The animated sign would be a LED sign with numerous movable elements that can be manipulated to spell words and change the sign at intervals. Two animated LED boxes would be installed over where the existing changeable letter box. One LED would be mounted on either side. M. Wackers explained that Harbor Park restaurant has been granted a special exception from the prohibition from animated sign at this location, but that approval was contingent on approval of the design elements by the Design Review and Preservation Board. J. Bianco asked is this LED is the most compatible style for the sign. The LED box is very a very different element from the existing style of the sign. P. Evans suggested that maybe getting rid of the old sign and having one large LED panel maybe a better option. B. Kronenberger suggested updating the sign so that it would not look like two animated sign boxes were attached as an afterthought. J. Bianco stated that the concept of having an animated sign at this location is not seen an unfavorable, but this conflict between the existing sign and proposed LED boxes is unappealing. He suggested that two options be explored: 1) a single animated sign replacing the existing sign, or 2) creating more compatibility between the two elements. The two presenters responded favorably to the suggestions. It was agreed that this proposal should be tabled to allow for other options to be explored.

Second, J. Bianco called for Medical Development Associated to present their project at 400 Saybrook Road. Seeing no one to present, J. Bianco asked M. Wackers to explain the project. M. Wackers explained that Medical Development Associates would like to engrave a stone block as their sign for 400 Saybrook Road. The board felt the project was simple enough to decide tonight without further information. P. Evans motioned to accepted engraving of the stone block for 400 Saybrook Road. J. Frazer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Third, Ted Charton from Charton Apartments presented a proposal to vinyl side 246 Williams Street, a property within the Village District. The existing façade is covered in a green-tinted stucco that is likely original to the house. Portions of the existing stucco have sustained some water damage. The Board recognizing that this is a historic structure. B. Kronenberger motioned that the existing vinyl siding can be replaced, and that the existing stucco should be repaired and not be sided over. N. Stamler seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Fourth, Mary Alice Haddad the owner of 15 Pearl Street presented proposed exterior changes. The homeowner recently purchased the house and was planning to convert the two-family house into a single-family house. Therefore the homeowner requested removing the entrance to the second floor apartment, which is a staircase on the rear. In its place would go three to four windows and probably a French door. Siding on the existing rear staircase would be used to reside any exterior portion now exposed. The homeowner also expressed interest in the future to possibly removing the porch along the side of the building. The Board's comments were favorable to the changes to this historic structure, since these modifications would restore the historic character of the building. P. Evans motioned to approve the proposed changes of removing the rear staircase, and the installation of windows and doors that match the style, character, and size of the existing windows to the front of the house and the board supports any future work that would take down the porch on the side of the building. N. Stamler seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Fifth, Brian Jermainne the owner of 16 Pearl Street presented proposed exterior changes. The owner recently purchased the house as an investment property. The owner proposed to take down the asphalt shingles cover the sides of the house, repairing the clapboard siding, replace the roof with architectural shingles, reopen the previous enclosed porch and restore it to its historic look. The owner would also like to rebuild the garage to the rear of the house to look as a carriage house, with an apartment. P. Evans motioned to accept the changes as presented.

Sixth, Anne Marie Szarejkl presented their proposed sign for Wesleyan Potters. The proposed signage includes a freestanding signpost of ten feet that reads Pottery in vertical lettering, surrounded by three pottery totems of varying height. J. Frazer motioned to accept the proposal as presented. P. Evans seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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Michiel Wackers, Community Development Specialist