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

MINUTES

September-10-03

Present

J. BIANCO, CHAIRMAN
B. KRONENBERGER
P. EVANS
N. STAMLER
B. PLUMLEY

Absent

D. BROWN
J. FORTUNA
N. GOFF
M. BRADY

Also Present

M. WACKERS
A. RUBACHA
K. KENNEDY

The meeting commenced at 5:35 PM.

First, A. Rubacha from Wesleyan University presented the new signage for the Broad Street Books, The Wesleyan Bookstore and Café. The project calls for two signs, one to be hung near the entranceway, and another to be placed on the large box located on the front lawn of the Building. The signs were designed by Kieffer Signs in Sheboygan, WI, will feature a black background with white lettering, and a thin red stripe near the bottom third. J. Bianco asked what the lighting would be for this sign. A. Rubacha replied that there will be no direct illumination on the sign or internally. The breeze way has lighting that will be suitable in lighting the sign over the doorway. P. Evans asked if anything can be done about the box on the lawn. A. Rubacha replied that the box is not owned by Wesleyan and therefore had no power to modify or replace it. J. Bianco did request that the sign on be box be Stencil-cut, since the box did have internal illumination. A. Rubacha was willing to have such a sign. P. Evans motioned that the Board accept the proposal as presented. B. Kronenberger seconded and the Board approved the motion unanimously.

Seeing that no one was available to present the Capitol Liquors façade proposal, J. Bianco moved to the next item on the agenda.

Second, K. Kennedy of the Department of Planning, Conservation and Development, introduced himself as the new Zoning Enforcement Officer and presented his Washington Street Initiative. The Washington Street Initiative was a program to clean up signage along Washington Street. The Board looked favorably on such a program. The Board also offered the following advice on the section of Washington Street from High Street to Route 9. This section should try to enforce standards that bring it back to its historic and neighborhood feel. Signage and structures that are not in harmony with the neighborhood should be given particular attention.

Third, M. Wackers presented the request from W. Warner the Director of the Department of Planning, Conservation and Development to get the Design Review and Preservation Board's input on Public Work's paving of Main Street from Washington Street South. M. Wackers explain that the whole of Main Street will not be paved since the State has jurisdiction over the section north of Washington until the bridge, because it is a State highway. The Board thought that this would be a wonderful opportunity to implement some of the recommendations from previous studies on how to improve Main Street. M. Wackers asked if a new type of paving that replicated brick would be appropriate to consider. The Board said that it would need to see it in application or at least see a website of a company that produces such an effect to see if it is worthwhile to support. However, the Board was interested in exploring the use of such material in creating a brick like median, crosswalks and possible bump out the corners to shorten the crosswalks. M. Wackers suggested that these suggestions should be communicated to the Public Works Department, offered to write a letter to reflect these comments, and send it around to the Board before sending it to the Public Works Department. The Board agreed.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michiel Wackers, Community Development Specialist