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

MINUTES

September-13-2006

Present

J. BIANCO, CHAIRMAN
P. EVANS
N. STAMLER
M. STEWART
J. FRAZER
J. FORTUNA
B. SHOEMAKER
B. PLUMLEY

Absent

B. KRONENBERGER

Also Present

M. WACKERS
N. ZULLO
M. OLIVERAS

The meeting commenced at 5:30 PM.

First, Martin Knox of TO Design and Mr. Patel, the owner of Citgo Gas Station on Washington Street, presented a proposal for a sign that included LED illuminated prices for gas and internally illuminated box for the Citgo logo. There was discussion about the LED portion being an animated sign. Jeff Bianco stated that an improvement to the logo portion of the sign is preferred, ideally a die-cut or stencil cut sign where only the logo or lettering was illuminated. Matt Stewart commented that Citgo should have variations to their store signage. The Board proposed no motions, and would entertain new designs that could be reviewed before the next meeting.

Second, Michael Oliveras of O2 Design and Nick Zullo, the principle of State Farm Insurance office to be located at 572 Washington Street, presented a signage proposal and some exterior changes. Patricia Evans motioned to accept the sign as presented. Jim Fortuna seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Third, Michiel Wackers presented a sign proposal from AT&T located at 1055 Middle Street. Michiel Wackers reported that it conformed with the design guidelines. John Frazer motioned to approve as presented. Ben Shoemaker seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Fourth, Rebecca Oliveras of O2 Design and the Downtown Central Business District proposed a Main Street directory that would display a map and visitor information on one side and advertising to support the display on the other. The idea is to have three directories located up and down Main Street, standing at least 6 feet high and 2-3 feet wide. The Board approved of the concept and favored legs instead of a monument style directory. The proposed colors are blue structure with the City Seal at the top. The Board felt that the structures should match the color of the streetlights, black or charcoal gray, which allow for the graphics to pop-out at the visitor. The Board wanted to know the final locations of these directories prior to installation. Patricia Evans motioned to approve as presented. Bruce Plumley seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Fifth, Nancy Stamler representing Lady Katherine Cruises approached the Board to begin a discussion about signage for the Charter Boat Operation. The Board provided three options; a separate freestanding sign near the restaurant signage, Create a sign for Harbor Park that would include signage for the Cruise, or simply putting banners on the Boat.

Sixth, Micheal Wackers reported to the Board that the Zoning amendment for signage will go before the Planning and Zoning Commission to be scheduled for a public hearing, which would likely be the October 11th Planning and Zoning Commission meeting.

Seventh, Jim Sarbaugh discussed three items of interest to the Greater Middletown Historical Society. The first is the demolition of Wayside Furniture on Washington Street, second the recent purchase of the Wetmore House by a private individual on Washington Street, and the demolition of Wood Hall on the Connecticut Valley Hospital Campus. These were discussed for informal purposes.

Jeff Bianco called for the review of the minutes. Bruce Plumley motioned to approve the minutes. Ben Shoemaker seconded and the motion was approved, with one member abstaining.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michiel Wackers, Deputy Director of Planning, Conservation & Development