

TOWN OF SCITUATE
Design Review Committee

Meeting Minutes for: Tuesday, May 5, 2015

Topic: Design Review regarding proposed monument sign replacement at the Harbor Medical Building, 56 New Driftway

*The meeting was held in the **Planning Board Office** and called to order at **7:18PM**.*

In Attendance:

Hal Stokes (DRC Chairman)
John Roman (DRC Secretary)
Laura DeLong (DRC Member)
Richard Taylor (Planning Board)
Robert Vogel (Planning Board)
Steve Wyman (Atlantic Management Corp., *Applicant's Representative*)

First Order of Business:

- A) Establish a date for the next Design Review Committee meeting.
- B) Approval of DRC April 7, 2015 Meeting Minutes.

A) The DRC members decided on Tuesday, June 9th at 7PM for the next Design Review Committee meeting. It was also determined that a regular meeting date on the second Tuesday of every month be established, with additional meetings possible each month depending on scheduled projects.

- B) The minutes for the DRC's April 7, 2015 meeting were unanimously approved.

Second Order of Business:

Design Review regarding proposed monument sign replacement at the Harbor Medical Building, 56 New Driftway

Steve Wyman of Atlantic Management Corporation (representing the applicant) presented three design options for the new sign at 56 New Driftway. Two of the designs shown had been submitted to the Planning Board previously: an "Initial Design" dated October 17th, 2014, and a "Revised Design" dated January 26, 2015. None of the Design Review Committee members felt either of these two designs held any promise to maintaining the look of continuity consistent with the town's "Gateway" vision for that area of Scituate. The initial design and its revised version both seemed too contemporary and out-of-sync with the character of the Greenbush retail/commercial district.

The third design Mr. Wyman showed to the committee was in the form of photos of the existing sign and a hand-drawn sketch showing the measurements of the existing sign. With these references, Mr. Wyman verbally described an updated version of the existing sign at 56 New Driftway. Presently a 61-inch-high x 67.25-inch-wide, hand-carved wooden sign is supported by two granite columns each measuring 61 inches in height. In this third proposal, Mr. Wyman noted that the carved sign would be saved and re-stained with similar yet more contrasting colors. A new support/bracing system would be created in order to raise the hand-carved sign higher than the present height of the granite columns, which would allow room below the sign for additional wooden slats to display tenant names.

Design Review Committee Comments:

The Design Review Committee was impressed with this third design plan to save, refurbish, and raise the existing wooden sign, and to add tenant slats below the carved sign. The committee voted to favorably agree to this “restoration” approach, as well as to the raising of the existing sign’s height (exact height to be determined).

The DRC voted unanimously to require the Steve Wyman/Atlantic Management Corp. to return to the Design Review Committee with a finalized sign design showing all the proposed changes and modifications to the existing sign. The committee suggested that Atlantic Management provide the DRC with two or more color schemes for the restored sign as well as design solutions for the new bracing system needed to raise the current sign higher in its position. The committee also suggested consideration be given to the present landscaping around the base of the current sign and to consider lighting options to be incorporated into the final design. Another requirement agreed-upon by the committee was the *permanent elimination* of the large “For Lease” sign positioned next to the current sign. The DRC suggested that a “For Lease” slat be created to fill in positions on the sign when vacancies exist in the Harbor Medical Building.

Mr. Wyman agreed to return to the Design Review Committee to present new designs for final DRC approval prior to his returning to the Planning Board.

Related Issues:

During the committee’s discussion surrounding this signage application, an additional point came up that New Driftway businesses **JW’s Burger Bar** and **CP’s Pizza** both currently have signs on the street that were never brought before either the Planning Board or the Design Review Committee. It was suggested that the Planning Board look into the authority/legitimacy of these existing signs.

The meeting adjourned at 7:58PM.

John Roman
Design Review Committee Secretary
DRC Meeting 5/5/15