

DESIGN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
ZOOM MEETING

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2020
5:00 P.M.

PRESENT: PEDRO PACHANO, CHAIR
JONATHAN HANKIN
STEVE DIETEMANN
HOLLY HAMER
REES SHAD
JENNIFER CLARK

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Pachano called the Zoom meeting to order at 5:14 P.M.

II. MINUTES: MARCH 11, 2020

MOTION: Mr. Dietemann to approve the minutes of March 11, 2020 as amended

SECOND: Mr. Hankin

ROLL CALL VOTE: Mr. Hankin, aye; Ms. Hamer, aye; Mr. Shad, aye; Mr. Dietemann, aye; Ms. Clark, aye; Mr. Pachano, aye

MINUTES: APRIL 29, 2020

MOTION: Mr. Shad to approve the minutes of April 29, 2020 as amended

SECOND: Ms. Clark

ROLL CALL VOTE: Mr. Hankin, aye; Ms. Hamer, aye; Mr. Shad, aye; Mr. Dietemann, recused; Ms. Clark, aye; Mr. Pachano, aye

III. DESIGN ADVISORY COMMITTEE BUSINESS:

Ms. Clark said she had additional language for utility pole banners. She said they would only hang perpendicular to the ground and the maximum size would be 30"x36". Banners would be hung from hangers provided on the utility pole. She said the poles are currently available on Railroad Street and Main Street. She said two non-profit organizations use the poles, DuBois and BIFF.

Ms. Clark there is nothing in the bylaw to address they type of material that can be used for the banner and different sizes. She suggested that different sizes could be allowed. The banners could be used on different streets such as Bridge Street and Stockbridge Road.

Mr. Dietemann asked if political parties could use banners.

Ms. Hamer suggested banners could be used for local Town use.

Mr. Shad suggested banners could be used for winter holiday events.

Ms. Clark said specific events could be advertised such as seasonal events,

Mr. Pachano said elections could be considered seasonal events. He said the language needs to be specific.

Mr. Pachano suggested the Committee review the information that Ms. Clark sent. He suggested the Committee could possibly meet on Main Street for the next meeting.

Mr. Pachano said it would be important to know the size for the banners. He said there might be a maximum size imposed by the State. He said we will check with Ed May.

There was additional discussion of the type of fabric that could be used and the maximum weight. Ms. Clark will work on the language.

The Committee discussed the Design Guidelines. The document dates to 1992. It is a document that is not being utilized although referred to in the Master Plan. Several ideas about the document were discussed ranging from creating a new more up to date document, revising the existing document and leaving the document as is and archiving it.

The Committee discussed revising the document to make it a living document that would be consistent in its message to developers. The document would address how the buildings would fit in with the environment. The Guidelines could address not just the downtown area but possibly the Stockbridge Road area.

The Committee discussed a shorter document that would be simple and straight forward providing clear advice for not just DAC but also the Selectboard, Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals.

The Committee discussed the spirit of the document. Suggestions for the content included specific items to look at similar to the Planning Board's Site Plan Review process that has specific areas of review. An application can be conditioned but not denied. The spirit of the document would be advisory, possibly with conditions.

A point was made that many boards/committees would be involved. This Committee has no budget or authority. Perhaps the revision belongs with another board or committee.

However, the intent of the document is specific to design, the purview of DAC. The document would be an advisory tool for other boards.

Ms. Hamer was asked to go over the first section of the guidelines. The Committee can then deliberate on the comments. Relevance to the present time and clarification is the goal. The intent is a simple, shorter and concise document.

Ms. Clark will work with Ms. Hamer to create a document where the language is easy to understand and possibly retain certain historical nuggets to convince people that Great Barrington is a historical town Ms. Clark said she and Ms. Hamer would red line the document, see what is left and figure out how to rejigger the document for a more modern presentation.

The Committee will meet on June 10 for further discussion of the Design Guidelines.

IV. CITIZEN'S SPEAK TIME:

There was no one present to speak.

Having concluded its business, Mr. Pachano adjourned without objection at 6:23 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly L. Shaw

Kimberly L. Shaw
Secretary