

DESIGN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
TOWN HALL
334 MAIN STREET GREAT BARRINGTON

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2019
5:00 P.M.

PRESENT: PEDRO PACHANO CHAIR
STEVE DIETEMANN
JONATHAN HANKIN
JAMES MERCER
HOLLY HAMER

ED MAY, STAFF LIASON

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Pachano called the meeting to order at 5:12 P.M.
Mr. Pachano welcomed Ms. Hamer to the Committee

II. MINUTES: JULY 11, 2018

MOTION: Mr. Hankin to approve the minutes of July 11, 2018

SECOND: Mr. Dietemann

VOTE: All in favor Ms. Hamer abstained

III. PERMIT FOR REVIEW: 281 MAIN STREET

Ryan Larkin was present with the application for two signs for 281 Main Street.
Mr. Mercer said he manages the building. He has no financial interest in the application.

Mr. May went over the application. There is one shingle sign, 35.99 inches by 16.42 inches and a wall mounted sign 118.89 inches by 27.16 inches.

The Committee had a brief discussion of the signs and the colors. The Committee had no issues with the signs.

MOTION: Mr. Hankin to approve both signs.
SECOND: Ms. Hamer
VOTE: All in favor

DISCUSSION OF REVISIONS TO DAC BYLAW:

Mr. Pachano presented the Committee with the proposed changes to the zoning

bylaw that deals with the DAC. He said one change is to reduce the membership from 7 to 5 members. He said the reason for the change is that there have been difficulties in gathering a forum.

Mr. Pachano asked the Committee to review the suggested revisions to 9.5.2, Applicability. He read through the language. One change would be for signs. The suggested revision would be for the Committee to review only signs that require a variance. He said anything that goes to the Historic District Commission would not have to go before the DAC.

Ms. Hamer said the DAC works with applicants giving good advice.

Mr. Pachano said yes. He said the problem is when we are unable to get a quorum the applicants have to wait.

Mr. Mercer said the Historic District Commission only sees signs in the Historic District. He said it is nice for the other signs to be reviewed.

Mr. Dietemann asked why are we trying to make less for the DAC to do.

Mr. Pachano asked if a time could be set for further review of the language. He said he would change the proposed language to say that the DAC would review any sign application that doesn't go to the HDC and a statement that if a decision by the DAC is not issued in 30 days of receiving the application it will be deemed approved.

The Committee agreed on the language.

Mr. Hankin brought up an issue experienced by St. James. He said they need a sign to advertise what is going on inside.

Mr. May said they built a theatre with no consideration to advertising.

Mr. Hankin said the owners want to have an electronic sign. He said there are some electronic signs that are not offensive. He said it could be a sign permitted by the Planning Board.

Mr. Mercer asked if the building is part of the Cultural District. Yes is the answer.

Mr. May said the bylaw doesn't make a distinction.

Mr. Dietemann said when some comes along that wants something not currently allowed we have to be clear about what we want, so people will know.

Mr. Mercer said he thinks the HDC would support that type of sign for that location.

Ms. Hamer asked how a sense of taste can be written into a bylaw.

After some discussion Mr. Hankin said he thought the marquee language in the sign bylaw

could be amended.

Mr. Pachano appointed Mr. Hankin to come up with language to modify the sign bylaw.

The Committee agreed to meet again on February 27 at 5:00 P.M.

IV. CITIZEN'S SPEAK TIME:

No one spoke

V. ADJOURN:

Mr. Pachano adjourned without objection at 6:21 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly L. Shaw

Kimberly L. Shaw
Secretary