

DESIGN ADVISORY BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

Date: June 10, 2010

Time: 6:30 P.M.

Location: Deep River Town Hall

The meeting was called to order at 6:30.

Attendees: The following members of the Design Advisory Board were present: Peter Howard, Jeff Hostetler, Peg Metcalf, Alan Paradis, Pamela Potter.
Board members absent: Sue Watts.

Guests: Mark Giuliano, Jonathan Kastner, Richard Kollmer, Robert Raymond, Peter Woodcock

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the May 6, 2010 meeting were approved.

Topics of Discussion: Jonathan and Peter responded to Dick Kollmer's question regarding the role of the Design Advisory Board.

Peter Woodcock and Robert Raymond feel strongly that the proposal for the firehouse expansion should go to referendum with "conceptual" drawings. If the referendum is successful, they indicated that they will be completely open to revisiting the plan and will meet with the architect and make some of the changes suggested by the DAB. There was concern about the DAB's proposed change to the footprint of the building because of the size of the ladder truck and its ability to navigate the corners as it leaves the firehouse.

Peter Woodcock reassured the Board that it was highly likely that the mid 19th century home on Union Street would be retained if the expansion proposal is approved.

Alan discussed his memorandum of May 29 regarding the DAB Design Guidelines and the Zoning Regulations. Section 7 of the Zoning Regulations have design information that the Board feels shouldn't be in the Regulations, but in the DAB Guidelines. By having these design issues in the DAB Guidelines, the Board is in a stronger position as professionals to make subjective design decisions. The redundancy implies that Planning and Zoning is in a position to make design decisions which they are not necessarily qualified to do.

Peter moved to submit the DAB Guidelines and Zoning Regulation memo to Jonathan Kastner and Nancy Fischbach.

Alan will send the memo and attachment with annotated P&Z Regulations to Pamela.

Peter has the necessary signatures from VRHS for maintaining the display cases at Adams. Mark Giuliano will help with the installation of the carpet backing in the cases. Cathie Jefferson has the architect's drawings for the display cases. They consist of 10 panels about 30"by 42".

Jeff Hostetler indicated that the Stone House has many older trees on the property, some of which have had to be removed. He thought that it would be beneficial to formulate a landscape plan for the site.

There was a discussion about the possibility of establishing an annual award given by the DAB for the best restoration/renovation/addition to a building in the town as a way to promote awareness of the richness of the built environment. The idea of an annual photography project like the recent historic house photo contest would also increase awareness and engage the community. A follow-up to the current exhibit might be an exhibit of old photographs of historic buildings. The possibility of a photographic inventory of commercial buildings was also discussed.

The Board discussed the two year term of the members and made note that anyone who fills Andrea Chiappa's position will be filling an unexpired term. Pamela will contact Dick Smith to see if Andrea's resignation was received.

The next scheduled meeting of the Design Advisory Board will be on August 12, 2010 at 6:30 P.M. at the Town Hall. If an earlier meeting is necessary, a July 8th meeting time will be announced.

Meeting adjourned at: 9:15 P.M.

Minutes compiled by: Pamela Potter