

Town of Sturbridge
Design Review Committee

Meeting Minutes

November 6, 2014

Meeting convened: 1:30 pm
Meeting adjourned: 2:27 pm

Present: DRC members Chris Castendyk, Elaine Cook, Fran O'Connell, Cindy Forgit,
Chris Wilson

Also present: Matthew Maselli - Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Todd Benoit - Metta Yoga
Dennis McCurdy

Location: Center Office Building - Second Floor Meeting Room

Agenda

- Call to order and approval of Minutes of October 28, 2014
- Metta Yoga - 559 Main Street
- Bethlehem Lutheran Church - 345 Main Street
- Dennis McCurdy - 212 Main Street
- Old Business
- New Business
- Adjournment

Approval of October 28, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve: Elaine Cook and seconded by Fran O'Connell Vote 4-0- 1
abstention

559 Main Street - Metta Yoga

Re: Design approval for a permanent sandwich board consistent with bylaws

Zone: Commercial Tourist District

Materials reviewed:

- Photo of existing sandwich board and its location on west side of property along route 20

Proposal: Approval for a wooden double-sided sandwich board sign - Essentially using

the same temporary sign currently in use

Colors: Background - Black

Hand lettered graphics - combination of purple tones and light blue tones

Lighting: N/A

Landscaping: N/A

DRC comments/conditions: The Committee recommends moving the term “all levels” from its current placement to a more appropriate placement under the primary “Yoga” sign, and straightening the Arrow. This incurs the necessity of repainting the bottom portion of the existing sign.

Motion to approve with the above conditions: Chris Castendyk and seconded by Fran O’Connell Vote 4-1

345 Main Street - Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Re: Design approval for a permanent sandwich board sign

Zone: Commercial Tourist

Materials Reviewed:

- Rendering of proposed sign
- Sketch of placement in front of the State Highway Department facility on Rte. 131

Proposal: Approval for a 30” x 48” permanent sandwich board, consisting of sign quality material, double sided, with plastic lettering for changeable graphics

Colors: Background - White

Border - Maroon Red

Graphics for “Bethlehem” - Gold with Maroon Red outline

Graphics for “Lutheran Church” - Maroon Red

Graphics for “Sunday Service 9:30 am” - Maroon Red

Border design - depicts cutouts on the four corners of the sign

Changeable graphics - will be either white against a Maroon Red background or Red against a white background. The final decision has yet to be determined by the church’s committee.

Lighting: N/A

Landscaping: N/A

DRC comments/conditions: If placement is to be in front of the State Highway Department, permission will have to be gained from the state. If not, the sign will be

placed on Church property.

Motion to approve: Elaine Cook, with the caveat in the DRC conditions, and seconded by Fran O'Connell Vote 5-0

212 Main Street - Dennis McCurdy

Re: Approval for change of color for the property

Proposal: Change the color of the siding to a darker shade of gray, leave the entry posts white.

Motion to approve: Chris Castendyk and seconded by Fran O'Connell Vote 5-0

Old Business

None

New Business

Questions arose among DRC members in regards to the following:

- In the case of multi-tenant properties, if every tenant requested a permanent sandwich board sign, how would placement of such signs be determined?
- In any case, regarding placement of these signs, the Committee feels this properly belongs under the jurisdiction of the Town Planner and Building Inspector.
- One member, Cindy Forgit, stated her belief that the whole process of sandwich board approval should be under the purview of the Town Planner and the Building Inspector and not under the DRC.
- The Committee as a whole believes the current bylaw relating to these sandwich boards should be thoroughly reviewed and clarified with input from the DRC, and then returned to Town Meeting for adoption.

Next meeting dates - November 18, 2014

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn:

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Wilson, Secretary

Cc J Bubon, Town Planner
N Burlingame, Building Inspector
S Kennedy, Town Administrator
Board of Selectmen

L Wong
D Trapasso

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