

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD  
DARIEN, CONNECTICUT  
MINUTES  
September 18, 2012

Members Present: Lawrence, Gadsden, Groppa, Macdonald  
Staff Present: Keating

**ARB #28-2012**

St. Luke's Episcopal Church  
1864 Post Road, R-1 and R-1/2 Zones

Neil Hauck, Architect, presented a proposed façade change to the south (rear) side of main building. The new entrance would be flanked by low retaining walls with the same stone veneer as the existing stone retaining walls. New glass doors with full door width sidelights would be in stained mahogany. Board members expressed concern the new entrance into the basement would appear too important relative to the smaller steps leading to the main entrance of the sanctuary, since this is the way most church goers approach the church. The board suggested that the doors be painted gray rather than stained mahogany. It was also suggested that the stone retaining walls be moved closer together to create a smaller walkway then widening out to capture the full width of the doors and sidelights as proposed. The Board approved the application with the suggestions as noted above.

**ARB #26-2012**

Country Club of Darien  
300 Mansfield Avenue, R-2 Zone

Bob Stelben, President of the CC of Darien  
Chris Casiraghi of RPTC, LLC

The proposed platform tennis warming hut will be approximately 1008 square feet. The building siding will be cedar shake in Driftwood Grey by Cabot and the shingles will be Pewter by Timberline. The structure will be a one-storey building with a pitched roof and a fieldstone chimney. The trim will be painted white. The submission was approved as presented.

**ARB #27-2012**

Charles Michael Gallery  
1292 Boston Post Road, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, SB Zone

Charles Rudick, the owner of the gallery, presented a proposal for signage which would be dark bronze 8" pin letters on the fascia above the first floor windows. It will be under lit as per the signage above on the second floor. The board suggested the signage might be improved by increasing the size of the "Charles Michael Gallery" to 10 inch tall letters and moving the "Custom framing and antique posters" to the windows below.

The proposal was approved as revised.

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**ARB #29-2012**

Maplewood of Darien  
599 Boston Post Road, DB-2 Zone

Chris Cocotas of Maplewood  
Barbara Metzger re signage

Amy Zabetakis of the Rucci Law Group presented two signs. Both signs will need variances from the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA). The first (consisting of two separate road and number signs) to be mounted on the low stone walls in front of the main entrance to the building facing the Boston Post Road. The second sign would be a monument sign on a stone base placed diagonally on the corner facing the Boston Post Road and Brookside Road. The Board questioned the scale of the sign on the corner. As proposed it would finish 72" high and 77" wide plus the additional width of the stone base. The Board felt reducing that sign's height by eliminating the road number and making the top flat would be an improvement. There was also a concern regarding the width of the sign. There was also a suggestion to see a mock up of the sign in order to fully understand its scale. The Board approved the concept of the two signs but revised versions with the suggestions as discussed need to be submitted for further review.

**Amendment to ARB #22-2008**

Darien YMCA  
2420 Boston Post Road, R-1/2 Zone

Chris McCagg, the architect, proposed new signage, including a replacement of the existing hanging sign at the Boston Post Road with the same size sign with a new logo and LED gooseneck light fixtures. The Board approved the proposal as submitted

On the building, proposing a new logo would be 4'1" wide by 3'4" high in silver grey brushed metal. At the pergola, it will have 12" high pin letters in the same silver grey brushed stainless steel. Both signs will need variances from the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) because only one front wall sign is allowed and the maximum height of all letters and figures is 10 inches.

The Board supported the proposals as submitted and will recommend that the ZBA consider granting the variances.

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**Amendment of ARB #30-2011**

Jimmy's Southside Tavern (formerly Phil's Grill)  
340 Heights Road, DC Zone

Jim Love, the tenant, presented a proposal to replace three existing signs. The sign on the front gable will be a black board with gold vinyl lettering covering 32.5 square feet, with lettering not to exceed 10" in height. The existing tubular lighting will be retained. The sign at the door will be of the same design and will be approximately 10.4 square feet. The hanging sign near Heights Road will be double sided at the Noroton Heights Shopping Center entrance driveway and will be a black oval on a white background: 2'6" wide by 1'6" high on an 8' high post. The proposal was approved as submitted.

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of June 19, 2012 and July 17, 2012 were distributed and approved as submitted.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy Macdonald