

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD
DARIEN, CONNECTICUT
MINUTES
April 19, 2016

Members Present: Brown, Greene, Lawrence, Gadsden, Hughes, Castell, Macdonald, Geiger
Staff Present: Keating

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 P.M.

ARB #06-2016

Hollow Tree Storage 131 Hollow Tree Ridge Road, 3.7 AH Zone
Proposed building design, façade review and signage

Developer John Hertz and architect Chris LaVigna presented plans for two buildings to be located at 131 Hollow Tree Ridge Road: an office building containing two apartments and a storage building. The office building was described as palladian in style and the storage building was described as a centennial era warehouse style. Both buildings will be stucco in three softly varying shades of beige with dark bronze windows and standing seam metal roofing. A black chain link fence will separate the property from Interstate 95.

The numbers 131 will be placed over the door of the office building in a size the architect deems appropriate. There will be a 4' high monument sign painted in a dark bronze color with gold 6" carved letters reading Hollow Tree Storage. The sign will be lit from the ground. On the façade of the office building parallel to Avalon Access Driveway there will be 10" mounted dark bronze pin letters reading Hollow Tree Storage. Two directional signs in the style of the present Avalon signage will denote the entrance to the storage and to Avalon.

The Board approved the design plans. The applicant must now proceed to the Planning and Zoning Commission to seek the Special Permit and Business Site Plan review.

ARB#05-2016

VCA Darien Animal Hospital, 1302 Boston Post Road, SB Zone
Proposing replacement wall sign and ground sign

Eric Merliss, representing Arnco Sign Co., Inc presented plans for replacement signs for the property. The wall sign will be wood with a sand blasted background in PMS #300c blue with white slightly raised letters 9" in height along with the new VCA logo, also not to be more than 9" in height. The Board requested that the background of the sign be smooth and not heavily grained as it appeared in the proposal. The ground sign will also be replaced by a sign in the same blue sandblasted wood with white letters. It was requested that the ground sign include the street number. The letters on the ground sign will not exceed 6" in height. The signs will not be illuminated.

The Board approved the plans as modified.

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ARB#08-2016

Brook Street Association, 5 Brook Street, CBD Zone
Proposed cupolas/façade review

Reese Hutchison, president of Brook Street Association, presented a model showing the addition of three cupolas on the three roof ridges of the building. The cupolas will serve to mask venting equipment. The central cupola will be octagonal and the side cupolas will be rectangular. Both styles will consist of wood louver sides and copper caps. The central cupola is 60" in width and 7' 8" high. The side cupolas will be 36" wide and 4' 8" high. The Board approved the plans.

ARB#07-2016

Darien Butcher Shoppe, 15 Grove Street, CBD Zone
Proposed wall sign

No applicant appeared. The Board requested more information and wanted to see a simulation of the proposed sign on the building elevation. There was a question whether the words "prime quality meats" were part of the incorporated name of the business and should be included in the signage. No action taken.

Modification of ARB #02-2016

Old Town Hall Homes, 719 Boston Post Road, DB-1/DBR Zone.
Revised cupolas/chimney comparison, per ARB request.

Revised front elevation drawings showing larger cupolas were emailed to all the ARB members. All but one thought it was fine. One thought the cupola needed to be a bit bigger to be more prominent. The design is now considered approved as it has been revised.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the February 23, 2016 meeting were approved as submitted.
The minutes of the March 15, 2016 were amended and approved.

Election of Officers

Elizabeth Geiger was unanimously elected as Chairman for 2016.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Alison Hughes