

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD
DARIEN, CONNECTICUT
MINUTES
June 21, 2016

Members Present: E. Geiger, R. Gadsden, T. Macdonald, A. Hughes, C. Greene, D. Reilly
Staff Present: Dave Keating

The meeting was called to order at 8:02 PM.

ARB #15-2016

Swap Shop, 126 Ledge Road, SB Zone

Application submitted by Edward Gentile, Jr, representative to property owner, The Town of Darien, for a proposed replacement structure to the current temporary tent structure at the Darien Recycling and Refuse Center.

New structure shall be an off-white, pre-fabricated metal shed. The Town received a grant for the structure. The new building will be shifted from current location of the Swap Shop tent by approximately 50' to the northeast and remain within parking area. This shall allow more spaces and isle room so as to improve access. The structure to be removed is 24' x 30' and the new shall be 24' x 25'. The facade is corrugated aluminum. ARB asked if any way to change the material but since this is a kit there is not that opportunity. Mr. Gentile indicated that skylights shall be added for improved visibility during open hours. ARB asked that the signage be consolidated/ simplified and positioned between the overhead door and entry door. The top of sign will align with top of entry door.

The Board approved the plans as presented with recommendation for signage.

INFORMAL DISCUSSION

Also mentioned was the elimination of underground gas tanks at the Public Works Garage - to be replaced by above ground tanks that will be screened from view by berm/ planting.

ARB #10-2016

Coldwell Banker, 893 Boston Post Road, CBD Zone

Application submitted by Virgil Williams of Custom Sign Solutions representative to property owner; Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, for a proposed awning at the rear entrance. The awning shall be barrel shape and have signage at the front. It will extend from the back wall of the building and shall cover the stairs that lead up to the parking lot. The ARB asked that the existing wires under the fascia above the awning be bundled and better managed/ secured by the tenant. The ARB asked that the existing lights be removed from above the awning and moved under the awning and proposed a new sconce be installed to the right of the entry door as an alternate. The ARB asked that the 8" flat portion of the awning closest to the building be eliminated and the barrel be

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD
DARIEN, CONNECTICUT
MINUTES
June 21, 2016

directly attached to the building facade. The 56" dimension presented shall be field verified and adjusted to allow the posts to land on the concrete curb.

The ARB recommended that the address number (893) be included above 'Coldwell Banker' at the awning end. An alternate location would be on the door glass (in white for visibility). It was observed that the existing bronze plaque indicates the building number and could be polished/cleaned to make the address more legible from a distance.

The Board approved the plans as presented with recommendations.

ARB #12-2016

uBreakiFix, 115 Old King's Highway North, DB-2 Zone

Application submitted by Daniel Lew, for two proposed wall signs (to be fabricated by A-Z Signs).

The ARB recommended centering the raised lettering on the existing roof-mounted spotlights. Additionally, the Board recommended that the existing spotlights be replaced with fixtures that produce less glare than the existing exposed bulbs, this shall also direct the light more specifically onto the lettering.

The Board approved the plans as presented with recommendations.

ARB #11-2016

Kirby and Company, 1029 Boston Post Road, CBD Zone

Application submitted by Penny Glassmaker and Elaine McCleary, for a new 'Marine Blue' retractable awning by New Haven Awning with 8" signage on the front valance and added window trim. The awning can be partially retracted and the sign still be legible. The proposed trim shall be located at the 2nd floor window heads and be Azek crown material 7 1/8" high. It was clarified that a flashing cap will be integrated onto the cap. Per the Regulations, the business is allowed to have either a wall sign or an awning sign. In this case, the awning sign will need to always cover the wall sign, so that at no time (even when the awning is retracted), will both signs be visible at the same time.

The ARB recommended limiting the length of the awning to stop at the 2nd doorway (which is the entrance to a different business) so as not to inhibit the proposed blade sign at the entry door to Washington Trust. It was noted that from the westerly direction, the blade sign will be obscured by the retractable awning. The ARB recommended that the address be indicated on the doors and the font/ color be coordinated with Washington Trust.

The Board approved the plans as presented with recommendations.

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD
DARIEN, CONNECTICUT
MINUTES
June 21, 2016

ARB #13-2016

Washington Trust, 1029 Boston Post Road, CBD Zone

Application submitted by Alyson Dombrowski, for a proposed blade sign to the right of the entry door to the 2nd floor offices of Washington Trust (to be fabricated by Laurentano Sign Group).

The ARB recommended coordination with Kirby and Company regarding the address number in the transom and adding venial lettering on the entry door. The ARB recommended a simpler mounting bracket for the blade sign, one with less scroll work and a ball at the end.

The Board approved the plans as presented with recommendations.

ARB #14-2016

The Bar Method, 800 Boston Post Road, CBD Zone

Application submitted by Anna Trepanned and Laura Meehan, for proposed wall signs. Two signs will be made of the corporate logo with white vinyl lettering 10" high. The overall sign size with logo art will be 14" high by 60" wide mounted directly to the brick facade with pin mounts for a raised lettering effect. The Board unanimously approved the larger overall height of 14" as its still beneath the Town maximum of 15" total. One sign will face the Boston Post Road, and the other will face the rear parking lot. The original proposal for track lighting has been withdrawn and replaced with gooseneck sconces for lighting mounted directly onto the brick façade as well. The Board strongly recommended that they match the new gooseneck sconces exactly with those used on the neighboring business' facade (Burgers Shakes and Fries) for increased building uniformity and aesthetics. The Board approved the proposed signs as presented.

Note: the awnings and awning signs were not reviewed pending approval by ZBA.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

To make it official, Elizabeth Geiger was nominated as ARB chairman for 2016 and unanimously elected by the Board.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from April's meeting were approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

David Reilly