

Town of Franklin



Design Review Commission

**Tuesday, January 11, 2022
Meeting Minutes,**

Chair James Bartro called the above-captioned meeting to order this date at 7:00 PM, as a remote access virtual Zoom meeting. Members in attendance: Chair James Bartro, Vice Chair Sam Williams, Gerald Wood, Venkata Sompally. Members absent: Mark Fitzgerald, Associate Chris Baryluk. Also present: Maxine Kinhart, Administrative Staff.

As stated on the agenda, due to the continued concerns regarding the COVID-19 virus, this meeting will be conducted as a remote/virtual Design Review Commission meeting. In an effort to ensure citizen engagement and comply with open meeting law regulations, citizens will be able to dial into the meeting using the provided phone number, or citizens can participate by using the Zoom link provided on the agenda. This meeting was recorded.

1. Escape Into Fiction– 12 Main Street – Hanging business sign, 2 door transfer signs (front and back), 5 parking lot signs, and 1 sign on building facing parking lot above back door

April Rock, applicant, stated that they finished with the pop-up location at the end of the year. They are now moving into the former quilt shop location. Chair Bartro confirmed that the proposed blade sign will replace the blade sign that is already there. The front of the building facing Main Street will have an affixed sign, and there will be some door lettering. He stated that all that signage appears to be within the allowable limits. He stated that at the rear of the building they have a building sign. Ms. Rock stated that the sign will be a little smaller than what was there from the previous tenant. Chair Bartro stated that looks as though it is in accordance with the bylaw. He stated that there is a directional sign on the wall next to the parking sign. Ms. Rock stated yes; she said that she is replacing the signage that is already there. She stated that the blade sign is not illuminated. Chair Bartro stated that all signs were in the same locations as they were with the previous tenant. Ms. Rock stated that there are four parking spots.

Motion: To **Approve** the sign package as submitted. Motioned by S. Williams. Seconded by V. Sompally. Roll Call Vote: Williams-YES; Wood-YES; Sompally-YES; Bartro-YES. Voted 4-0-0.

2. T&T Nails & Spa– 315 East Central Street- Attach a channel letter sign to the building

Mr. Ricky Zeng, applicant, addressed the Commission. Chair Bartro confirmed that the applicant was proposing the building sign and the sign in the pylon. Mr. Zeng stated yes. Chair Bartro confirmed that it was an LED raceway mounted sign internally illuminated.

Motion: To **Approve** the sign package as submitted. Motioned by S. Williams. Seconded by G. Wood. Roll Call Vote: Williams-YES; Wood-YES; Sompally-YES; Bartro-YES. Voted 4-0-0.

Approval of Minutes: December 7, 2021

Chair Bartro reviewed that at the December 7th meeting the Commission discussed the Sign Tech Attachment 10 Addendum. He stated that the feedback from that discussion was positive. He stated that there is an additional set of revisions to do regarding the sign technology and they should plan to discuss this item again during an upcoming meeting.

Motion: To **Approve** the December 7, 2021 Meeting Minutes as presented. Motioned by S. Williams. Seconded by V. Sompally. Roll Call Vote: Williams-YES; Wood-ABSTAIN; Sompally-YES; Bartro-YES. Voted 3-0-1.

General Matters - Old Business

Chair Bartro stated that he followed up with the building commissioner about the Liquor World sign. He and the building commissioner have reached out to the building owner and property manager. They have expressed the belief that the sign was installed without a permit and that it was moved from a position lower in the pylon to a bigger space higher in the pylon; he and the building commissioner would like to see it permitted. Chair Bartro stated that the way the sign was constructed is not in line with the standard; it is an unshielded sign and throws off much light. He is waiting for a response from the property manager.

Chair Bartro confirmed that a formal letter of resignation has not been received from Mark Fitzgerald. He stated that he would follow up with Mr. Fitzgerald. He stated that he believes Mr. Fitzgerald has moved out of town. He stated that when that letter is received, there will be one full member opening and one associate member opening for the Design Review Commission. He asked Ms. Kihnart for the contact information for the two applicants so he can reach out to them.

Mr. Williams reiterated his signage bylaw recommendation provided at the last meeting regarding creating uniformity of size of signs at 1 sq. ft. per foot of frontage. Chair Bartro stated that once this item is on an upcoming agenda, Mr. Williams should write this up and submit it for review with the Commission.

General Matters - New Business

Mr. Williams stated that on Rt. 140 where the Botera dispensary is located, another business, Siena Analytics, has gone in. They have a sign with a white background and dark color letters that is illuminated. He does not believe that sign came before the Commission, and if it did, it was approved in error as it is not in conformance with the bylaw requiring a dark background. Chair Bartro stated that he would review the meeting minutes; if no record of it is found, he will reach out to the building commissioner.

Motion to Adjourn by S. Williams. Seconded by G. Wood. Roll Call Vote: Williams-YES; Wood-YES; Sompally-YES; Bartro-YES. Voted 4-0-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:19 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Lizardi
Recording Secretary