

**DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
SEPTEMBER 14, 2010**

TOWN OF FRANKLIN
TOWN CLERK
2010 SEP 29 PM 4:51

A meeting of the Design Review Commission was held on Tuesday, September 14, 2010 at the Franklin Municipal Building, Franklin, Massachusetts. The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. Members present were Chair Jennifer Peters, Richard Tobin, Jr. and Mark Fitzgerald, representing a quorum. Absent were Lenley Rafuse, James Esterbrook and Associate, Donald Grover. Also present was Beth Dahlstrom, Town Planner.

1. Campus Laundry – 122 Emmons Street – Signage (tabled from August 24, 2010).

Present was Mario of Image Sign & Awning, who explained that the old sign and posts were falling apart and therefore a design for a new sign and replacement of the posts has been submitted. Discussion ensued as to lighting and the Chair explained the new guidelines do not allow for internal illumination in the downtown district and since a new sign and posts were being installed, they would need to comply with the new guidelines. The members explained that external ground lights or spot lights would be allowed. The applicant suggested exterior LED lights recessed in the sign frame and members indicated that would be acceptable. The applicant consulted by phone with the owner, who agreed to that suggestion. It was noted that the Star Laundry sign, which is located below the Campus Laundry sign, is not being replaced at this time and, therefore, not addressed at this time and will be noted in the decision letter. A motion was made by Mark Fitzgerald and seconded by Richard Tobin, as follows:

Motion: To approve the new double-sided sign and posts for Campus Laundry, as submitted; however, conditioned upon external illumination using recessed LED external lighting, in lieu of internal illumination, as discussed.

Vote: Approved 3 – 0 (Yes 3 No 0 Abstained 0)

2. SELF – 37 East Central Street – Signage. Present was Cam Alfonso of Signs by Cam, who presented a design for a single-post, free-standing sign for SELF (Aesthetics and Therapeutic Specialists), which is going into the former Dr. Julian location in the downtown area. Mr. Alfonso confirmed that the sign will not be illuminated, either internally or externally, and will be installed in the existing sign cabinet. The Chair questioned the size of the sign cabinet and was told that it met requirements in relation to the size of the structure, but appeared larger as it was close to the street. A motion was made by Richard Tobin and seconded by Mark Fitzgerald, as follows:

Motion: To approve the non-illuminated, free-standing sign for SELF, as submitted, without conditions.

Vote: Approved 3 – 0 (Yes 3 No 0 Abstained 0)

3. Forever French Salon – 323 West Central Street – Signage. Applicant and Owner, Kerry Webber, presented a design for a new sign, which will replace the two signs now at her location, using the existing posts. The new design is emerald green with gold and beige lettering and changed from an oval to rectangular shape. Members approved of the sign

design, but wanted to be sure that the new sign was no higher than the existing sign. Ms. Webber confirmed that she had external ground lighting. A motion was made by Mark Fitzgerald and seconded by Richard Tobin, as follows:

Motion: To approve the new sign for Forever French Salon, as submitted, with the condition that the new sign will not increase in height over the existing sign and will use the existing external illumination.

Vote: Approved 3 – 0 (Yes 3 No 0 Abstained 0)

Ms. Dahlstrom, Town Planner, mentioned the banner and small signs on the property, advising Ms. Webber that banners are not allowed and need to be removed and that any temporary signage must be approved by the Building Inspector and is allowed for only a limited period of time. She suggested that Ms. Webber check with the Building Department.

General Matters:

1. **Acceptance of Minutes.** There being no changes or additions to the minutes of August 24, 2010, a motion was made by Mark Fitzgerald and seconded by Jennifer Peters:

Motion: To accept the Minutes of Meeting of August 24, 2010 as submitted.

Vote: Approved 3 – 0 (Yes 3 No 0 Abstained 0)

2. **Sign By-Law.** The Chair asked Ms. Dahlstrom if there was any update regarding status of the new sign by-law. Ms. Dahlstrom advised that Mr. Nutting hopes to have it on a Town Council meeting agenda by the middle to end of October.

There being no further business at this time, a motion was made by Jennifer Peters and seconded by Mark Fitzgerald:

Motion: That the meeting be adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Vote: Approved 3 – 0 (Yes 3 No 0 Abstained 0)

Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Brenda Hutchinson
Secretary