

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD
DARIEN, CONNECTICUT
MINUTES
October 20, 2015

Members Present: Lawrence, Gadsden, Hughes, Reilly
Staff Present: Keating

The meeting was called to order at 8pm.

Amendment of ARB #19-2015

Driftwood Diner, 171 Boston Post Road
Request to install awnings, paint building and sign pole.

Nicholas Type presented a revised plan to install black and white stripe Sunbrella awnings on the front windows, paint the diner's exterior walls with Benjamin Moore's Super White and the front vestibule door with Benjamin Moore Black. The "Driftwood Diner" pole sign will have a painted black background, and applied white acrylic letters with LED lighting. The modified design was approved by the Board.

ARB #28-2015

coco & grace, 1020 Boston Post Road, CBD Zone.
Proposed wall sign and blade sign.

David Genovese, building owner, and Michael Bonhrisco, tenant, presented a proposal for a new "coco & grace" black sign with carved gold leaf letters (5.5"H) and carved grey ampersand (9"H). The sign board, measuring 8'L x 18"H, will be mounted over the storefront to align with existing signboards on the façade. Additionally an oval "coco & grace" blade sign (24.5"L x 16.5"H) will be mounted on the façade, using an existing black iron wall bracket. The bottom of the blade sign needs to be at least 7 feet above the sidewalk. The Board approved the proposal.

ARB #29-2015

Le Boudoir, 13 Grove Street, CBD Zone.
Proposed wall sign and blade sign.

Kevin Kane from Hungwell Signs LLC, presented the design for a new black "Le Boudoir" signboard (1' H x 6' L) mounted over the storefront in the existing sign band. The black sign will have grey brushed aluminum halo lit letters (7"H) and a grey crest (10"H). In order to comply with the size limitations of the Regulations, these dimensions are smaller than the drawings of the originally application. Additionally a "Le Boudoir" blade sign (8"H x 24"W) will be mounted above the storefront, fabricated with a black aluminum panel, raised brushed aluminum letters, and a black iron bracket. The Board suggested that the tenant consider the use of applied white letters on the storefront glass, to identify the store's services "A blow dry and beauty bar".

The Board approved the proposed design.

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ARB #30-2015

Atria of Darien, 50 Ledge Road, SB Zone.
Proposed building additions.

Michael Stein, Architect, and Michael Waleryszak, Planning Director for Atria, presented a plan for additions to the Atria building. In the southwest wing, the proposed addition includes one bedroom to enlarge an existing apartment to a two bedroom unit. In the northeast wing, the proposed addition will provide two new studio units and four 1 bedroom units to the complex, increasing the total unit count to 86 apartments, and providing an expansion of an additional 5,042 square feet to Atria. The on-site parking will be increased from 88 spaces to 92 spaces, and the perimeter driveway will be relocated to accommodate the new construction. The new design will match the materials and palette of the original building. The Board commented that it favors white trim for the building, although it has long been painted an ivory color. The Board commended the beautiful landscaping which characterizes the Atria compound. The proposed design was approved.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Grieb's Pharmacy, 1019 Boston Post Road.

David Genovese presented three schemes for the renovation of the building's storefront, designed by Beinfield Architecture, for discussion with the Board.

The Board preferred the multi-paned design of Option B, but offered that perhaps the design could be further improved by exploring another option to reduce the number of muntins in the storefront glass. The Board suggested that the architect explore a new window pattern of 3 over 3, and 2 over 2, in a modified design. Mr. Genovese agreed to have new drawings prepared and to submit them at a later date, for ARB's further consideration.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes for the September 8, 2015 meeting were amended and approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita Gadsden