

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD
DARIEN, CONNECTICUT
MINUTES
TUESDAY MAY 22, 2012

Members Present: Lawrence, Brown, Gadsden, Greene, Macdonald, Hughes

Staff Present: Keating

The Meeting was called to order at 8 P.M.

ARB #17-2012

Whole Foods Market, 150-152 Ledge Road, SB Zone
Proposed wall sign.

John J. Janis of Butler Signs Company in Wayne, NJ, presented a proposed sign for the Boston Post Road elevation. The dark green letters "Whole Foods Market" are halo-lit channel letters, projecting 3" from building wall. The Whole Foods letters are 10" high and the overall size of the "Whole Foods Market" sign is 27 ¼ " x 48 ¼ " = 9.13 square feet. The sign will be mounted above the windows, 26 feet from the curb to top of sign, which exceeds the town code of 15' maximum height. The Board approved the signage design, and supports the variance required from the ZBA for the sign's proposed height and the special type of internal illumination.

ARB #18-2012

The Studio, 977-979 Boston Post Road, CBD Zone
Proposed façade change, awning, wall sign and blade sign.

George Tsionis, owner of The Studio, presented a proposal to remove two existing single entry doors on the storefront and replace with a pair of French doors and new storefront windows. Mr. Tsionis also presented a new sign "The Studio" with black metal applied letters centered above the storefront. The oversized 'S' logo is to be eliminated from the wall sign. The board recommended that the letters be modified to the allowable 10" letter height, and that the owner consider applying the salon's unique "S" logo letters on the store's window, instead of on the sign above. The owner agreed and will select a pale lavender logo for the glass. Additionally the owner presented a blade sign with white background and black letters mounted on the façade, as well as three exterior lights to match those of the adjacent Wild Ginger store. On the rear façade, a white Sunbrella awning was presented, to match the style of the adjacent Brooks Brothers awning, with black letters on the valance. The Board approved the plans as modified.

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OTHER BUSINESS

The Board then voted unanimously to go into Other Business to discuss additional items.

Bill Jensen, the owner of Darien Toy Box, presented a proposal to remove the store's existing green window awnings and to construct a new box projection above the store windows. The Board determined that the proposed box was not in keeping with the style of the building and that a permanent projecting box was not appropriate for the storefront. The Board suggested that a new canvas box awning was the preferred solution for the store.

The owner then showed a photograph of a children's toy store in France, which was painted a classic red, with applied letters above the storefront, and applied white window letters on the glass. In the interest of economy, the owner expressed an interest in simply painting the store a similar red, with a simple awning above the entrance door to provide shelter from the rain. The Board requested that the owner submit a final design for the awning, as well as paint color samples of the proposed storefront, for ARB review and action.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting on April 24, 2012 were reviewed and adopted.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita Gadsden