

Present: Frank Riepe (Chairman), Tris Windle, Deborah Kruskal
Absent: Dan Martin, Linda Wade

Sign Application; Rugged Bear Plaza

Representing the applicant were Chuck Katz (owner) and Mark Evangelous of Gemini Signs.

The proposal is for a freestanding business center sign and directory sign to replace the present freestanding sign. The proposed design fails to satisfy the sign bylaw by being too large and too close to the property line with the property having insufficient street frontage for this type of sign. The DRB is willing to make a recommendation to the Board of Appeals for some exceptions but not to the extremes of the 63 square foot sign presented. The applicant is interested in pursuing the project further. The Design Review Board members present will meet on the site to inspect existing conditions and reach a consensus as to the size and type of sign they can recommend. Sign review is continued.

Board members Frank Riepe, Tris Windle and Deborah Kruskal met on site to continue discussion about the property owner's sign application. It was unanimously concluded not to recommend special consideration for a directory sign to the Board of Appeals. There are no unusual site conditions that would justify an appeal. The existing sign is on the property line and has good visibility. The owner is encouraged to refurbish or reconstruct the existing sign in the existing location to a maximum size of 20 square feet as prescribed by the bylaw (Chart B). The setback is nonconforming but is grandfathered. An improved sign would have the leasing information on the bottom of the sign and have ground-mounted lighting. There is a proliferation of illegal supplementary signs on site, on the building and attached to the main sign which should be removed.

Emerson Medical at Chiswick Park

The Design Review Board recommends the revised banner design presented by Emerson Hospital for its medical building in Chiswick Park. The Board believes its proportions, design and colors are reasonable given the size and remoteness of the building. Such banners will have no negative effect on the environment.

Miscellaneous

The minutes of October 25, 2006 were approved.