

Joint Meeting with the Design Review Board – Meadow Walk discussion & approval of Architecture of the Irrigation Shed – 536 Boston Post Road, (Assessor’s Map K07-0005)

Present: Applicant Steven Senna of National Development, Inc.; Design Review Board Members: Daniel Martin, Chairman; Jennifer Koffel, Deborah Kruskal, and Susan Vollaro.

Ms. Donoghue said that last summer it was decided that the proposed shed had no impact on zoning, and that the applicant would not have to go for a Variance. She added that tonight the Board was looking at the architecture of the irrigation shed and discussing any possible features around the shed.

Mr. Senna described the proposed shed and noted the placement would be right behind the Fire Station and in front of the Whole Foods building, on the southwest corner of the site. He said that the siding would match the siding of Whole Foods, using Hardie Board Plank material. He further included some optional architectural accessories from Walpole Woodworkers.

Mr. Karustis expressed he was pleased with the appearance of the shed. Vice Chairman Abair said he thought the weathervanes could cause needless attention to the shed, but stated that he liked the trellis idea. Chairman Garvin stated that a trellis with growing vegetation might help to conceal the shed. Mr. Hincks said he felt the same way and would defer to the Design Board about accessorizing. Ms. Kilcoyne asked which side of the shed would have doors. Mr. Senna pointed out the right side of the structure. Mr. Finnicum asked if the shed was right up against the sidewalk. Mr. Senna replied that it was. Mr. Finnicum suggested that something to soften that 24-foot long stretch, but otherwise seemed fine. Mr. Hincks mentioned that none of the plantings are in yet, but there are some great species noted on the list. Mr. Senna agreed and said he looking forward to the planting stage.

Jen Koffel said that she agreed with the Planning Board’s assessment that less is more in regards to the shed. Deborah Kruskal opined that there were too many plantings proposed for the shed and added that certain species needed more space than the shed area could provide. She noted that planting less and smaller would be better, and she thought that the shed itself was very attractive.

Mr. Senna said that he did not mind pulling back on the plantings or following the Board’s recommendations. Ms. Kruskal said that smaller plantings would be more appropriate.

Susan Vollaro said the trellis idea might work very well against the building and would break up the side with greater exposure. She suggested using a very simple trellis with some appropriate planting growing on it, and added that otherwise, it looked good to her. Daniel Martin thought that Susan’s suggestion was good, and further stated that the focus should be on the side of the building, taking attention away from that span. He noted the color choices were good and agreed with Deborah’s suggestion to minimize the plantings.

Mr. Senna indicated he would refer to the Design Review Board in regards to the clapboard siding particulars, and would update the planting program. He stated there was a case prior to this where he worked directly with Ms. Kruskal. He asked if the Board would grant the approval of the shed with the condition that it would be landscaped in consultation with Ms. Kruskal. Chairman Garvin stated that from the Planning Board perspective, that was acceptable.