

January 23, 2004

DRB MEMORANDUM #2004-03

MEMO TO: Bonnie Weeks, Bldg. Comm.
Christine Brestrup, Assoc. Planner
FROM: Jonathan Tucker, Senior Planner
SUBJECT: DRB Recommendations of October 28, 2003

The Tuesday, October 28, 2003 meeting of the Design Review Board began at 7:34 p.m. in the Town Room, Town Hall. Members Erica Gees, David Henion and Alex Kent were present, along with Senior Planner Jonathan Tucker. The Board made the following recommendations and took the following actions.

The members turned to Appointments.

Ms. Gees recused herself, citing a potential conflict with the first two applications.

#2004-00005, 48 North Pleasant Street, Amherst Brewing Company –
Recommend **Approval** of the design of a proposed new panel sign for The Upstairs portion of this downtown brewpub, with the following conditions:

- 1) That the two elements of the sign, "The Upstairs" and "at ABC" be treated differently in terms of font style, weight, alignment, etc. (ex., one lower and upper case, the other all caps, or some similar sharp visual distinction), and that they be visually separated on the sign either horizontally or vertically.
- 2) That the letters be outlined with a black pinline.
- 3) That the font used for "A.B. C." or "Amherst Brewing Company" on this sign be the same as is used for "Amherst Brewing Company" on the other main sign, to ensure that the appearance as well as the text of the sign makes it clear this is part of the same establishment.

- 4) That the background and letter colors have some relationship with the colors used in the main sign, for the same reasons.
- 5) That the weight (thickness) of the black border be reduced.

#2004-00006, Main Street, Nick's Place – Recommend **Approval** of the design of a new entry airlock for this new breakfast and catering restaurant, with the following conditions:

- 1) That the airlock be boxed out further.
- 2) That pilasters and an overhead friezeboard be added to frame the new doorway in the same style as the original architecture and to replicate and 'pull forward' the form of the existing columns, which will otherwise disappear behind the new construction.
- 3) That the various elements be painted so as to contrast, matching the pattern elsewhere on the façade.

Ms. Gees rejoined the Board.

The Board turned to Old Business.

Boltwood Alley – The Board reviewed and gave preliminary approval to designs for paving, street furniture and landscaping for a new pedestrian walk connecting North Pleasant Street with the northwest corner of the Boltwood Walk Parking Garage.

Kendrick Park – The Board discussed a potential seventh member of the proposed Kendrick Park Committee. Ms. Gees and Mr. Kent favored a representative of the LSSE Commission. Mr. Henion favored a representative of the Public Arts Commission. Mr. Tucker was asked to contact Mr. Dillon to solicit his opinion.

The Board discussed preparation for the public education phase of the Kendrick park design process at length.

The Board turned to New Business.

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Fall 2003 Special Town Meeting – The Board decided to support Articles 14 and 15, and asked Mr. Tucker to draft a DRB recommendation for Town Meeting.

DHCD Design Workshop – Mr. Tucker informed the Board about a new round of community design workshops being held by the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). Mr. Kent indicated he might be interested in the workshop on December 10th and would check his schedule.

Next Meeting – The next meeting was tentatively set for November 11

The meeting ended at 9:23 p.m.