



TOWN HALL
4 Boltwood Avenue
Amherst, MA 01002-2351

DESIGN REVIEW BOARD
(413) 259-3040
(413) 259-2402 [Fax]
planning@amherstma.gov

April 1, 2015

DRB Memorandum

Memo to: Rob Morra, Building Commissioner
Jonathan Tucker, Planning Director
From: Christine Brestrup, Senior Planner
Subject: DRB Meeting – March 31, 2015

The Tuesday, March 31, 2015, meeting of the Design Review Board began at approximately 6:35 p.m. in the Second Floor Conference Room/Library, Town Hall. Design Review Board member Michael Hanke was present and Derek Noble arrived later. Jonathan Salvon was unable to attend and submitted comments via email. Also present was Christine Brestrup, Senior Planner.

Applicants and their representatives who were present were Jonathan Welch of Osteria Vespa, Stephanie Ciccarello, Sustainability Coordinator for the Town of Amherst and David Ziomek, Director of Conservation and Development. Kristen, a UMass journalism student, was also present.

Board members reviewed the following applications.

Applications

DRB 2015-00023 – 28 Amity, LLC, dba Vespa – 28 Amity Street – Review of new signs

Recommended approval without conditions

The Board reviewed a hanging wood (blade) sign, white vinyl applications on the glass door and an inset sign on the directory at the corner of the building. Mr. Salvon had noted that the white lettering on the blade sign was not clear in the photograph. Mr. Welch assured those present that the white lettering was clear on the actual sign.

DRB 2015-00025 – Stephanie Ciccarello for Town of Amherst – Review plan and details of proposed electric vehicle (EV) charging station in Town Hall parking lot

Recommended approval without conditions

The Board reviewed the proposed EV charging station, the proposed bollards and the reconfiguration of the parking spaces, including decreasing the width of some parking spaces to create compact spaces. Mr. Salvon had expressed concern that the parking lot should not lose a handicapped parking space in order to accommodate the new EV charging station spaces. The final design retained two handicapped parking spaces in the parking lot, along with two parking spaces devoted to the EV charging station, both of which are also handicapped accessible.

The DPW will install a sign at the head of each EV charging station parking space to indicate that these spaces are for charging vehicles only. The signs will act to stop cars from driving onto the striped area at the front of each space.

DRB2015-00024 – Town of Amherst – Puffer’s Pond – Review of various proposed site improvements

Recommended approval with conditions

The Board reviewed site improvements to various parts of the Puffer’s Pond Conservation Area, including repair of cribbing along the pond edge, installation of steps and repair or replacement of a handrail at the South Beach,

restriping parking spaces, installation of wood chips along a path, installation of a handicapped accessible trap rock gravel path and viewing area at the North Beach, installation of a new fence and repair of an existing fence at the dam.

Conditions

- 1) The new chain link fence at the dam area shall be black, vinyl-coated chain link with black vinyl-coated posts.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:20 p.m.

Cc: Jonathan Welch, Applicant
Stephanie Ciccarello, Applicant
Dave Ziomek and Beth Wilson, Applicants
Jim Wald, Select Board Liaison
DRB Members
Jennifer Gannett, Permit Administrator