



**TOWN OF ACTON
DESIGN REVIEW BOARD
MINUTES OF MARCH 18, 2009 MEETING**

7:30 p.m.
Room 128, Town Hall

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Wednesday, April 1, 2009
 Acton Town Hall, Rm 126, 7:30 p.m.

Present: Ann Sussman (Chair), Holly Ben-Joseph (Vice-Chair), Lynne Alpert, Ruth Martin, and Chris Dallmus, David Honn

Meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m.

MINUTES REVIEW:

We reviewed and approved the meeting minutes from February 4th with one spelling correction.

PROJECT REVIEW

Project Location: 68 Nonset Path Road

Project Name: Fine Flute Makers Headquarters

Presenter: Architect, Chris Doonan (he gave us his business card)

Proponent: Fine Flute Makers

This is the second time we have seen this project and Mr. Doonan provided drawings with elevations and a site plan from all four sides, which showed the following changes:

- a large driveway was being made smaller and being partially replaced with pavers;
- Parking lot being increased by 2 spaces, but with less overall concrete;
- Some grass/permeable paving being installed in an area not requiring daily use;
- plantings – especially to screen heating/cooling unit;
- windows being put back in side of building where they had been boarded up by previous business

Holly noted that although we cannot always expect this level of design, we should ask for the process to meet these standards. David said that the architect provided excellent drawings that showed the building's integration with the site.

ACTION ITEM

Holly Ben-Joseph will write memo to Bd of Selectmen to inform them that this is a prime example of the kind of process and presentation that the DRB would like to request from proponents. The proponent provided excellent, clearly readable drawings, photographs, site

plan, description of materials used, drawings show integration of building onto the site and description of how it meets the client's business needs.

PROJECT REVIEW

Project Location: Spruce/Arlington Street

New Plans provided – no presenter

The proponents had provided new plans for review in response to earlier meetings at the DRB for the Spruce/Arlington Street commercial/residential project.

There was a general discussion about the corner building and a consensus to request that the design be simplified. There was a suggestion to look at photos of other buildings in W.Acton for a good example of simpler design. The residential unit's design seemed good, but the turrets on the corner seem out of place.

Holly said that the design now aligned the new and existing homes on Arlington Street and there is a more organic look overall; it creates more open space.

ACTION ITEM

Will ask proponent to better describe the corner buildings and the projection of the storefronts onto the street.

February 2nd letter from Ken Sundberg to Lauren Rosenzweig on Board of Selectmen regarding overflow parking for the Bowladrome in the 255 Main St. Project.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:10.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ruth Martin