MINOR ARCHITECTURAL SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE PLANNING BOARD NOVEMBER 12, 2020

Town Council Chambers 2:00 p.m. MINUTES

I. Call to Order

Planning Board Chair Paul Rasmussen called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.

The roll call was taken:

Paul Rasmussen (in Council Chambers) Barbara Dill (remotely)

Pat Sherman (remotely)

Beth Olshansky (remotely)

Andrea Bodo (remotely)

Molly Malloy (remotely)

Todd Selig (remotely)

Rick Taintor (remotely)

Sean McCauley (remotely)

Sharon Ames (remotely)

Emily Innes (remotely)

Chair Rasmussen said that they had the color schemes that the Committee had asked to see.

Ms. Innes thanked the group for their participation. The color schemes here today are from the discussion at the previous meeting. This is the last meeting and she is looking for comments. The development team does still prefer the blue. But they want to work with this committee. She does not anticipate any changes being made before the next Planning Board meeting.

Ms. Olshansky stated that she appreciated receiving the full drawings.

Ms. Ames began to go through the drawings. There was discussion about Building B. There were comments that this was a nice color scheme. There was discussion on the retail spaces and how signage would be done. There was discussion on the horizontal band on the ends of the building. There was additional discussion on the colors, specifically the trim.

Ms. Bodo asked what was going on the roof of the Mill Plaza entry. It was stated that it will be a vegetated green roof. Ms. Olshansky asked if there will be plants growing there. It was stated that yes, there will be plants suited to roofs.

Ms. Ames continued with the review of Building C. Ms. Olshansky wondered if a more neutral color should be used facing the Chesley Drive path. Ms. Malloy wondered if the dark color makes the building more invisible at night. Mr. Rasmussen reminded the Committee that the people on Chesley Drive have a wooded lot in between them and the Mill Plaza. There will also be trees planted in the buffer. Ms. Innes stated that the colors on the corners could be changed, but it would be tricky with the rest of the building. Mr. Rasmussen mentioned that the end is recessed, so he is wondering if one of the lighter colors on that facing solves the issue. Ms. Sherman thinks that would be doable.

Ms. Sherman noticed that the long second story portion of Building C is all one color. Will it be covered by trees? Ms. Ames stated that yes, it will be covered by trees and mostly unseen.

Ms. Bodo asked if the clock tower roof could be copper rather than black. Ms. Ames stated that true copper would age to green. Ms. Olshansky stated that she thinks it could be a copper color and not true copper. Ms. Dill would prefer the black roof. Ms. Innes mentioned that they tried to keep all the common elements the same color. The copper would be introducing a new element. Mr. McCauley mentioned that there is a roofing tile that gives the appearance of slate. So that may work. There was additional discussion on this.

Ms. Olshansky asked about the utility on the East Elevation picture. Ms. Ames stated that there is a fence around the utility and it is recessed back. It is not really visible.

Ms. Bodo asked if each apartment will have its own individual heating system. Ms. Ames stated that at the moment the heating is designed as a centralized system. The flat roof will make the utilities less visible.

Ms. Dill asked about the lights next to the doorways and whether there were alternatives to what is proposed. There was further discussion about the color and size of the lights.

Ms. Dill also asked about the exposure of the clapboards. There was further discussion on the size of the clapboards.

Ms. Olshansky discussed different types of brick that she had researched and what she would like on this building. There was further discussion on the type of brick that has been selected. There was discussion about switching out some of the building colors to go better with the brick that was chosen.

Town Administrator Selig asked if the developers still plan to present two versions to the Planning Board and what would that entail. Ms. Innes said there would be no changes to the building elements. It would just be the colors.

Mr. McCauley stated that he hopes the Committee will endorse this plan before the Planning Board. He is hoping that the Planning Board will be able to close out their discussion on architecture at Wednesday night's meeting. Mr. Taintor would like to see a digital copy of the changes by Wednesday morning, and have a hard copy to be handed out at the meeting Wednesday night. Mr. Rasmussen would like the ability to compare the Committee's version with the blue version.

There was further discussion on the color combination for building B.

Ms. Molloy stated that she is impressed with what the Committee has done. She is willing to agree to the Committee's plan. However, her personal preference is for the brighter colors.

Mr. McCauley believes that there needs to be a unanimous agreement with this Committee on what they have come up with to present to the Planning Board.

Chair Rasmussen closed the meeting at 4:46 pm.

Karen Edwards, Minutes taker