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Redevelopment Board Minutes 10/01/2007

Arlington Redevelopment Board Minutes of October 1, 2007

Members Present: Christopher Loreti

Roland Chaput Ed Tsoi Andrew West Bruce Fitzsimmons

Also Present: Kevin J. O'Brien

David Berry Joey Glushko

Roland Chaput called the meeting to order at 7:05. He welcomed John Bean, Director of Public Works, to talk about maintenance and lighting in the Center. It was suggested that Capital Budget money could be used to replace broken or missing lights in the Center now without waiting for street and streetscape improvements to be done by the State. John Bean suggested that we might choose a style of trash can now also so they could be replaced. The Board spoke of the process by which they would consult win interested groups (Historical Commission, Transportation Advisory Committee, Sustainable Arlington, Chamber of Commerce and perhaps others) and recommend a choice to the selectmen who would make the decision. It was suggested that the Board meet with the Selectmen on October 15th to propose the process.

Next Roland Chaput introduced the topic of appointment to the Symmes Neighborhood Advisory Committee (SNAC). There was quite a bit of discussion about how the nominations should be made and it was eventually decided that the original "existing neighborhood group" would rank order any nominations and bring the recommendation to the ARB meeting on October 15. Three applicants were present and told the Board why they wanted to be members. They were Greg Jackmauh, Michelle Barry and Beth Ann Friedman.

At 9:35, Linda Shoemaker presented a proposal for new signage at the Gibbs School building for the Arlington Center for the Arts. The proposal added two signs to the wall of the building. After some discussion, Ed Tsoi moved that the signs be approved contingent upon them background being a rigid material, the color matching the other signs on the top of the sign on the cafetorium wall being made even with the top of the windows and both signs moved twelve inches away from the corner of the building. The existing signs in the windows of the cafetorium are also approved. Andrew West seconded the motion and the Board voted 5 to 0 in favor.

The Board next reviewed minutes, making some amendments to the minutes as presented. Bruce Fitzsimmons moved that the Board approve the minutes of September 17, 2007 and August 27, 2007 as amended. Ed Tsoi seconded the motion and the Board voted 5 to 0 in favor.

The Board next took up a request from American Alarm to amend its special permit for its property at 7 Central Street. American Alarm requested that they be allowed to rent the entire premises as they have now moved their headquarters. The Board asked staff to research the existing permit and any issues associated with the request.

The Board briefly discussed the proposed development of the "Faces" property in Cambridge on Route 2. On a motion by Ed Tsoi, seconded by Andrew West, the Board voted 5 to 0 to send a letter to the City of Cambridge to express the ARB's concern regarding the development.

The meeting adjourned at 11:05

Respectfully submitted, Kevin J. O'Brien

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