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Redevelopment Board Minutes 12/19/2005

Arlington Redevelopment Board
Minutes of December 19, 2005

Members Present: Ed Tsoi, Chair
Lynne Lowenstein
Roland Chaput
Andrew West

Also Present: Kevin J. O'Brien, Director of Planning & Community Development
Laura Wiener, Director of Housing
Joey Glushko, Planner

Ed Tsoi called the meeting to order at 7:05. He announced that because of an omission in notice to abutters the hearing for Armstrong Ambulance at 87 Mystic Street must be continued to January 10, 2006.

Bob Annese, attorney for Armstrong Ambulance asked if the ARB had any objection to them obtaining a building permit at their own risk to install footings and foundation for the proposed building. The ARB determined that it should not take a position on the issue which is under the jurisdiction of the building inspector.

John Kennedy, a neighbor to the site indicated that he had concerns over the proposed access to the Armstrong Ambulance site on Garden Street and wished the Board to remember his concern when the hearing is held.

Ed Tsoi then asked for a presentation of the drawings for Ristorante Olivio at 50% stage. Martha Penzennik presented the drawings. Ed Tsoi thought that the plan could be improved to indicate more of a main entrance. After some discussion, it was decided that the applicant will consider some changes including larger windows next to the main entrance, a second pilaster at the main entrance and perhaps at the wall section just west of the dividing wall between the existing and expanded restaurant, a different color above the batten at windowsill height. The Board asked that they bring new drawings back for the 100% review.

Lynne Lowenstein left the meeting to attend another engagement.

The Board then discussed the concepts of cluster development and subdivision regulation as presented by staff. The Board asked that staff come back with more information.

At 8:20, Roland Chaput moved that the Board enter executive session to discuss pending litigation regarding the Symmes project. Andrew West seconded the motion. Kevin O'Brien polled the Board: Ed Tsoi – yes, Roland Chaput – yes, Andrew west – yes.

Kevin O'Brien brought the Board up to date on the progress of the appeal and the inability of the developer to get any of the appellants to speak with him.

Andrew West moved that the Board leave executive session, Roland Chaput seconded it and Kevin O'Brien again polled the Board: Ed Tsoi – yes, Roland Chaput – yes, Andrew west – yes.

The Board adjourned at 8:40.

Respectfully submitted,
Kevin J. O'Brien