

MELROSE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Meeting and Public Hearing
Tuesday, March 30, 2021
7:00 PM
Remote

PRESENT: Brad Hutchinson, Kevin Erb, Justine Sterling, Liz Ryan, Michael Coleman, Richard Curl

ABSENT: None

Denise Gaffey, Director & City Planner, and Emma Schnur, Senior Planner, were present.

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 PM by Mr. Hutchinson.

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Melrose Historic District Commission was conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. Specific information and the general guidelines for remote participation by members of the public and/or parties with a right and/or requirement to attend this meeting was found on the City of Melrose's website. No in-person attendance of members of the public was permitted, but every effort was made to ensure that the public could adequately access the proceedings in real time. An audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of proceedings was posted on the mmtv3.org website as soon as possible after the meeting. Meeting access information was found at the following link and the plans could be requested by emailing the Senior Planner: www.cityofmelrose.org/remote-meetings.

I. MINUTES

Ms. Sterling MADE a MOTION to approve the minutes from March 9, 2021. Mr. Curl SECONDED the MOTION. All members voted in favor. None were opposed.

II. APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

Caffè Nero, 530 Main Street (Public Hearing)

Katrina Sloan, representative for Caffè Nero, appeared to discuss the proposed signage at 530 Main Street. She explained that both the front and the rear signs will be non-illuminated and there will be no blade signs or awnings. The sign at the front will say "Caffè Nero" in cream letters with a black border that are pin-mounted to the sign band. The letters will be 12" tall and 17.67" tall including the accent.

Mr. Hutchinson inquired about the spacing above and below the sign. Ms. Sloan was not positive about the height of the soffit/sign band but said that she would get that dimension for the Commission. Mr. Hutchinson asked if she considers the picture accurate that is in the signage package and Ms. Sloan responded that she did. Ms. Gaffey inspected the plans submitted for Wakefield Co-Operative Bank and stated that they show a 1'6" tall sign band. A member raised the concern that a 17.67" tall sign with the accent would leave no room for space around the sign. Ms. Sloan said that she would measure the area to make sure the proposed dimensions for the front sign are accurate and report back to Planning Staff.

The sign at the rear of the building will consist of pin-mounted letters adhered to a 22" by 120" metal panel that is affixed to the canopy over the deck. Because of the canopy design, the sign would have been

too small if they tried to fit the letters within the channel on the canopy. The metal panel will be painted the same color as the canopy and other trim around the building.

Mr. Curl MADE a MOTION to approve the signage proposed for 530 Main Street as described in the application, pending final dimensions for the front sign. Ms. Ryan SECONDED the MOTION. All members voted in favor. None were opposed.

III. OTHER

Follow Your Art Community Studios Landscape Area

Ms. Gaffey mentioned that Follow Your Art Community Studios needs permission from the Historic District Commission for a proposed landscape area at 647 Main Street. She inquired if it would be possible for members to meet in three weeks, on April 20, 2021 at 7PM. Members agreed to convene at this time.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.