

### Board Members

Matt Buckley, Chair  
Janine Clifford, Vice Chair  
Jamie Ahlstedt, Member  
Tim Harris, Member  
Jessica Chabot, Member



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## TOWN OF MEDWAY COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE

### DRC Meeting Minutes Monday, September 18, 2023 Zoom (Remote) Meeting

Members	Matthew Buckley	Janine Clifford	Jessica Chabot	Jamie Ahlstedt	Tim Harris
Attendance	X	X	X	X	X

*Pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, under which public bodies retain the option of holding open meetings and hearings remotely, and in accordance with the Medway Select Board's remote participation policy as amended at its July 2, 2021 meeting, Design Review Committee members participated remotely for this meeting. Access via Zoom was provided for public participation. All persons participated remotely in the meeting via Zoom.*

At 7:01 PM Mr. Buckley called the meeting to order and conducted a roll call of members present via Zoom as follows: Matt Buckley, Janine Clifford, Jamie Ahlstedt, and Tim Harris.

Also present via Zoom:

- Gail Hachenburg, Erin McCarthy (sculptor) Rebecca Atwood– Medway Cultural Council
- Jeremy Thompson- Planning and Economic Development Coordinator

#### **Approval of DRC Meeting Minutes – July 17, 2023 and August 21, 2023:**

**Ms. Chabot made a motion to approve the minutes of the 07/17/2023 and 08/21/2023 DRC meeting as submitted, seconded by Mr. Buckley.**

#### **Roll Call Vote:**

**Matt Buckley - Aye**  
**Janine Clifford - Aye**  
**Jamie Ahlstedt – Aye**  
**Jess Chabot- Aye**  
**Tim Harris- Aye**  
**The motion passed.**

### **Sign Design Review-Medway Cultural Council/Medway Public Library –**

Ms. Hachenburg from Medway Cultural Council (MCC) provided the background information. Mr. Thompson commented that his office has not received any materials prior to the meeting regarding the proposal. MCC for the past four years discussed a sculpture project for the town. The location is proposed at Medway library since it's a learning hub with great affinity for town residents.

Ms. McCarthy, a past Medway resident is entrusted with the sculpture design and execution. She's a figurative sculptor and grew up in Medway. Ms. McCarthy attended the meeting with the MCC members to discuss options for a bronze sculpture. A mock-up of the project including the bronze sculpture was shown to the members. As part of the project MCC is also looking to replace the library signage due to its current condition. The group has been working on the theme and inspiration for the library over the past year. Seven different concepts were looked at; the goal is to promote the idea of Diversity & Inclusion. Ms. McCarthy kept the idea of Imagination & Magic in mind while preserving the goal of DEI. She added the idea also aligns with the fact that the regular visitors to the library are kids,

Project Specifics-Two large overgrown trees in the front of the building will be removed. The opened-up space will be used for the improvements. The existing Library sign carved into wood is dated and not clearly visible from the distance. She discussed the option of a metal canopy on which the proposed signage could be installed.

To a question on the availability of a visual for the sculpture, she responded the image is hard to show now as it's predominantly dependent on the models and their poses. A lot of research and interviews were conducted to come up with a DEI composition for the sculpture. She worked with some leaders in DEI movement. In essence, the sculpture has an African American girl with braces on her ankles and a Caucasian boy reaching for the stars. Both have different body types. They're life size sculptures over 5' height with the boy being shorter than the girl. Members liked the proposal and the concept.

The contours in the stars will be bronze and the inside Plexi glass where the LED lighting will be visible. The sign design is at a preliminary stage since it was added to the project later, it needs approval from Library Trustees.

A drawing of the layout, dimensions, and design elements was requested for further review and consideration. Vandalism, post construction maintenance topics were discussed. Members asked that the project team to pay attention to these details during the design process. Text displaying dedication to town children and individuals behind the project was briefly discussed and welcomed by everyone. A pedestal on the bench was suggested to provide an elevated look to the sculpture. The sculpture will be bolted into the cement base removing the falling hazard.

A rendering to scale with all dimensions will be created soon and shared with stakeholders. The girl sculpture is anticipated to be completed by the end of the year and the boy sculpture by next September. The other aspects of the project will be worked on simultaneously. The timeline for the sign design will be shared with the committee when its ready. The approximate duration of the project is timed at 2 years. MCC is working on some grants/ funds for the project. Ms. McCarthy will be assisting in that effort as

well. Library Director one of the Board of Trustees was contacted about it. The idea was presented to the Trustees and the feedback was favorable.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **Projects update from Planning and Economic Development office-**

- There were no new updates from PEDB. On the MBTA zoning requirements, PEDB is awaiting consultants report which is due in October.

### **Review of Multi-Family Housing Design Guidelines-**

- This topic was not discussed today.
- ❖ It was reported that Chipotle is open for business in town. Discussion included traffic patterns at Starbucks drive thru.
- ❖ Mr. Buckley said the Pet Supplies Plus store in Medway Plaza has not installed the permanent sign. On the topic of permit validity, it was stated that it's valid for 2 years with the provision for extension.
- ❖ To a question on the status of the old post office, Ms. Chabot and Mr. Harris responded that PEDB has not received a pre-application on it.
- ❖ PEDB was requested to change a warrant article at the fall town meeting. It is specifically related to end potential development in the Central Business District. The change will essentially be focused on the adjustment/ addition to building heights that will be permitted through a special permit process provided the building contributes a portion of it to CONCOM. The allowable building height currently is four storeys.
- ❖ An in-person DRC meeting with building inspector will be scheduled for October 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Mr. Buckley made motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Clifford.**

### **Roll Call Vote:**

***Matt Buckley- Aye***

***Janine Clifford – Aye***

***Jamie Ahlstedt – Aye***

***Tim Harris- Aye***

***The motion passed.***

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

The next DRC meeting will be held on October 2, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Sreelatha Allam

Recording Secretary