

*Minutes of the August 30, 2023
Regular Meeting of the Design Review Board*

WELLESLEY DESIGN REVIEW BOARD
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2023, 6:30 PM
ONLINE REMOTE MEETING

Design Review Board Present: Chair Juann Khoory, Vice-Chair Iris Lin, Sheila Dinsmoor, Mark Wendell

Staff Present: Planner Brad Downey

Call to Order:

Ms. Khoory called the DRB meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Roll Call:

Ms. Khoory-present, Ms. Lin-present, Ms. Dinsmoor-present, Mr. Wendell-present

Citizens Speak – Public Comment on Matters not on the agenda

No Comments

New and/or Continued Applications

DRB-23-33 S - 141 Linden Street – HYP Studio (Continued from 8/2/23)

Present: Dennis Ozer, Co-founder - Hot Yoga and Pilates (HYP)

Mr. Ozer provided detail regarding the modifications made to the DRB application.

Ms. Khoory inquired about the Special Permit status. Mr. Downey explained the Special Permit was required due to the size of the signage.

Ms. Khoory recommended the top of the sign align with the indentation located at the top of the window.

Ms. Dinsmoor motioned to accept DRB-23-33 S - Special Permit Sign - 141 Linden Street, as presented; with the modification that the sign align with the indentation at the top of the windows and doors. Ms. Lin seconded the motion. It was on motion 4-0; Lin-aye, Khoory-aye, Dinsmoor-aye, Wendell-aye.

Minutes – 6/14/23, 6/28/23, 7/19/23, & 8/2/23

Ms. Khoory motioned to approve the DRB minutes of 6/14/23, 6/28/23, 7/19/23 & 8/2/23, as presented. Ms. Lin seconded the motion. It was on motion 3-0-1; Dinsmoor-aye, Lin-aye, Khoory-aye, Wendell -abstain.

Mr. Wendell confirmed that he was not a DRB voting member at the DRB meetings of 6/14/23, 6/28/23, 7/19/23 & 8/2/23.

Design Guidelines

Sustainability and Climate Action Guidelines

Mr. Downey reported the Sustainability Committee would be meeting next week to further consider building sustainability aspects. He added that the Sustainability Committee would be scheduling a presentation for the DRB.

Ms. Khoory inquired if the Design Review Board Members could monitor the Sustainability meeting scheduled for next week. Mr. Downey stated he would get back to the Board about that participation request.

Section Assignments

Mr. Downey referenced the consultant's DRB Guidelines document and suggested that Board Members select primary sections of the document to critique. Those sections reflected:

- Context
- Building
- Public Realm
- Signage

Ms. Khoory recommended that topics regarding graphic imagery and context/overall organization also be included as primary sections for review as well. Board Members were in agreement.

Board Members agreed to the related assignments:

Ms. Dinsmoor – Signage

Ms. Lin – Public realm

Mr. Wendell – Building

Ms. Khoory – Overall organization

Ms. Khoory acknowledged that Members could provide comments on all sections if they chose to.

Gyorgy Kepes Panel Discussion

Present: Tory DeFazio, 88 Fuller Brook Road, Member of the Kepes Committee

Ms. Khoory stressed that Gyorgy Kepes panels and artwork was recognized as major accomplishments in the art world. She indicated her surprise that the famed panels were now sitting in basement storage in Town.

Ms. Dinsmoor reported that some of the panels were incorporated into the new Wellesley Free Library and a couple of panels at the Wellesley High School. She confirmed that she suggested several panels be used at the new Hunnewell School and/or the new Hardy School.

Mr. DeFazio stated the committee has been looking for a place to display the remainder of the panels at a site in Wellesley in consideration that the famous panels are the property of Wellesley taxpayers. He confirmed the panels were on display on the walls of the former Wellesley Free Library for many years. Mr. DeFazio hoped that any input that the DRB might provide, might be helpful in this effort. He noted that the panels are increasing in value; up to this point the Committee was not considering selling the

panels. He confirmed that the Hungarian consultant office in Boston expressed interest in the panels, and there is a Kepes museum in Hungary. Mr. DeFazio noted that Gyorgy Kepes worked with many influential architects in the United States. Mr. DeFazio offered to come back to the DRB with the other Kepes Committee Members.

Ms. Khoory expressed interest in hearing about possible options for the artwork and try to keep it in Wellesley to be enjoyed by the public. Mr. DeFazio agreed to return to the DRB for a Kepes Committee presentation.

Adjourn

Ms. Lin motioned to adjourn the DRB meeting. Ms. Dinsmoor seconded the motion. It was on motion 4-0; Wendell-aye, Dinsmoor-aye, Lin-aye, Khoory-aye.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:01 PM.

MINUTES APPROVED – TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2023