

**ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 9, 2007**

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M.

Attending: Harry Schildkraut, Chairperson
Laura Morgan
Dick Kaiser
Arnold Thomas

Absent: Carol Freeman
Tom Kusmerz
Jeff Pathmann

Also

Attending: Donna Lobaito, Assistant Village Administrator
Cliff Wright, Trustee Liaison

II. Approval of the minutes from the September 5, 2007 Meeting

Motion by Kaiser, second by Thomas to approve the minutes of the September 5, 2007 Meeting, noting that Mr. Schildkraut's name was misspelled in one location.

On a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

III. Public Hearing

A. None this month

IV. New Business

A Aquatic Center Monument Signs

Mr. Schildkraut commented that Jeff Pathmann designed a monument sign in 2005 with the idea that this sign would be used throughout the Village. Presently, signs from this design exist at Heritage Oaks Park, entrance signs will soon be seen around the Village and the intent is to install two of these signs at the aquatic center. Mr. Schildkraut mentioned that the issue was before the Village Board for approval, however, it was referred to the ARC due to a concern about the cost of the two signs. The question at hand is whether the ARC should recommend back to the Village Board that the sign remain as designed, re-designed for cost savings purposes, or install a temporary sign until funds become available.

Trustee Wright stated that the issue with one board member is that the budget limits have been approached with the construction of the aquatic center and the signs unfortunately were not budgeted with the project. Trustee Wright stated that Mayor Hunt secured a good price for the signs from Mark Cook Garden Center in Lake Zurich, however, he said that Trustee Weick asked the board to consider delaying the expenditure due to cost/pool budget concerns. Trustee Wright suggested that the Village install one sign this year and budget for the second one next year. He stated that the Heritage Oaks Park sign establishes a theme for identifying municipal facilities in the Village and he would like to see the same design at the aquatic center. He stated that the ARC should not deal with how the sign is going to be paid for, but rather they should come up with an alternative solution to be presented to the Village Board for the consideration. Trustee Wright stated that an alternative would be to design a sign similar to the sign at the business park so that all the properties that will eventually develop along the Midlothian corridor will have like signage, however, he stated that the consensus of the Village Board is to have like signage at all municipal facilities.

The spotting of the sign was discussed and the fact that it would most likely be located in the state right of way. The existing transformer was also discussed and how it would be screened.

The Commission discussed scaling back and not curving the sign, or using one sign and making it two-sided and perpendicular to the road.

Mr. Stephen Sharlach, 4 Walnut, was present at the meeting and stated that he designs signs for an architectural firm in Chicago. He said he read in the newspaper the issue of the signs at the aquatic center and was interested in volunteering his time to assist the Village with this issue. Mr. Sharlach commented that it is a good idea that the Village set a sign standard to be recognized throughout the Village, but maybe all signs would not have to be curved which adds to the cost. He commented that the aquatic center is made of red brick and this same brick should be used on the entrance sign. He said that in his business, signs are integrated with the architecture of the building. He felt that the location of the sign would be critical due to the traffic speed in front. Maybe a state identification sign could be placed out on Midlothian Road that there is an entrance ahead.

Mr. Thomas felt that the size of the proposed sign was out of character and very grandiose for the aquatic center. Mr. Sharlach stated that if stone is what the Village wants, then maybe pillars can be used to frame the sign and use a cheaper material on the interior.

Ms. Lobaito commented that Trustee Weick was not opposed to the design of the sign, but the money involved and spending money without it being budgeted. There was talk of using a temporary sign, but Mr. Sharlach said that the Village needs to plan with the end design in mind.

Trustee Wright stated that staff and Jeff Pathmann could go out to the site before the Village Board meeting next Monday and look at how a re-designed or even a temporary sign would work at this location.

Mr. Thomas commented that he would like to see a site plan and see a picture of the location with the monument sign superimposed on the picture. Mr. Kaiser questioned whether two signs were needed. Trustee Wright commented that the entrance of the aquatic center is at a crest in the road and he felt that two signs were needed; one that could be seen from traffic coming from the north and one that could be seen from traffic coming from the south. He also reiterated that another option would be to install one of the proposed signs now and another one in the next budget year.

Mr. Kaiser suggested putting the sign on a post. Trustee Wright responded that the Village Board wants subtle signage along the Midlothian corridor.

Mr. Sharlach stated that a temporary sign similar to the one at Rt. 22 and Old McHenry in Long Grove would cost about \$1,000. Mr. Thomas stated that he was in favor of installing a temporary sign which would give the Village and the ARC time to study exactly what to do with a permanent sign. He did not want to rush into anything. Mr. Kaiser suggested using the same type of sign which is in front of the Village Hall and making this the permanent sign. He stated we need to do something as a danger exists out there. Trustee Wright commented that he was concerned about installing a temporary sign on a \$6 million facility. The Commission also discussed lighting of the sign as well as lighting of the driveway entrance.

Trustee Wright asked for a meeting at the site between himself, Ms. Lobaito, Ms. Lynch and Mr. Pathmann to discuss the alternatives.

Motion by Thomas, second by Morgan to recommend to the Village Board that while the size, material, number of signs, transformer, up-lighting of the sign and down-lighting of the driveway are being studied, a temporary sign should be installed.

On a voice vote the motion carried unanimously.

V. Old Business

- A. None this month

VI. Permit Renewal

- A. None this month

VII. Discussion

A. None this month

VIII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made at 8:29 PM by Kaiser, second by Thomas.
All in favor, meeting adjourned.

Harry Schildkraut, Chairperson

Donna Lobaito, Recording Secretary