

STRONGSVILLE TOWN CENTER COMMISSION

MINUTES OF MEETING

April 20, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Mr. Huffman.

Roll Call:

Members Present: Mr. Huffman
Mrs. Hawk
Mr. Barth
Mr. Stankewicz
Mr. Haseley
Mr. Grissom
Mrs. Peacock

Also Present: Carol Oprea, Recording Secy.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Ice – You have had a chance to review the minutes of March 19, 2009. If there are no additions or corrections they will stand as submitted.

GRANFIESTA MEXICAN RESTAURANT/ Dale Rapone, Agent

Recommendation of a 17' x 32' patio to be used for outdoor eating for property located at 18737 Royalton Road, PPN 396-17-020 zoned R-RS.

Mr. Huffman – Give us your name and address.

Mr. Rapone – Dale Rapone with Diamond Cut Concrete, 6457 Stanbury, Parma, Ohio 44129.

Mr. Huffman – Thanks for coming back and I know that you are proposing some changes so why don't you go ahead and describe what those are.

Mr. Rapone – They only thing I think that we changed was adding those two landscape beds and then developing that one window into a doorway coming out into that patio. Other than that there is really no change. Other than putting those two beds in the front of that other side of that easement for the roadway.

Mrs. Oprea – Jennifer Milbrandt reviewed and approved the landscaping.

Mr. Rapone – It is real simple, we have the knock out roses in there just a simple bedding. Nothing too high, there is that one pine tree that will stay existing and the one next to the building obviously will have to come out.

Mr. Huffman – Alright, we will go around the table, Ray.

Mr. Haseley – I don't have anything negative.

Mr. Rapone – I looked at CVS their beds are real generic, a couple of gold dreds in there and real simple.

Mr. Huffman – Okay, Ben.

Mr. Stankewicz – I had a thought, would there be a possibility on the CVS, I think it is the Rite Aid on the top of the brick pillars to put a sandstone top.

Mr. Rapone – I am going to put a limestone cap on top.

Mr. Stankewicz – Okay.

Mr. Rapone – It will have a beveled edge. It will be a 2 x 2, and the columns will be 20 x 20, 4' high nothing too big. We do them in the brick to match the building it will kind of look like it was always there.

Mr. Stankewicz – I did have some thoughts with Jen, I had shared with her regarding some landscaping as being in our downtown area, the fact that we are putting in a new Police Station across the street, we are going to do some nice landscaping, we want to keep that looking good.

Mr. Rapone – I don't want to put anything that is going to get out of hand, something real simple. This way you have something to soften it. Nothing to get out of control.

Mr. Stankewicz – The last thing is, I am doing this more from a perspective of a customer because I do go there and I enjoy eating outside in the summer. I noticed that the front curb row that the narrowness of the depth of the seating area and then you have that row there with the cars that will be coming by. To me, it would be like a nuisance, you have 8 lanes from sound from 82 and then you are having these cars coming right there. I didn't know if there was anything that they could do different and not have those cars curve across there.

Mr. Rapone – Well, the way that parking lot is set up to access back out of there the cars do not have the room to back. There is plenty of room for cars to get through there and everything the way the road is going that way. I had brought it up if we had to shift everything over a couple feet to give us some room and extend that road back. There is ample room for everything if we have to do that but I think it is doable the way it is.

Mr. Stankewicz – Okay.

Mr. Rapone – You can't put that patio on the side of the building anywhere, it is really not going to be any different if it was 20 feet on the side. You are still going to have 82 there, you are going to have everything there in the back, you have the dumpster pad, I think that is about the only suitable place for it. It is not going to be anything big but it is going to be something to give an open air feel. I think they are going to have 7 tables out there. It is nothing huge, nothing radical but I think it will do them some good.

Mr. Huffman – Ben I think facing the Commons is a nice idea because while dining you will be able to look out over the Commons and the green space. The angled parking, ideally we could get rid of that drive and I am sure that everyone would like to get rid of it but with the angled parking and the width of that parking isle on the east side of the building the only way you could get away with it is by eliminating a row of parking on that side which I don't know if you would be able to do. There is not enough width to get 90° parking that is why they are angled.

Mr. Rapone – That roadway has that curve to it so that is only a one way, its not like you are going to have cars that are going to be running over it and coming the other way. That is only a one-way and the way it is set up it is angled away from that patio. I think it should be usable. We are going to do footed columns with masonry block so they will be substantial. It is not like stacked on landscape and glued together in case you did have an incident. They will be footed into the ground and pretty stable.

Mr. Huffman – Jerry.

Mr. Grissom – Am I to assume that this is going to be an open air ?

Mr. Rapone – Yes, there is not going to be a roof on it.

Mr. Grissom – Any type of awning?

Mr. Rapone – No, they are going to have tables with umbrellas on. Nothing structural off the building other than these columns with the railings between.

Mr. Huffman – Any others? Okay, Eve.

Mrs. Hawk – I have no comments.

Mr. Huffman – Mike.

Mr. Barth – None, my only comment was that the only cars that will use that front road will be the ones that are parked on the east side of the building.

Mr. Rapone – Correct. It is just for them on that back side. That is not to say that all of them go that way either. Depending on the capacity of the lot at the time.

Mr. Huffman – Pam.

Mrs. Peacock – The fence and the fencing, there is no open areas where children could crawl through?

Mr. Rapone – No, we are going to have a gate to open up though to get out of there. You will have a doorway developed that will come into the patio and then we will have an open gate in there. They can leave it locked at their discretion.

Mrs. Peacock – A child could not crawl underneath it?

Mr. Rapone – No.

Mrs. Peacock – Are you having music out there?

Mr. Rapone – I don't believe so, I think there will be just some low voltage lighting and something maybe on the columns. That I can't tell you.

Mrs. Peacock – Okay, umbrellas are all going to be uniform?

Mr. Rapone – Yes, I would assume so, but I am not putting those in. We will make a note that they need to have them uniform.

Mr. Huffman – I don't think I have any further comments, it looks like it will work on the front of the building.

Mr. Rapone – It is right there where it is at, we do not have to take out anything, develop the bottom half of that, put it back in the same kind of aluminum track and everything will look like it was there. That is my goal.

Mr. Huffman – If there are no further questions or comment, I would entertain a motion for the Granfiesta Restaurant.

Mr. Barth – I motion for the recommendation of a 17' x 32' patio to be used for outdoor eating for property located at 18737 Royalton Road, PPN 396-17-020 zoned R-RS.

Mrs. Hawk – Second.

Roll Call

All Ayes

APPROVED

SHRI SWAMINARAYAN TEMPLE/ Sundaram & Associates Architects, Agent

a) Reface of the 4'-9" x 9'-3" double faced non-illuminated Ground Sign adding fiberglass ornamentals to current signage stating ISSO Swaminarayan Temple and;

b) Revision to the existing building elevations including fiberglass temple towers, ornamental grille's, pilasters, wall panels, sill blocks, coping, crown molding, fascia panels, for property located at 13354 Pearl Road, PPN 392-30-008 zoned Public Facility.

Mr. Patel – Prakash Patel, with the International Swaminarayan Satsang Organization, 13354 Pearl Road, Strongsville, Ohio 44136.

Mr. Sundaram – Sandy Sundaram, Architect, Sundaram & Associates, 36167 Hillcrest Drive, Eastlake, Ohio 44095.

Mr. Patel – Ankish Patel, Trustee of the International Swaminarayan Satsang Organization, 13354 Pearl Road, Strongsville, Ohio 44136.

Mr. Pande – Dejprasadji Pande, he is the head of the whole institution.

Mr. Patel - He is visiting us from India. We practice a sect of Hindu religion called Swaminarayan, that is the long name. The law Swaminarayan he is the 6th descendant son of Lord Swaminarayan. Lord Swaminarayan wrote a scripture that is called a sixopithry that has been in the Boardlin Library of Oxford in London. That is the scripture that is about 250 years old that was written by Lord Swaminarayan in India.

Mr. Huffman – We are honored to have you hear.

Mr. Patel – We are very pleased that he is attending our celebration and we are having the meeting today so I requested that he join.

Mr. Sundaram – Get the blessing from the Committee and then he will go back to India.

Mr. Patel – He also has more than 300 Temples world wide, about 15 Temples in London, 25 chapters we have in the UK and then Australia, New Zealand, Sweden. This is just like in the North America, the chapters in North America, Europe, Africa, Asia, Australia and New Zealand. There are a couple of hundred other Temples like that in India. He is constantly traveling.

Mr. Huffman – I know that you have made some changes so why don't you present your changes.

Mr. Patel – Let me, this is the first impression that we brought to the Committee. There was some comments so what we did, the main comment was that it was very busy. We revised this section, we made them into a dome and then we took all this big ornament and then we created the second set. We took off all the ornaments, we reduced the size and shape.

Mr. Sundaram – On Wednesday actually we had a meeting with two of your members, Robert Hill, City Planner and Bill Boron, ARB Chairman. They felt that it was a little bit too heavy, very conspicuous, they asked that we tone it down, scale it down. Their main concern was the area from the Pearl Road side, keep the center ornament and move these to simplify it, that was number one. Number two, they were concerned with the dome size.

Mr. Patel – It was looking very massive.

Mr. Sundaram – You have these arches on the north and south side, they felt it was a little too ornamental and asked us to tone it down. I faxed it to Carol. The signage also they felt that was too ornate and asked us to simplify that. We are keeping this and making it yellow.

Mr. Barth – Did you say yellow?

Mr. Sundaram – Yes.

Mr. Barth – I know when you were here the last time you brought in the fiberglass and it was beige. Now you are changing it to yellow?

Mr. Patel – Basically what we did, we simplified all these things, fascia, it is very light, the Pearl Road it is very light. You can see the mass of the dome is toned down. It is now 14' and now they are just 7'.

Mr. Sundaram – It is not such a heavy mass.

Mr. Barth – So the tall dome is 12' and the little ones are 7'?

Mr. Sundaram – This is now actually 5' from the roof line. Pretty much we just keep these but we didn't have time to get colored ones. We brought these.

Mr. Barth – You added the flag pole because it was not on the original drawings.

Mr. Sundaram – Yes. Otherwise we simplified it pretty much, not too ornamental, toned it down.

Mrs. Peacock – Could I ask where the actual tower and domes are in relation to the roof. Okay, they are up toward the front?

Mr. Sundaram – Yes. This is facing Pearl. This is the backside and this is the Pearl Road side. This is the backside behind the building.

Mr. Barth – The back side you really didn't clean that up, you left it that the same.

Mr. Patel – If you remember there were four ornaments.

Mr. Sundaram – We simplified with just two.

Mr. Stankewicz – I think someone brought out that this building was originally built in about 1961, the structures and the weight that you are putting on there, did you check to see if that roof would hold that without any major modifications?

Mr. Patel – It is fiberglass. What they do, they put a steel framing and they cover it up so the weight will be very light.

Mr. Sundaram – They build it with the framing. It is hollow inside with the fiberglass outside. Load wise there is no problem.

Mr. Stankewicz – I do want to get a little information about the colors. Also, the flag itself, is there a flag of your religion?

Mr. Sundaram – It is symbolic.

Mr. Patel – It is a plain white and then there is a "U" and dot, it is symbolic of our religion.

Mrs. Hawk – Is that typically a thing that is flown above a church of your sect?

Mr. Sundaram – Yes.

Mrs. Hawk – It signifies what you do.

Mr. Huffman - It looks like there is one in those photos.

Mr. Patel – Yes, as you can see here.

Mr. Sundaram – I designed the Temple in Brunswick.

Mr. Barth – That is a beautiful building.

Mrs. Peacock – It is really beautiful.

Mr. Sundaram – It is really serene, the neighborhood is really beautiful.

Mr. Barth – What we liked about it as a group is that it is very clean and it looks very nice. That is why we were concerned about what you were doing to a historical area here and we wanted to make sure that it was meeting the standards of the Historical Area.

Mr. Sundaram – I feel very strongly being historical, this will bring more tourist attraction. This Temple will add on to that. Enhance you neighborhood here and a lot of people, a lot of tourist action. Maybe a lot of people might move in. It is an open area and they move to a residential area and it will bring a lot of business.

Mr. Patel – The proximity is very good from 71 and 80. Just like we have a few other Hindu Temples in the Cleveland vicinity. They are more localized, right now we have a lot of people traveling from Chicago to New Jersey. A lot of people stopping by just for the prayer.

Mr. Grissom – One of the comments, when I looked at these two buildings here was the fact that they were so wide open and the landscaping makes it look even better from the green grass and the landscaping. Has there been plans made to try to improve the landscaping and anything around this? I know that you are very restricted because there isn't much land. Is there anything to work on improving the landscaping around this maybe a little bit? That is what made these so absolutely gorgeous.

Mr. Patel – The one that sits here, they have more than 40 acres of land. This one has about 7 or 8 acres of land.

Mr. Sundaram – Pretty much on the south and the back there is not much.

Mr. Patel – What we will do could do would definitely add.

Mr. Grissom – The appearance, the first show out to Pearl Road.

Mr. Sundaram – We will enhance this area landscape wise.

Mrs. Hawk – There are beautiful trees there. Existing trees.

Mr. Patel – Yes.

Mrs. Hawk – There are established trees there which makes it lovely.

Mr. Sundaram – Maybe we could put in some juniper, evergreens.

Mrs. Hawk – How many feet do you have on the north side of that building? How many feet?

Mr. Sundaram – You mean from front to back?

Mr. Patel – The north side we are neighboring to the Middle School. Our building line, I would say maybe 10’.

Mr. Barth – When you are looking to having a new facility, do you normally build a facility or do you normally look for an existing building and enhance it?

Mr. Patel – That is considering the Cleveland area and when we started a few years back it was a small group and we like the neighborhood. I live in Broadview Heights and the person that was in charge, the accessibility of that person who can handle the day to day activities from their administrative purposes as well. Plus there are the communities, like the large Indian community do reside in Strongsville and Westlake, Lorain, things like that. Now we have a large community in Westlake and for them either Temple would be farther than where we are and there is already one Temple in Parma. Most of the Indian community is either on the west side or farther east like in Mentor. A lot of our group members are living in this area and this was a good location for us and from the project prospective, this was something that we could get started. Sometime, just to give you an example, this Temple, before they built it in Parma, just a

few blocks down on Ridge Road in North Royalton they acquired land and they kind of went through the City but getting the zoning took so many years and they finally had to let go of that lot and they moved. They started in Parma and they got more cooperation from Parma so then they finally started. They bought the old building with open land. They started worshiping in a 2,500 SF house upstairs and downstairs. They renovated that and converted it into the Temple and once they got the resources, built. They had open land.

Mr. Huffman – So usually you look for open land and build a new Temple versus buying an existing building and converting it into a Temple?

Mr. Patel – No, there is no such scenario. The very first Temple we had in New Jersey, that was an existing church. The second Temple that we built in Massachusetts, before this Temple was built, the first Temple they had it for 10 years it was the existing church. It was a small group and they became large then they bought a big warehouse like a 30,000 SF warehouse and they renovated it and moved into it.

Mr. Sundaram – The reason they bought the church, existing church, pretty much the congregation is pretty much used to that operation. It is more logical other than buying a warehouse or school. A church is easily converted into a Temple.

Mr. Patel – From the other prospective, zoning and other issues.

Mr. Huffman – Were you aware that this was in the Towne Center District when you bought it?

Mr. Patel – Yes. We know that we do have certain limitations from the exterior side of the building.

Mr. Huffman – Have you had an opportunity to read the criteria for the Towne Center Commission?

Mr. Sundaram – Yes. That is why all the signage was scaled down, the maximum 5' high, building height not more than 50'. I checked with Carol.

Mrs. Peacock – How many members do you anticipate for your Temple?

Mr. Patel – On a given service I would say about 200.

Mrs. Peacock – The parking is adequate?

Mr. Patel – Yes, we have more than 110 spots parking, plus we work hand in hand with the Middle School. Our parking lot if you go in there like Monday to Friday, 50% of our parking lot is being used by the school. Parents, School Teachers and other people.

Mr. Sundaram – The school is using it.

Mr. Patel – We had this big celebration for 5 days so we met with the school and said, “we need to use your parking for Saturday and Sunday”, they said that we could use it for the whole week because we have spring break.

Mr. Sundaram – We are pretty much complimenting each other.

Mrs. Peacock – The two facilities here, both have play areas for the children.

Mr. Sundaram – This one has the volleyball.

Mrs. Peacock – Do you have a plan in mind for your children?

Mr. Patel – We don’t have much land so you can only do some thing if you have land. We have a classroom where we can put some billiard tables and thing like that for the kids.

Mr. Huffman – Any other questions? Ray?

Mr. Haseley – No, it is just that we are looking at this from a different perspective. If you were out in open land, I think you would not have a problem with your first one.

Mr. Patel – I do understand.

Mr. Haseley – This Board is assembled to make sure, as much as possible, that you will fit into the Historical District which is basically across the street. I think that is where we have to either bend or decline one of the two. I’m still up in the air, because in as much as and in as pretty . . .

Mr. Sundaram – Actually if you look at the building, except those pilasters, we are not adding anything. It is only cosmetic, if you look at that I don’t think you have do much of deviation.

Mr. Haseley – That is much better than the last drawing.

Mr. Patel – That is why we met with Bob Hill, the Planning Consultant and the Architect and took the comments from the Committee the first meeting, took the comments from the ARB and trim it down, scale it down.

Mr. Sundaram – Scale it down and not to ornate except the main Tower.

Mr. Patel – As you can see the roof line, it will look very similar.

Mr. Sundaram – It is all very cosmetic we are not building. It is just stuck on, fiberglass.

Mr. Haseley – In the middle of a country or a large area with a lot of open land. It is kind of difficult to analyze this and bring it into perspective as to how it fits in with the Historic District.

Mrs. Hawk – You were pointing to that decoration right there. That is made of stone on stone, right?

Mr. Sundaram – Yes.

Mrs. Hawk – Is this going to be to be stone on stone?

Mr. Sundaram – No, it will be fiberglass.

Mr. Patel – It will be fiberglass.

Mrs. Hawk – Is it possible for you to use the stone because that is brick there?

Mr. Sundaram – What happens here is this is a flat roof and you have this ornaments. That is a totally different picture, you have a pitched roof with a gutter with an eaves so that is a totally different architectural detail.

Mrs. Hawk – You couldn't make that arching stuff right there, stone or brick or anything that would compliment the existing brick right there?

Mr. Huffman – That is bound to be heavy.

Mr. Sundaram – It would be too heavy,

Mr. Patel – It won't even hold it.

Mrs. Hawk – I was thinking of the stuff that is facing Pearl Road.

Mr. Sundaram – This the arch and this is the pilaster . . .

Mrs. Hawk – What are they made from?

Mr. Sundaram – The same thing, they are all fiberglass.

Mr. Patel – When they built this one, the pattern here and there, it was created by using different bricks and they shaped it when they built it.

Mr. Huffman – It could be but it would have to be bolted into the existing stone. Ray are you done?

Mr. Haseley – I'm still mulling all this over.

Mr. Huffman – Ben.

Mr. Stankewicz – I am glad to see some of the modifications you made. I appreciate you doing that. A little bit of thoughts on that sign.

Mr. Sundaram – It is just a little bit of the pilaster.

Mr. Patel – Right now this is the existing signage and to match with the building.

Mr. Sundaram – It has brick pillar on both sides to match with the building.

Mr. Stankewicz – Is that bricking or fiberglass too?

Mr. Patel – We will just cover the brick with the fiberglass.

Mr. Huffman – So the sign is still the same.

Mr. Sundaram – Exactly, we are not changing the length or the height. That is all it is, maximum 5', the monument sign can not go more than 5'.

Mr. Huffman - I think we are all having, as Ray mentioned, the issue with why this Towne Center Commission was established and what we are supposed to be basing our opinions on. The Standards and Criteria I have before me. I am not so sure that I want to read them all but I think that the intent to all of this is that we try to preserve the character of the buildings that are there today or were there back when they were built. Most of those buildings were built before 1960, like the Town Hall, the Pomeroy House, the Church of Christ, Strong House. This one was admittedly built a little later but it seems that we want to keep the historic character of the building and I think were we

are all having a hard time is with the changes that you are proposing are definitely changing the character of the building, which you obviously want.

Mr. Sundaram – It is obvious that it was a church. It was a church and now it is a Temple.

Mr. Huffman – That is a tough issue. If you were building this somewhere else in Strongsville, anywhere else in Strongsville but the Towne Center, I don't think you would get any objection from anybody. There are a number of examples of a number of different types of buildings in Strongsville. So that is where we are having a hard, that is where we are having our difficulties. It is a significant change to the building.

Mr. Sundaram – That is why we pretty much with the combination of the different opinions, ideas, we just scaled down. Now it is much simplified. I don't think we have too much ornate except, pilasters. The one, the conspicuous is the Tower and the Dome.

Mr. Barth – Exactly, the last time you were here I think I asked the question. What is the most important thing that you need and you said that it was the three Domes. So, all of the other façade is minor, is this correct?

Mr. Patel – That is correct, that is why we simplified it.

Mr. Huffman – Let me also add, you are able to operate within the building as it is today, right? You have made improvements to the interior to which we have no jurisdiction over and so now we have to decide if the exterior is our issue.

Mr. Stankewicz – Could you show us those samples that you just brought in and give us some feel.

Mr. Patel – This is just the fiberglass. What we do, once it is finalized, there will be a die made and then they will mold the fiberglass.

Mr. Sundaram – They will mold the fiberglass. This is the color we want to use. This is the color we chose. It is two tone, the brick is one color and the fiberglass.

Mr. Patel – It will be a little bit lighter. What we intend to do, when they are molding this, the color will be right into this,

Mr. Barth – Could you pick up the one that is on the floor? Originally you said that one.

Mr. Sundaram – That is a little bit too gaudy. We mellowed it down.

Mr. Barth – My original question the last time you were here was what was the color going to be on the existing fiberglass that you are holding in your hand and you said that it was going to be that beige color there. Now you want to change it to the yellow.

Mr. Patel – We can go with something like this but if you go to the actual location and take the these, we painted it this color and put it on the brick then this will not look good. The brick is kind of a light orange and when you had it up in 1984, that brick is on the pink side. I don't know why they used different brick at that time either. We painted 6 different colors and see which one will blend in. That is the color of the brick.

Mr. Sundaram – We can do a lighter shade.

Mrs. Hawk – Is the annex building the same color brick?

Mr. Patel – Yes, pretty close. You won't be able to see much difference. There is a little bit of difference because the annex was built in 1984.

Mr. Sundaram – They didn't match it exactly.

Mr. Huffman – I think that one of items that I keep coming back to is on this Standards and Criteria is paragraph b1, *"In appraising such effects and relationship, the Commission shall consider, in addition to any other pertinent matters, the factors of historical, cultural and architectural values and significance, architectural style, design, arrangement, texture, material and color and in particular, the following: The distinguishing original qualities or character of a building, structure or site and its environment."* That is where I am having a hard time because you are changing the original character of the building. There is a number of other criteria.

Mrs. Hawk – Is there anything about wood or stone being used in the Towne Center?

Mr. Huffman – No, I don't think that it specifies that.

Mrs. Hawk – I know that the signs are supposed to be wood.

Mr. Huffman – Yes, but even that if it is something that simulates wood I think that we found that is appropriate also because of the maintenance issue of wood.

Mr. Sundaram – Yes there are maintenance problems with wood.

Mr. Huffman – Even the existing sign, we allow for fiberglass or material and the sign is actually larger than what is in the Towne Center Criteria. You are keeping the same size and not making it large so I think that most people can accept that. Jerry, do you have any further comments?

Mr. Grissom – I go back to the building itself or the area. You know that you are landlocked, you are putting a lot of money into this building and you are going to be restricted to growth. Are you going to be back looking for some variance or something in a very short time?

Mr. Sundaram – For the small number, maximum 200 people, I don't think that the community is going to grow that big to go for an expansion.

Mr. Grissom – You can say you have parking and you can use the school parking but when it comes down to it, you have to, you are going to be held to what parking is on your property.

Mr. Sundaram – Right.

Mr. Grissom – There are 91 parking spots. I was involved in building a church in Berea and for every parking spot I think you can seat 4 people or have 4 people in your building.

Mr. Sundaram – On a normal operation we will have about 50 people.

Mr. Patel – Yes, right now.

Mr. Sundaram – Like Christmas Day or something then more.

Mr. Patel – On a Sunday at regular service we have 50 to 100 people. We have service in the afternoon so after 6:00 p.m. most of the business community is shut down.

Mr. Grissom – I have lived in this community for 31 years and I go along with what he says about changing that area and the changes and that is something I have to bring to mind, solve myself.

Mr. Patel – We are open to suggestions.

Mr. Sundaram – That is why we have come in with different levels of changes so that we can hit the target.

Mr. Huffman – Okay, I would like to add that the parking is probably more of a Planning issue than ours. We need to address the aesthetics and if it fits within the Towne Center. There are issues with parking the might affect the Historical District. Eve.

Mrs. Hawk – What are these things called.

Mr. Huffman – A lot of times they are called pilasters.

Mr. Sundaram – They are pilasters.

Mrs. Hawk – Those are going to be made out of Styrofoam?

Mr. Sundaram – No fiberglass.

Mrs. Hawk – Fiberglass, I mean?

Mr. Sundaram – Exactly.

Mr. Huffman – It is a hard material. Why don't you bring it over so that she can see it.

Mr. Sundaram – It is a synthetic like a bath tub. Very hard material.

Mr. Huffman – A very hard plastic.

Mr. Haseley – The color is all the way through.

Mr. Sundaram – Exactly and maintenance free.

Mr. Barth – So those, you are looking to be the same color as this right here?

Mr. Patel – It is up to the Committee and see what your comments are and what you want to see.

Mr. Sundaram – If you want us to make it a different color then that is okay too.

Mr. Patel – We will be considered by the ARB.

Mrs. Hawk – This right here, what is that going to be? Color?

Mr. Sundaram – One tone, just yellow.

Mrs. Hawk – Yellow? But this will be red?

Mr. Sundaram – No this will be red.

Mr. Huffman – What will be red?

Mrs. Hawk – The symbol.

Mr. Huffman – Any others?

Mr. Barth – My comment is you look at these buildings here, they are very clean. They are beautiful and being that we are the Committee that looks at the Historical District and not wanting to make changes. I know that you guys have come back a couple of times. Personally I would like to see the front of the building even cleaned up more than what it is. That is my personal feeling. That will go along with everything else that is in the Historical District where you won't see that much of a change on the front of that building because your towers, and this is what you had said earlier, are the most important things that you need for your facility.

Mr. Sundaram – It is like a cupola in a church, can you imagine a church without a cupola? Or a steeple? Does it make sense to you guys? It is a hardship, I know and realize that. You have to understand that the religious place and we have to abide by that. Without that like a church without a steeple or any elements.

Mr. Stankewicz – I don't think he is talking about that.

Mr. Barth – No, I am talking about the face, those are fine.

Mr. Stankewicz – He is talking about the face right there.

Mr. Patel – Give us a suggestion just like last time.

Mr. Sundaram – Maybe we can critique something or proceed on that and simplify and modify that.

Mrs. Hawk – That was my point.

Mr. Barth – Here is the front of the existing building which is very clean and very nice. If you put the Towers on there, that is fine with me. I am looking at keeping the front of this building more on the historical side of what it is now.

Mr. Patel – What we can do, here is the roof line, if it makes sense, have the Domes and the Steeple. We can remove all this pilaster and just leave this. We can remove all this pilaster and leave the roof line.

Mr. Barth – That is exactly what I am looking for.

Mr. Patel – Just give us your comments, what is the concern. We want to work with you.

Mr. Sundaram – We will take everything down except the towers and scale down the towers.

Mr. Haseley – To me that is acceptable.

Mr. Huffman – You say the existing sign or this?

Mr. Sundaram – No this one. The monument sign is free standing.

Mr. Huffman - No the one on the wall.

Mr. Sundaram – You have the one on the wall right now.

Mrs. Peacock – That one will be smaller right?

Mr. Patel – On the wall we only have our symbol and when we put this article the symbol will be inside it. This is like a window.

Mr. Huffman – Yes but you are going to put a smaller sign up there because that is very large.

Mr. Sundaram – That one is pretty much a larger scale so we have to scale it down.

Mrs. Hawk – Is that front stone going to be power washed so that it becomes one color?

Mr. Sundaram – Right now it is a little bit different tone a little bit grey.

Mrs. Hawk – The cross you can see.

Mr. Stankewicz – The cross you can see so if you sandblast you will not see it.

Mr. Sundaram – Oh, I see, definitely we will check that out. I will make a note.

Mr. Huffman – Mike were you finished?

Mr. Barth – Yes.

Mr. Huffman – Pam.

Mrs. Peacock – I agree with what the Commission has said and I think that the removal of all of these will really make a big difference. The question I had was, lets go to this roofline that has this little design up here. Is that going to be gone too?

Mr. Sundaram – No.

Mrs. Peacock – What size is that?

Mr. Patel – This is about 12 or 13”.

Mr. Barth – Which will be similar to what you have on there.

Mr. Sundaram – Right.

Mrs. Peacock – Can you make that smaller?

Mr. Sundaram – We can make it 8”.

Mrs. Peacock – That is a much larger surface there. I think that would be better if it were a little smaller.

Mr. Sundaram – That is actually sitting on the parapet. We will make it 12” now.

Mr. Patel – Okay we can keep it at 12”

Mrs. Peacock – Now the doorway, the existing doorway. Is that the same type of concept? Can we remove these from the doorway?

Mr. Sundaram – Actually this we are trying to build a new one with a little canopy. Right now there is no canopy there.

Mrs. Peacock – Oh, I see it is going to be a canopy.

Mr. Sundaram – Exactly, our intention was to have a little canopy, little dome, actually this is the main entrance from the back. This is from the Pearl Road side.

Mr. Patel – On the canopy we can do the same thing. The canopy the two pillars we can make a break, match the existing brick and remove the pilaster.

Mrs. Peacock – Is this dome part of your religion to go over the doorway or could we eliminate that since we have the domes up here to make this cleaner looking? Is that possible?

Mr. Sundaram – We can take it out.

Mrs. Peacock – Okay, the only other thing I have I guess is a comment on the color and I love yellow but I don't like that color as much as more muted beige color.

Mr. Huffman – What about the mortar color? I can't recall what color the mortar color is.

Mr. Patel – We can go with a plain white, we don't mind.

Mr., Barth – I like the original one that they had.

Mrs. Peacock – This is too yellow.

Mr. Sundaram – Tone it down to maybe an eggshell.

Mr. Haseley – We like that the last time you were here.

Mr. Sundaram – We will make a change.

Mr. Huffman – It will look a little bit more like stone than this.

Mr. Sundaram – Okay, thank you.

Mr. Huffman – Let me say that we really appreciate everything you've done and all the changes that you've been making and how receptive that you are to our suggestions. We commend you on that. I know that you are trying to work very hard with us and we do love those buildings there.

Mr. Sundaram – It is a beautiful picture. Thank you for those pictures. It is very serene.

Mrs. Peacock – What are the Towers made of in those?

Mr. Sundaram – Same fiberglass.

Mrs. Peacock – What is that color?

Mr. Sundaram – I think they are white.

Mr. Patel – This is white but this is from the block.

Mr. Sundaram – There is one company downtown they just build a frame, metal frame and this is a skin with a 4' section.

Mr. Barth – It looks like the color of the brick.

Mr. Sundaram – In India and Roman architecture it is all in granite, brick or marble because that is local material. Mostly they have a lot of marble. Japo is pinkish pink stones. The whole city is pink because that is the stone there. The Tadge Mahal is marble, white marble, the southern part is granite very dark granite which they import into the USA, a lot of kitchen counters come from India. Marble, granite, sandstone, that is how the material but unfortunately what happened there is a tropical country only the sun is made superior. There is not too much expansion or contraction of the building materials but here but your life is very extreme, 100° in the summer and subzero in the winter. Your life is very tough, housing material expansion and contraction. They build a couple of temples out of stone, leaking, cracks and problems then finally they found this material and it works beautifully.

Mr. Huffman – I think at this point there are a number of changes that we have asked for and I know that we will need to see the revised drawings of what you are planning to do. I think in all fairness to you that you should, I guess we need a landscape plan of whatever you are proposing to provide.

Mr. Sundaram – No problem. I have it here City Council, Planning Commission, we agreed to comply with all three Committees and the drawings in connection with the outcome of the review comments on the Towne Center meeting on April 20th.

Mr. Huffman – Okay, so we should get some revised drawings of what you are proposing so that everyone understand what is being proposed.

Mr. Sundaram – Okay.

Mr. Huffman – Thank you.

Mr. Patel – One question, we will remove this pilaster and we are removing the two columns is there anything else?

Mr. Sundaram – That is pretty much it.

Mr. Barth – Do we have to go over the ground sign?

Mr. Huffman – Why don't you show it again.

Mr. Sundaram – It is pretty simple, we are keeping the same height.

Mr. Huffman – Last time they had other items on top of it. They have cut all of that off. Okay so we will Table you till the next meeting.

Mr. Huffman - Hearing no further business. The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 10:22 a.m.

Timothy E. Huffman

Carol M. Oprea
Administrative Assistant

Approved