

***Town of Dover
Development Review Board***

Meeting Minutes

March 13, 2014

7:00pm at Town Office

**THESE MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL THEY HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY
THE DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD**

- I. The regular meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Chair Shippee. The Board introduced themselves to the audience.
- II. All parties present were asked to sign in.
- III. The notice of hearing was read into the record.
- IV. Board members present were: Chair Sarah Shippee, Vice Chair Jim Lynch, Andy Childs & Steve Montello
The Zoning Administrator, David Cerchio and Recording Secretary, Jeannette Eckert was also present along with Applicant Marco Tallini.
- V. A draft of the minutes for the meeting will be posted by Tuesday, March 18, 2014 and all Applicants are encouraged to review those minutes for accuracy and any comments or inconsistencies should be sent to the ZA before the next meeting. All exhibits presented are available for public viewing through the ZA or Recording Secretary. All parties intending to give testimony were sworn in.
- VI. **To consider application #14-RT037-01 by the Inn at Saw Mill Farm** for an awning sign and an additional movable sign in accordance with Section 130 of the Sign Ordinance. The property is located at 7 Crosstown Road. Parcel #RT037.

ZA Cerchio testifies that the hearing has been properly warned & posted.

Applicant Tallini, business manager for the Inn at Sawmill Farm, has authority to represent owners for a sign permit and testifies that all abutters have been properly notified and in a timely manner.

Applicant Tallini reviewed the ZA's summary of the application and testifies that it is accurate.

The following exhibits were introduced:

Exhibit A: ZA Cerchio's Summary

Exhibit B: Photograph of the awning imprinted with "the Inn at Sawmill Farm"

Exhibit C: Photograph of "Open for Casual Italian Dining" sign which also features a changing event sign and "Open" flag

Applicant Tallini testifies to the following:

- Requesting a permit for the green awning located over the entrance to inn/restaurant
 - Signage that is currently on the awning is not permitted but allowable
- Requesting an additional two sided moveable sign for events
 - Only up a couple of days a week depending on events that are going on
 - Is a moveable sign on Route 100 Right of Way

ZA Cerchio testifies to the following as seen on Exhibit C:

- ❖ The moveable two sided “casual dining” sign is already permitted
- ❖ The “open” flag is already permitted
- ❖ Board should consider when granting a permit for the second two sided sign, that it is in the State Right of Way
 - And whether that sign obstructs the view onto Route 100
 - Defer to Police Chief Johnson’s input via email

According to Section 125 B 2. of the Dover Sign Ordinance:

*No sign may be erected or maintained along and visible from a street, highway or right of way which:
Constitutes a traffic hazard by way of placement or obstructing free and clear vision on an adjacent road or distracting the attention of drivers by reason of position, color or shape which may be confused with any authorized traffic signal or device.*

Applicant Tallini:

- I am not aware that the music sign hangs over the guard rail; rather it stands perpendicular to the guard rail.
- I personally do not consider it a hazard
- I do not feel there is any other place for the sign that gives us the visibility from Route 100
- The music sign comes off and on frequently
- Have tried sandwich signs but they keep getting blown over
- These signs bring business into the restaurant; help people see we exist; 1% of that business goes to the Town

ZA Cerchio:

- ❖ With regard to moveable signs, Applicant does not need to specify where it is placed
- ❖ I would defer to Section 130 which gives the Board the option to approve any sign
 - But would require substantiation for an additional moveable sign
- ❖ Primary moveable sign is the “open for dining” sign—that is the one *approved* moveable sign
- ❖ Allowed 3 signs—any combination of which can be attached to the building or free standing
 - Currently has a main sign in front of the building on the lawn and a sign towards entrance/exit from parking lot on Crosstown Rd which is a two sided free standing sign and therefore counts as two signs
- ❖ Application is for the awning sign and music sign; both of which are additional

❖ Applicant can display the signs in question until a decision is rendered
On a motion by Board member Montello, seconded by Board member Childs, the Board unanimously agreed to close the hearing.

VII. To consider any other business that may legally come before the Dover Development Review Board.

Approve the following minutes:

On a motion by Board member Golet (via telephone), seconded by Board member Lynch, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of Aug 22, 2013

On a motion by Board member Lynch, seconded by Board member Montello, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of Nov 14, 2013

Appointments up for renewal:

Chair Sarah Shippee will draft a letter to the Select board to re-appoint Andy Childs to a 3 year term as board member; Laurie Newton and Ned McElroy to 1 year terms as alternates. All terms are due to expire March 31, 2014.

On a motion by Board member Montello, seconded by Board member Lynch, the Board unanimously agreed to move into Deliberative Session at 7:42pm

The Board came out of Deliberative Session at 7:55pm & the hearing was adjourned.

Next hearing date is to be determined.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeannette Eckert
Recording Secretary

*POSTED AT: Town Clerk's Office, Administration Office, Dover Free Library and East Dover Post Office.
After minutes are approved, they will be posted on the Town website for a period
of six months from date of meeting at www.doververmont.com.*