

monument sign would be a manual reader board, internally illuminated from 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Commissioner Wussow asked if the proposed sign would be centered between the two entrances on Elm Street to which Ms. Clauss stated the sign would be closer to the main entrance. Ms. Clauss stated as of late yesterday, there was a slight adjustment for the sign's location to accommodate the landscape plan. Commissioner Dieter asked how long the school has gone without a sign to which Ms. Clauss stated she did not know.

Commissioner Wussow asked if a paper-white electronic-scrolling sign had been considered to which Ms. Clauss stated she did not think the school considered this as the sign is facing a residential zoning district and wanted to be respectful to the residents. Commissioner Wussow asked about the challenges of changing the sign to which Ms. Clauss stated a person would need to reach in and manually change the letters. Commissioner Wussow expressed concern that the proposed landscaping surrounding the sign would be damaged by a person changing the sign to which Ms. Clauss stated they can ensure the landscaping is done in such a way that the landscaping would not be disturbed during the changing of the sign. Commissioner Wussow stated the plantings around the sign could block lettering on the bottom of the sign to which Ms. Clauss stated they would use plantings that are low to the ground in front of the sign.

Ms. Stegall stated the staff has done research on electronic message boards, and the staff has not been able to find a company that does paper-white electronically-scrolling message boards. She stated there is new technology that the staff is currently researching, but the staff has not been able to find anything available in this large of a format.

Commissioner Dieter stated they should replace the sign on Main Street with an electronic message board instead of putting a new sign on Elm Street to which Ms. Clauss stated the request was made for Elm Street as most students, parents and staff enter from the Elm Street entrance, and the proposed sign would be more effective there. Ms. Clauss stated the sign is a communication reinforcement of information being sent home via email and in hard copy form. Ms. Clauss stated they can be flexible with the lighting of the sign as it will be on a timer which can be adjusted as needed.

Commissioner Dickie stated he lives in the neighborhood, and this sign will be directly facing the homes across Elm Street. He stated he is on the fence about the practicality of such a sign, and this sign could visually encroach on the homes across from the school. Ms. Stegall asked if it would help if the sign was perpendicular to Elm Street to which Commissioner Dickie stated this could alleviate some of the concerns.

Trustee Burket asked why the sign would need to be lit in the evening hours to which Ms. Clauss stated there are evening activities at the school, and it is good to have this communication board lit at these times. Trustee Burket asked if there would be an issue if the sign was perpendicular to Elm Street to which Ms. Clauss stated she would need to speak to the petitioner as there would be additional cost for a two-sided board. There was a discussion regarding other locations on the property for the placement of the sign. Commissioner Dieter stated the sign would be better if it was closer to the northeast corner. Ms. Clauss stated if the sign was closer to where Main Street

and Elm Street cross, the sign would be away from the school's entrance and may not be a helpful communication tool for the parents.

Commissioner Dieter indicated that he would like to see a list of all activities throughout the school year that go past 4:00 p.m. as the Commission is concerned about the lighting and location of the sign. He stated he would like to see a better justification on the possible hardship for needing this sign. Ms. Clauss stated the school's entrance has no ground sign as other schools do in District 41, and this sign would be one more way for the school to communicate what they are doing in the community. Commissioner Dieter stated if the petitioner wants the sign, they need to rethink the sign itself and the sign's location as neither seems ideal as proposed.

Commissioner Loftus stated he would like to see the lighting intensity of the sign dimmed in the proposed location or move the sign to another location on the property. Commissioner Dieter stated the petitioner needs to do more research and study into this. Commissioner Wussow asked how bright the sign will be to which Ms. Clauss stated she has the data, but not with her. Commissioner Wussow stated she would like to see the comparison of the proposal to what is in the Sign Code. Commissioner Wussow asked if a black sign with white lettering was considered to which Ms. Clauss stated she would need to speak with the petitioner.

Commissioner Wussow stated she would feel better if the residents who live across Elm Street from the school were at the meeting to give feedback on the request.

Commissioner Loftus moved to close the public hearing at 7:58 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dickie and carried unanimously by a vote of 6-0. Chairman Burdett stated it seems that the Commission would like to continue this public hearing to another meeting to which Ms. Stegall stated the Public Hearing would need to be re-opened for this.

Commissioner Wussow made a motion to re-open the public hearing on 561 Elm Street at 7:59 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dickie and carried unanimously by a vote of 6-0.

Commissioner Wussow stated she is not opposed to a sign being located there, but she is concerned about the amount of illumination and wants this item continued to the next meeting so the residents can be invited via letter and give their thoughts on this proposed sign. She stated she would like a representative from the school present at the next meeting for questions. She stated she is concerned about any copy that is low on the sign. She stated the sign's location to the right of the school's entrance is appropriate. She stated the landscaping proposal is beautiful, but not practical.

Commissioner Loftus stated the design style of the sign is good as it matches the building. He stated they either need to dim the lighting intensity of the sign if it is still to go in the proposed location, or the location of the sign needs to be moved to the east.

Commissioner Dieter stated the petitioner needs to express what the hardship really is. He stated he has legitimate concerns and needs to understand the brightness of the lighting and direction of the lighting. He stated they could move the location of the proposed sign. He stated he does want

a letter sent to the residents on Elm Street between Hillside and Main about this meeting so the Commission can hear the residents' thoughts.

Commissioner Thompson stated the sign itself is handsome. She stated she can understand the possible hardship but is not sure the sign is needed. She stated there is a disconnect with the landscaping plan.

Commissioner Dickie stated the petitioner needs to do more study on this, and the Commission needs to hear what the ultimate intent for this sign really is.

Chairman Burdett stated the design for the sign is nice, but he is concerned about the lighting. He stated the sign should be in the most visible place so he is in favor of the proposed location. He stated he would be fine with this sign being perpendicular to Elm Street instead of parallel to Elm. He stated the landscaping plan needs to be revised to accommodate the letter-changing for this sign.

Commissioner Wussow moved to continue the public hearing to the October 8, 2014 meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dieter and carried unanimously by a vote of 6-0.

4. Chairman's Report

None

5. Trustee's Report

Trustee Burket stated at the next two Village Board Workshops, the Village Board will be hearing about the beginning proposals for the Opus project and the McChesney building project.

6. Staff Report

Village Planner Stegall stated there is nothing currently on the agenda for September 24, 2014, but there are three sign variations on the agenda for October 8, 2014. Commissioner Wussow asked about follow-up on the DuPage Medical Group sign to which Ms. Stegall stated the staff has not looked into this yet, but they will soon.

7. Adjourn

As there was no other business to discuss, Chairman Burdett asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Loftus moved, seconded by Commissioner Dickie to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. The motion carried unanimously by a vote of 6-0.

Submitted by: Debbie Solomon, Recording Secretary

Reviewed by: Michele Stegall, Village Planner