

**DERRY TOWNSHIP DESIGN ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 18, 2016**

The meeting of the Derry Township Design Advisory Board was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Chairwoman Pam Moore in the Meeting Room of the Derry Township Municipal Complex, 600 Clearwater Road, Hershey, PA.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Pam Moore, Chairwoman; Jennifer Harnden, Vice Chairwoman; Brian O'Day; Ted Herman

Members Absent: Joyce St. John; Susan Cort, Secretary

Also Present: Brandon Williams, Assistant Director of Community Development; Jenelle Stumpf, Community Development Secretary; Matt Mandia, Director of Parks and Recreation

Public attendance: Terrance Bucher

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion made by Member Herman, seconded by Vice Chairwoman Harnden, and a unanimous vote, the minutes of the March 28, 2016 meeting were approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Consideration of fence installation at 554 West Chocolate Avenue (Terrance Bucher; DAB #374)

Brandon Williams reported that a wooden stockade fence is proposed. The existing wooden fence on the east side of the house will be removed. Mr. Williams noted that stockade fences are not a recommended style in the Chocolate Avenue Preservation Overlay District. Recently the Design Advisory Board approved the installation of a stockade fence along West Chocolate Avenue with the stipulation that the applicant install landscaping in front of the portion of the fence facing West Chocolate Avenue. Mr. Williams recommended that the same condition of approval be applied in this situation, for consistency.

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Mr. Williams stated that Chris Brown of Derck & Edson (the Township's planning consultant) also reviewed the proposal and recommended that a shadow box, open picket style of fence be used instead of the stockade style for the section of fence facing West Chocolate Avenue. Mr. Brown did not have an issue with the stockade style being used for the rest of the fence.

Chairwoman Moore asked the applicant if he would be willing to install the shadow box style fence in the front, as recommended by Mr. Brown. Terrance Bucher replied that he does not like the shadow box style but he will do as the Board directs. He has also been considering retaining the posts of the existing fence in the area to the east of the house but not installing that section of the new fence and instead planting a line of shrubs. The new fence will be stained a dark brown color.

Member O'Day asked if the landscaping would not be required in the front if Mr. Bucher uses the shadow box style fence. Mr. Williams confirmed this.

Vice Chairwoman Harnden commented that if Mr. Bucher is agreeable to installing landscaping in the front, regardless of what style fence is used, that would be preferable so as to be consistent with what the Board recently approved for a nearby property. Mr. Bucher stated that he intends to plant shrubs along the front.

Member Herman asked if Mr. Bucher installed the existing fence. Mr. Bucher responded that the fence was there when he bought the property.

Motion

Member Herman made a motion that the Design Advisory Board issue a Recommendation of Appropriateness for the proposal as presented, with the stipulations that the applicant provide landscaping with an overall height of at least 4 feet to screen the northern elevation of the fence, and that the fence is stained a dark brown or similar color after it is installed. Vice Chairwoman Harnden seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously.

B. Consideration of removal of playground equipment/rubber matting and installation of pavers at Chocolatetown Square Park (Derry Township Parks & Recreation, DAB #375)

Matt Mandia, Director of Parks & Recreation, explained that they are trying to create a picnic grove in the southwestern section of the park. They have picked two types of pavers – one is an EP Henry Autumn Blend brick paver, and the other is a Pennsylvania Bluestone that would tie into the color of the existing small pillars surrounding the subject area. Mr. Mandia requested approval for both types of pavers because he will need to price both options to find out which is the better choice, budget-wise.

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In response to a question from Member O'Day, Mr. Mandia stated that if the Autumn Blend pavers are used, there will not be a brick border. If the Bluestone is used, there will be a brick border, as shown in the proposal.

Member Herman asked if there are any safety advantages in choosing one style of paver over the other, as far as the surface being slippery when wet. Mr. Mandia was not aware of any advantages and believes the pavers are consistent in texture.

Member O'Day asked if the existing rubber matting is considered impervious surface. Mr. Williams answered yes.

Motion

Vice Chairwoman Harnden made a motion that the Design Advisory Board issue a Recommendation of Appropriateness for the proposal as presented, with either the Pennsylvania Bluestone pavers or the EP Henry Autumn Blend pavers. Member O'Day seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Chairwoman