

**CITY OF KENT
ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD
July 18, 2023**

MEMBERS PRESENT: **Dennis Saxe
David Basista
Bridget Tipton**

STAFF PRESENT: **Bridget Susel, Community Development Director
Kailyn Cyrus, Development Planner
Tim Sahr, Development Engineer
Kim Brown, Administrative Assistant**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Saxe at 3:01 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Dennis Saxe, Bridget Tipton, and David Basista were present.

MOTION: **Mr. Basista moved to excuse Howard Boyle from the July 18, 2023 meeting. Ms. Tipton seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.**

III. ADMINISTRATION OF OATH

Ms. Susel instructed members of the audience wishing to be heard on any of the cases presented at this meeting, to raise their right hand. Ms. Susel administered the oath, "Do you swear or affirm that the testimony that you are about to give is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth? Please say "I do". The participants responded, "I do".

IV. PROJECT REVIEW

**A. ARB23-006 OVIYA BLACKERBY
 124 E. MAIN STREET**

Review of proposed signage.

The applicant was not present.

Ms. Susel stated that while Mr. Boyle is not present today, he did express his concern regarding the sign. She stated that his concern was that he feels that the property owner needs a comprehensive sign plan for this multi-tenant building. Ms. Susel stated that staff had affirmed this in the past and has encouraged the property owner to do so but it has resulted in no action or response from the owner at this time.

MOTION: *In case ARB23-006, Oviya Blackerby, 124 E. Main St., Ms. Tipton moved to grant a Certificate of Appropriateness for the blade sign as presented.*

Mr. Basista stated that he would like to see the background of the sign be white so that it matched the other two signs.

Mr. Saxe agreed.

Mr. Basista stated that the rendering looks to be a bit bigger and he would also like to see it be the same size as the other signs.

Ms. Cyrus stated that the proposed sign is the same size as the sign it replaces.

Ms. Tipton questioned if she amends her motion to include a white background that the applicant can come back before the Board for another review if the approved sign is not what she wants.

Ms. Susel confirmed that this is the case.

Ms. Tipton stated that the applicant will likely come back before the Board as the yellow and pink text won't show up on a white background. She stated that she doesn't mind the black background as she feels that it blends into the dark sign board of the building and it is less obtrusive. She decided to let her motion stand.

Ms. Susel reminded the Board that because there are only 3 members present, a unanimous vote is required.

Ms. Tipton suggested continuing the case until the next meeting when the applicant can be present to respond to comments.

The Board discussed and decided to continue the case to the next meeting. They asked that the comments be relayed to the applicant.

**B. ARB23-007 UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH
 228 GOUGLER AVENUE**

Review of proposed comprehensive sign plan.

Claudia Miller, representing the Unitarian Universalist Church, explained the project. She stated that they are seeking approval for a comprehensive sign plan. She stated that the design follows the current design guidelines related to historic buildings and that the signs are historically appropriate to the site linking the classic to the modern. She stated that they have added sign #10 that is not on the original submission. She stated that sign #10 is identical to sign #8 and #9 to be placed on the west side of Hobbs Hall, which would be

facing the Central School [proposed drawings were provided]. She added that the exact wording and font size on sign #2 has not been finalized. She stated that the final rendering may vary slightly from the sample provided but the overall design and appearance are resolved and finalized. She stated that sign #10 is being provided as identification for a utility door.

Mr. Basista questioned which signs will have lighting.

Ms. Miller stated that signs #1 and #2 will have lighting.

Heidi Shaffer Bish, representing the Unitarian Universalist Church, stated that some of the other signs have been strategically placed to take advantage of nearby existing lighting.

Ms. Tipton stated that she feels that the fire exit sign feels very large and suggested that the sign be placed on the door itself rather than next to the door.

Ms. Susel noted that the fire exit sign is considered incidental/directional and is not subject to the ARB review. She stated that the comments have merit and can be made for the record.

Ms. Tipton questioned if the location of the sign #4 that is shown above the front door on the east side of the building could be at eye level next to the door on either side.

Ms. Miller stated that there isn't any room on the sides of the door due to the construction of the entryway.

Mr. Basista stated that he doesn't have any comments and that the signs look good to him. He added that they are very attractive.

Mr. Saxe stated that he doesn't have any issues with the signs either.

Public Comment

None.

MOTION: *In case ARB23-007, Unitarian Universalist Church, 228 Gougler Ave., Ms. Tipton moved to grant a Certificate of Appropriateness for the proposed comprehensive sign plan as presented including sign #10 and recommends the sizing of the fire exit door sign be reconsidered.*

Mr. Basista seconded the motion.

The motion carried 3-0.

V. MEETING SUMMARIES

MOTION: *Mr. Basista moved to approve the June 6, 2023 Meeting Summary as presented. Ms. Tipton seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0*

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: *Ms. Tipton moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Basista seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0. The meeting adjourned at 3:16 p.m.*