

## CITY OF FRANKLIN HERITAGE COMMISSION

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### FRANKLIN HERITAGE COMMISSION

**Tuesday, June 25, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.**  
**City Hall, Downstairs Blue Room**

#### **Minutes**

- ❑ **Call to Order: 6:00 pm**
- ❑ **Salute to the Flag**
- ❑ **Roll Call: Chairman Glen Feener, Colby Morrill, Paul Trudel, Mike Mullavey, & Leigh Webb. Absent: Bob Lucas**
  - ❖ **Seat Alternates: Colby Morrill seated for Jeff Whitney (recently retired); Glen Feener seated for Bob Lucas.**
- ❑ **Approval of Minutes of the 05/15/2019 Public Hearing Meeting of the Board.** Member Webb motioned for approval of minutes as written. Member Trudel seconded motion. **Minutes approved by a vote of 5-0-0.**
- ❑ **New Business:**

#### **H 19-07: New Signage for ONE (Outdoor New England), Buell Block, 376 Central Street.**

Marty Parichand, owner, stated that the proposed sign would be made of wood with the design and lettering routed out. The sign will be a two-sided blade sign. The stained wood will have a dark green logo and dark gray lettering. He plans on mounting the sign to the right of the shop's entrance at a height consistent with the Vulgar Brewery blade sign. Member Webb asked about the mounting bracket and Mr. Parichand said that they would be using two angle irons that were fished out of the river. The wooden sign would be sandwiched between the two and a black chain would be affixed to the wood of the sign. Member Trudel asked if this would be mounted perpendicular to the sidewalk and Mr. Parichand said that it would.

With no other questions from the board, Chair Feener opened the discussion to the public. Todd Workman and Annette Andreozzi asked about the size of the sign and Mr. Parichand answered that it would be 20 inches by 40 inches. Mr. Workman commented that the sign design was amazing and asked what sort of lighting was being planned. He suggested something that would both light up the sign and the sidewalk below. Mr. Parichand said that lighting was not in the immediate future.

Member Webb asked about the life expectancy of the wood sign. Mr. Parichand said with regular coats of polyurethane it should be fine for years.

With no further questions, the Chairman called for a motion which was made by Member Webb and seconded by Member Trudel. **The motion was approved as written by a vote of 5-0-0.**

**H 19-08: New Signage for IFA (Independence Financial Advisors), 402 Central Street.**

Todd Workman spoke about the two types of signage IFA would like to install. The curved canopy fascia will feature the name of the firm in gold-colored, 7-inch-high raised letters. The double-sided blade sign will feature the company logo and will measure 32 inches x 32 inches. It will be centered under the canopy over the main entrance door. Mr. Workman went on to ask about installing numbers above the doors of the various business entrances. It was agreed by Planner Lewis and the Commission that numbering did not need the Commission's approval. Mr. Workman asked if additional blade signs could be approved for Sessler's Law Firm and the former Central Street Sweet Shop. They would like to order the brackets so that all matched. Additionally, he wanted to know if the Commission would approve downward facing lighting that would illuminate the signs and the sidewalk.

Member Trudel suggested that instead of having a row of blade signs all mounted at the same height, it might be better if some of the signs were mounted above the canopy for more visibility. Mr. Workman mentioned a study on signage that they were following regarding size and placement of signs. A blade sign above the awning just wouldn't be visible to pedestrians. Chair Feener asked about the colors on the Sessler sign and was told they would be black, gold and silver. Mr. Workman said that the IFA sign will be gold, red and black.

When the discussion was opened to the public, Ms. Andreozzi asked if all the signs together would come under the maximum allowable per the building's frontage. Planner Lewis said that they were good.

Chairman Feener brought the discussion back to the board, noting that he had no problem okaying the numbering. He said he was alright with the Sessler sign, however he would prefer to see and approve any signage from a future tenant of the Sweet Shop. Member Webb echoed that condition. Mr. Workman asked again if this meeting's approval could include the numbering, and the colors and sizes of the IFA and Sessler signs. It was agreed that the approval could include those items to avoid the applicant

having to return with another application. Member Trudel motioned for approval and Member Webb seconded that motion. **The motion passed by a vote of 4-0-1 (Member Mullavey abstaining due to his affiliations with PermaCityLife).**

**Other Business:** Brief discussion on signage.

Planner Lewis mentioned that he sent everyone a revised draft policy regarding the guidelines for signage. The highlighted areas are the new additions to the previous draft. Mr. Lewis said that he will be stopping by the Franklin Studio and other shops to get a better size determination on “Open” signs so that there will be some consistency in the downtown area. He also hopes to take photographs of some of the ‘approved’ signs to use as visual examples in the signage package.

Member Webb said that he didn’t see any time limits of signage and Planner Lewis said that limits could be part of any decision or be added to the general regulations of the Commission.

Chairman Feener felt that the Commission is heading in the right direction on the issue of signage. Member Trudel suggested fixing regular meeting dates until the proposed sign changes can be presented to the legislative committee and council. Planner Lewis said regulations for signage already exists in the Commission’s regulations. This Policy Guidelines is meant to be handed out to property owners to help them. Although changes in Planning or Zoning codes and regulations need to go to the City Council, the Heritage Commission has the final say on signs in the Historic District.

**Public Comment:** None

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn at 6:27 was made by Member Webb and seconded by Member Trudel. All were in favor.