



TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK  
**Architectural Review Board**

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**Executive Board**  
*Emily Grochowski, Chairman*  
*Edward Armstrong, Vice Chairman*  
*Kate Caldarella, Secretary*  
*Donna Leake*  
*Kathryn Toolan*  
**Alternate Members**  
*Tina Rupp*  
*Andre Laferriere*

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR HYBRID MEETING**  
Monday, September 27, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

**I. REGULAR BUSINESS**

**A. Roll Call**

The Chair, Emily Grochowski, called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Members present: Emily Grochowski (in person), Edward Armstrong (virtual), Kate Caldarella (in person), Andre Laferriere (in person) seated for Donna Leake, Tina Rupp (in person, arrived at 7:09) and seated for Kathryn Toolan

Members absent: Donna Leake, Kathryn Toolan

The Chair moved to hear the agenda item “Minutes” after “New Business.”

**II. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. “Gargano Pasta & Italian Market” Application for Certificate of Zoning Compliance for Signs**

75 Main Street., Map 37/Lot 36, Central Business B-1 District

The applicant was not present.

**B. “Restaurant at 247 Main” Application for Special Exception and Certificate of Zoning Compliance for Signs**

Convert 1500 s.f. retail bakery to 42 seat indoor restaurant with 20 outdoor seats  
247 Main Street, Map 30/Lot 55, Business B-1 District, Pedestrian Node

Attorney Ed Cassella, and restaurant owner Colt Taylor presented the application. Mr. Taylor explained that the Essex restaurant will occupy the ground floor. Mr. Cassella explained that property owner Joe Wren had received a special exception permit. He now seeks modification of the special exception use to allow a restaurant on the property. They will seek to add an outdoor dining patio in the front of building. Parking spaces at the property remain the same at thirteen spaces, though as part of the special exception they will ask the Zoning Commission for approval of four additional parking spaces at abutting property to the west. The additional spaces are intended for staff.

Lighting, landscaping, trash bins, and hours of operation were also reviewed.

For signage, the existing post and panel street sign will be refaced with vinyl graphics. The panel is black aluminum composite with gold leaf lettering, double-sided at 48"x 65." The proposed wall sign is the same dimensions. Mr. Taylor stated the posts will be re-painted black.

Tina Rupp was seated for Kathryn Toolan at 7:14pm.

**MOTION** by A. Laferriere to recommend approval of **"Restaurant at 247 Main" Application for Special Exception and Certificate of Zoning Compliance for Signs** 247 Main Street, Map 30/Lot 55, Business B-1 District, Pedestrian Node; **SECONDED:** T. Rupp; **VOTING IN FAVOR:** E. Grochowski, E. Armstrong, K. Caldarella, A. Laferriere, and T. Rupp; **ABSTAINING:** None. **OPPOSED:** None. **APPROVED:** 5-0-0.

C. **"Able Planning/Saybrook Wealth Group" Application for Certificate of Zoning Compliance for Signs**

288 Main Street, Map 30/Lot 66, Central Business B-1 District

Attorney Ed Cassella presented the application. Also present was property owner Stephen Norton. Mr. Cassella presented the proposed signs: two signs at 15' each, one above the doorway of Saybrook Wealth Group, and the other above the doorway of Able Planning.

The consensus of Board members was that the Able Planning sign had too much empty white space and was not in balance with the Saybrook Wealth Group sign. Suggestions made were to shorten the length of the sign, or secondly, to separate the graphic from the letters in order to take up more white space. Mr. Norton was not in favor of the recommendations.

On the Saybrook Wealth Group sign, the recommendation was made to remove the url in order to simplify the sign and to give it more white space, and to reduce the lettering size by 5%. Mr. Norton stated he will need to check with FINRA regulations to see if removing the web address is allowed, and he did not want to reduce the size of the lettering.

E. Grochowski made a motion to continue the application.

**MOTION** by E. Grochowski to continue the application to the next meeting on October 13, 2021 **"Able Planning/Saybrook Wealth Group" Application for Certificate of Zoning Compliance for Signs** 288 Main Street, Map 30/Lot 66, Central Business B-1 District; **SECONDED:** T. Rupp; **VOTING IN FAVOR:** E. Grochowski, E. Armstrong, K. Caldarella, A. Laferriere, and T. Rupp; **ABSTAINING:** None. **OPPOSED:** None. **APPROVED:** 5-0-0.

D. **"GiGi's Hair Salon" Application for Certificate of Zoning Compliance for Signs**

235 Main Street, Map 30/Lot 57, Central Business B-1 District

The applicant, Bryan Schneider, presented the sign application. The proposed sign is matte black aluminum with embossed white letters, 11' x 30."

Mr. Schneider would like to add an awning, which is not part of this application. The Board reviewed the design and was in agreement with it. It is a proposed hardscape awning, at 15' long, with approximately 2 ft projection, and less than 3 ft high. The color will contrast with the building, possibly a silver color.

**MOTION** by E. Grochowski to recommend approval of “Gigi's Hair Salon” Application for **Certificate of Zoning Compliance for Signs** 235 Main Street, Map 30/Lot 57, Central Business B-1 District; **SECONDED:** T. Rupp; **VOTING IN FAVOR:** E. Grochowski, E. Armstrong, K. Caldarella, A. Laferriere, and T. Rupp; **ABSTAINING:** None. **OPPOSED:** None. **APPROVED:** 5-0-0.

### III. REGULAR BUSINESS

#### B. Minutes

**MOTION** to approve the meeting minutes of September 13, 2021 as presented; **MADE** by E. Grochowski; **SECONDED:** E. Armstrong; **VOTING IN FAVOR:** E. Grochowski, E. Armstrong, K. Caldarella, A. Laferriere, and T. Rupp; **ABSTAINING:** None. **OPPOSED:** None. **APPROVED:** 5-0-0.

### IV. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION** to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 p.m. to the next regular meeting scheduled for Wednesday, October 13, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor conference room, Old Saybrook Town Hall, 302 Main Street and via teleconference; **MADE** by E. Grochowski, **SECONDED:** A. Laferriere; **VOTING IN FAVOR:** E. Grochowski, E. Armstrong, K. Caldarella, T. Rupp, and A. Laferriere; **ABSTAINING:** None. **OPPOSED:** None. **APPROVED:** 5-0-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meryl Moskowitz  
Recording Clerk