



Design Review Board

472 Main Street
Acton, MA. 01720

Board of Selectmen
Acton Town Hall
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Acton, MA 01720

October 2, 2008

Re: Proposed Addition to 59 Great Road, Restaurant Bella Famiglia

Dear Selectmen,

At our October 1st meeting we met with Joe Motzi, developer and restaurateur for a new Italian restaurant in the former DeAngelis sandwich shop at 59 Great Road. He presented the architectural drawings and discussed with us his future plans to add a terrace for outdoor dining at the front of the property. He will be asking for consent from the BOS on Monday, Oct. 6 for the addition. The following are our comments on the project.

The Design Review Board supports extending the building toward the front of the property which adheres to the building siting recommendations in the DRB guidelines. We also support the future proposal to build a brick terrace in front of the addition, with a stone wall along the sidewalk. These elements will provide visual continuity with the neighboring McDonald's front terrace and wall. In addition, we support the proposed awnings on the building and suggest that the awnings and signage be carefully designed to follow the DRB guidelines.

The Design Review Board suggests on the proposed materials for the renovation be from the traditional New England palette. The drawings show EFIS (stucco) covering over the existing Mansard roof. It is our recommendation that a material such as clapboard be used as a covering, or better yet to remove the mansard structure altogether allowing for a more traditional flat storefront that awnings could be attached to. We also recommend that the new addition have a different look from the original building, similar to additions in historic buildings, and that it have clapboard siding rather than the proposed brick.

The board supports the proposal to use architectural shingles that match the roofing materials of the adjacent neighbor (McDonalds). We look forward to meeting with the proponent again once he has the site plans for the patio and landscaping.

Given the proponent's willingness to address our input and to consider a modification to the design we support the applicant's proposal. Thank you for considering our input.

Sincerely,

Holly Ben-Joseph
Design Review Board