

ARCHITECTURAL

REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING  
BEFORE THE VILLAGE OF NORTHFIELD  
ARCHITECTURAL COMMISSION

COMMISSION

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS had before the Village of Northfield Architectural Commission held remotely in compliance with the State of Illinois Executive Order 2020-32, Section 2, due to the COVID-19 crisis, on the 8th day of February, 2021, at the hour of 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

TEV BOND, Chairperson  
JOE McINERNEY  
PATRICIA MORRELL  
KATHRYN TALTY  
NANCY NAZARIAN

MEMBERS ABSENT:

BARNABY DINGES  
ANDREW BOWYER

ALSO PRESENT:

STEVE GUTIERREZ, Community Development Director  
LINNEA O'NEILL, Staff Liaison

1 CHAIRPERSON BOND: I'd like to call to order  
2 the February 8th, 2021 meeting of the Architectural  
3 Commission. My name is Tev Bond, I'm the Chair.

4 This meeting is being held remotely in  
5 accordance with the State of Illinois Executive Order  
6 2020-32 Section 2, requiring us to stay at home or place  
7 of residence. Notice to interested parties was given  
8 and they were invited to participate.

9  
10 May I have a motion to approve the  
11 meeting minutes from November 9th, 2020 meeting?

12 COMMISSIONER McINERNEY: I'll make that  
13 motion.

14 CHAIRPERSON BOND: May I have a second?

15 COMMISSIONER TALTY: I'll second.

16 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Thank you. All in favor?

17 (Chorus of ayes.)

18 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Meeting minutes passed.

19  
20 The Commissioners in attendance today are  
21 Kathryn Talty, Joe McInerney, Patty Morrell, and as I  
22 said before, I'm Tev Bond. We also have Linnea O'Neill  
23 representing the Village of Northfield.

24  
25 **1) 423 CENTRAL AVENUE - Consideration of a request for**  
26 **approval of permanent signage and landscaping for**  
27 **Bernardi Securities located at 423 Central Avenue.**  
28 **Petitioner: Ronald Bernardi**  
29 **Property Index Number: 05-19-114-001**  
30 **Project Number: 2021-0011**

31  
32 We have one agenda item tonight, 423  
33 Central Avenue, consideration of a request for approval  
34 of permanent signage and landscaping for Bernardi  
35 Securities located at 423 Central Avenue. Petitioner is  
36 Ronald Bernardi.

37 I'm not seeing it on my screen, maybe I  
38 need to go over to a different view; is Mr. Bernardi  
39 present?

40 MR. GUTIERREZ: I have enabled them to do so.  
41 I don't know --

42 CHAIRPERSON BOND: If they joined?

43 MR. GUTIERREZ: Well, they're out there  
44 somewhere. Ron, are you, can you hear us at least?  
45 Let's see.

46 CHAIRPERSON BOND: So, I have written here  
47 that we might have Ronald Bernardi, Thomas Swarthout,  
48 and Leslie Ross joining, but right now --

49 MR. GUTIERREZ: Let me let Tom, I'm sorry --  
50 and Leslie Rose did you say?

51 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Oh, here we go.

52 MR. GUTIERREZ: Did you say Leslie Rose?

1 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Leslie Ross.  
2 MR. GUTIERREZ: Ross, okay. I assume that's  
3 this person.  
4 MS. O'NEILL: We see Elizabeth Bernardi and  
5 Tom Swarthout on our screen, their names, and they're  
6 both muted. Oh, and there's Leslie, and all three of  
7 them are muted.  
8 CHAIRPERSON BOND: So, I think whoever wants  
9 to speak on behalf of the, or if all three are going to  
10 speak, I can potentially swear them in at the same time.  
11 Otherwise, we can start with whoever wants to present.  
12 We have a little bit of silence right now.  
13 MR. GUTIERREZ: I'm asking them to unmute,  
14 but --  
15 MR. SWARTHOUT: I think I'm unmuted.  
16 MR. GUTIERREZ: Oh, there's Tom.  
17 MRS. BERNARDI: I'm unmuted.  
18 MR. SWARTHOUT: I don't know if you can see  
19 me. I don't know if I'm on the screen or not.  
20 CHAIRPERSON BOND: No, we can just see your,  
21 like --  
22 MS. O'NEILL: E-mail address.  
23 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Yes, the address.  
24 MRS. BERNARDI: For some reason, it says that  
25 the host has stopped my video. I don't know why it says  
26 that.  
27 MR. SWARTHOUT: And I've talked to Mr.  
28 Bernardi on this phone.  
29 MR. GUTIERREZ: Let me take care of that here.  
30 CHAIRPERSON BOND: And Nancy Nazarian just  
31 joined us, she is one of our Commissioners. Oh, let's  
32 see.  
33 MRS. BERNARDI: I don't know why it says my  
34 video won't start.  
35 MR. GUTIERREZ: Let's see.  
36 MR. SWARTHOUT: Ms. Chairman, Mr. Bernardi  
37 just phoned me and said that he needs to be unmuted, the  
38 host needs to unmute him.  
39 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Okay, this is one of our  
40 first times we've had some technical difficulties. So,  
41 we'll just give them a couple of minutes, right, to try  
42 to sort them out.  
43 MRS. BERNARDI: Yes, unmuted. Can you hear us  
44 now? Bernardi?  
45 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Yes, I can hear you. We  
46 can't see you, but we can hear you.  
47 MRS. BERNARDI: Okay, good. Then here is Ron.  
48 MR. BERNARDI: I put a tuxedo on for you  
49 tonight. Ron and Beth Bernardi are here.  
50 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Okay, good.  
51 MR. SWARTHOUT: Can you hear me, Ron? Tom is  
52 here as well.

1 MR. BERNARDI: Yes, Tom. Leslie, are you  
2 there?  
3 MS. ROSE: Leslie Rose, yes, I'm here.  
4 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Okay, so we can hear.  
5 MR. GUTIERREZ: I apologize, folks, but my  
6 controls say that you should be able to turn your videos  
7 on.  
8 MRS. BERNARDI: Yes, it's not letting me.  
9 That's all right, I had my ball gown on, too.  
10 CHAIRPERSON BOND: So, Linnea, do you think it  
11 is okay if we proceed without the visual?  
12 MS. O'NEILL: Yes.  
13 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Okay.  
14 MR. GUTIERREZ: Well, I think they should be  
15 able to, or I certainly can share the screen with the  
16 proposed sign if you'd like.  
17 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Okay, all right.  
18 MR. GUTIERREZ: Did that --  
19 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Yes, please. So, who is,  
20 there we go. Who is going to be presenting please? Is  
21 it Mr. Bernardi?  
22 MR. BERNARDI: So, yes, this is Ron Bernardi.  
23 I just thank you --  
24 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Okay, and I'm sorry, I have  
25 to swear you in.  
26 MR. BERNARDI: Okay.  
27 (Witness sworn.)  
28 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Please state your name.  
29 MR. BERNARDI: My name is Ronald Bernardi.  
30 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Thank you. The floor is  
31 yours.  
32 MR. BERNARDI: So, Leslie Rose from Manfredini  
33 Landscaping is present and can answer specific questions  
34 you have. I just want to thank, number one, the Village  
35 of Northfield, the Staff. Linnea and Steve have just  
36 been fabulous from the very beginning. We are, the  
37 construction interior and exterior is completed, and  
38 we're using the building currently as a remote backup  
39 location for our COVID protocol. We expect to have the  
40 staff in there sometime in Q-2.  
41 So, the last, this final request is for  
42 this plan you have in front of you and the signage.  
43 Leslie can answer any specific questions you have and  
44 give you the full-blown presentation. Does she need to  
45 be sworn in as well then?  
46 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Yes. So, Leslie, are you,  
47 can you hear me?  
48 MS. ROSE: Yes, I can.  
49 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Okay, thank you.  
50 (Witness sworn.)  
51 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Please state your name.  
52 MS. ROSE: Leslie Rose.

1 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Thank you very much.  
2 Perhaps we should just start with the signage and then  
3 we can go to landscaping.  
4 MR. BERNARDI: Okay, why don't you address  
5 your questions of the signage to me then, Ron Bernardi?  
6 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Okay, so Commissioners,  
7 does anyone have a specific question about the package  
8 that you received? I think that Steve right now has our  
9 sheet that is showing the monument sign. There's two  
10 different colors on it from what I understand. There is  
11 the burgundy, which Bernardi is in burgundy, is that  
12 correct?  
13 MR. BERNARDI: Yes.  
14 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Okay, and Securities is  
15 which color? Where is that? Where is that written,  
16 which color?  
17 MR. BERNARDI: It is set in a gray, the color  
18 scheme is consistent with our current logo, our  
19 letterhead.  
20 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Okay, and Municipal Bond  
21 Specialists is in, which color is that, too, please? Is  
22 that burgundy?  
23 MR. BERNARDI: That is in gray.  
24 CHAIRPERSON BOND: It's in gray. So, the only  
25 thing that is burgundy is the name Bernardi?  
26 MR. BERNARDI: Correct.  
27 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Okay, thank you. That  
28 would hold true for the wall sign above the door? The  
29 only thing that is burgundy is the name Bernardi?  
30 Everything else is the same color?  
31 MRS. BERNARDI: Ron?  
32 MR. BERNARDI: Yes, I just ran out here.  
33 MRS. BERNARDI: You're talking to someone who  
34 is a little color blind.  
35 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Okay, so Mrs. Rose, can you  
36 answer that?  
37 MS. ROSE: I'm sorry, I'm not familiar with  
38 the color.  
39 MR. BERNARDI: Yes, so Municipal Bonds is in  
40 the same color as Securities. I'm sorry.  
41 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Okay, not a problem, not a  
42 problem. I know this is a little bit unusual for the  
43 presentation, right, to be virtual.  
44 COMMISSIONER NAZARIAN: Can I just ask a quick  
45 question? So, the dark gray that's in the background of  
46 the existing sign, that dark gray is going to continue?  
47 You're just going to replace, so it's no longer going to  
48 say Chicago Academic Tutoring and Test Prep, it's going  
49 to have this lettering that you have off to the left of  
50 the screen, is that correct?  
51 MR. BERNARDI: That is correct.  
52 CHAIRPERSON BOND: So, have you accounted for

1 if there is shadowing left over once you remove the  
2 current signage? Have you had a discussion with your  
3 sign company about that?  
4 MR. BERNARDI: I honestly don't know. We have  
5 an interior decorator that's had the, he's having the  
6 conversations with the sign company. What are you  
7 referencing when you're saying shadowing?  
8 MR. SWARTHOUT: Ron, let me jump in. This is  
9 Tom Swarthout.  
10 CHAIRPERSON BOND: I'm sorry, Tom, may I swear  
11 you in please?  
12 MR. SWARTHOUT: Yes, you may, ma'am.  
13 (Witness sworn.)  
14 CHAIRPERSON BOND: If you could please restate  
15 your name?  
16 MR. SWARTHOUT: My name is Tom Swarthout.  
17 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Thank you very much. Go  
18 ahead.  
19 MR. SWARTHOUT: Thank you, Madam Chairman. I  
20 believe that the entire signage will be replaced. I  
21 think it's just, as I understand it, it's a little  
22 problematic. So, the way they affix the lettering,  
23 which will be raised, would cause shadowing as someone  
24 mentioned earlier. So, whether it's the former glue or  
25 actually the grommets that hold the lettering, so the  
26 entire sign is going to be replaced except for the posts  
27 that affix the monument sign.  
28 COMMISSIONER NAZARIAN: So, what color is the  
29 background? I guess I want to be clear on that.  
30 MR. SWARTHOUT: I believe that's going to be  
31 the same color that exists, ma'am. That matches some of  
32 the extruded alumina that is currently on the building.  
33 So, if you look at the new front doors and some of the  
34 new windows that were installed, that's the same  
35 aluminum or close to the same aluminum coloring that  
36 will be on that signage.  
37 COMMISSIONER NAZARIAN: Have you, see, the  
38 picture that we have in the diagram to the left doesn't  
39 show that color. So, I'm not sure how those, how that  
40 lettering stands out against such a dark background. I  
41 guess that's my concern. I can't really visualize that.  
42 MR. BERNARDI: Well, and I apologize here. On  
43 the right to the sign, it has a descriptor of satin  
44 clear polyurethane overlay finish.  
45 COMMISSIONER NAZARIAN: Right.  
46 MR. BERNARDI: Mounted to the existing  
47 cabinet. Does that not give you the information you're  
48 asking about?  
49 COMMISSIONER NAZARIAN: Not really.  
50 CHAIRPERSON BOND: She's asking for a color,  
51 is this correct?  
52 COMMISSIONER NAZARIAN: Yes. This has, you've

1 got dark lettering on a dark background, and I don't  
2 know how that's going to stand out because I can't  
3 visualize it myself without seeing a picture of it, or a  
4 mockup even.

5 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Correct. So, whoever  
6 prepared the document for you, the aspect of this that  
7 they forgot was to give a color to your background so  
8 that we could see whether or not the lettering will  
9 blend or if you'll be able to read it, because we don't  
10 want you to spend all this money on your signage and  
11 then you can't read it, correct?

12 COMMISSIONER NAZARIAN: Yes.

13 MR. BERNARDI: Yes, of course.

14 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Yes, so this has happened  
15 before where there was a sign that appeared that we had  
16 all the information, but then when it was complete it  
17 was not as legible and they came back and redid it. So,  
18 we try our best not to have those scenarios happen  
19 again, for your benefit.

20 So, unfortunately, whoever prepared your  
21 document kind of neglected to put that background color  
22 on there for you to see and for us to see.

23 MR. BERNARDI: Okay, so your questions are  
24 background color of the sign?

25 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Yes.

26 MR. BERNARDI: Correct?

27 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Yes, and to have an image  
28 of it. So, whatever that color is, if it's not white,  
29 it needs to be on your presentation, and then you'll be  
30 able to see and we'll be able to see, Commissioner  
31 Nazarian had an excellent point, whether or not Bernardi  
32 Securities will be visible or if it's going to blend  
33 into your background. I think you would probably be  
34 disappointed with that because you really want people to  
35 be able to read.

36 MR. BERNARDI: Sure.

37 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Yes, right?

38 MR. BERNARDI: Okay, so the background color  
39 of the sign, also the question that was asked earlier  
40 which I candidly do not know is the existing sign being  
41 replaced which I believe it is, the existing monument,  
42 right?

43 CHAIRPERSON BOND: It appears to me like  
44 you're using the cabinet of the sign. Maybe they're  
45 planning on repainting it or surfacing it, but just to  
46 be clear about whether or not you're reusing what's  
47 there, and then what color that would be.

48 COMMISSIONER McINERNEY: I mean, I see on the,  
49 under the next part, it says remodel existing D face  
50 display, remove center pole display, bring in the shop,  
51 save and refinish to match existing color. So, that's,  
52 from reading that, that's my assumption is that they're

1 going to take it down and refinish it.  
2 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Right, right.  
3 COMMISSIONER McINERNEY: My question is we  
4 have really dark colors on a, you know, dark gray thing.  
5 Is anyone actually going to be able to see it?  
6 COMMISSIONER NAZARIAN: Right. That was my  
7 concern, too.  
8 COMMISSIONER McINERNEY: Yes.  
9 COMMISSIONER NAZARIAN: Right.  
10 MS. O'NEILL: The color is silver, it's a  
11 satin polyurethane over aluminum letters. So, in  
12 essence, it would look just like, the original sign to  
13 the right; Tutoring and Tests which are aluminum, too.  
14 And the background is the same color as the sign to the  
15 right.  
16 COMMISSIONER McINERNEY: I guess I just don't  
17 understand. I'm having trouble seeing, I mean, I have  
18 something in front of me that's --  
19 MS. O'NEILL: Darker than aluminum.  
20 COMMISSIONER McINERNEY: Yes, that's dark and  
21 green, so I don't like --  
22 COMMISSIONER NAZARIAN: Right.  
23 CHAIRPERSON BOND: So, I think what would be  
24 advantageous is to have the color samples at the Village  
25 so that we can stop by and see them, or Linnea, you have  
26 a very clear idea of what those are so that we're not  
27 guessing at it, correct?  
28 MS. O'NEILL: Okay, yes.  
29 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Right.  
30 MR. BERNARDI: Okay, so Linnea, can I put  
31 either the signage person or the decorator that's  
32 working with the signage company in touch with you so  
33 that you can articulate clearly to them what it is that  
34 is going to be needed? I have notes here; I believe I  
35 understand it, but can I impose upon you for that?  
36 MS. O'NEILL: That would be fine, yes.  
37 MR. BERNARDI: Okay, thank you.  
38 MR. SWARTHOUT: And Ron, I would jump in here,  
39 this is Tom again, I will just ask the Commission if  
40 anybody has any commentary as related to the size of the  
41 lettering itself. If not, I think that maybe one could  
42 move to approve that, and certainly the burgundy is the  
43 color of choice when going over to the Bernardi's house  
44 when we drank. So, I would hope that maybe the  
45 Commission could at least approve the typeset and the  
46 size of the lettering itself, and then maybe more  
47 clarity to the background would be given.  
48 COMMISSIONER NAZARIAN: Can I ask related to  
49 that? The existing lettering where it says, in  
50 particular where it says Tutoring and Test Prep, what's  
51 the size of that as compared to the size of the  
52 lettering that you have in your proposal? Like is it

1 the same size? Is it smaller, is it bigger?  
2 MR. BERNARDI: I have no idea. The specs here  
3 cite the size of the lettering we want, what we're  
4 requesting, but I have no idea. I mean --  
5 MR. SWARTHOUT: It certainly appears smaller.  
6 Ron's lettering certainly appears smaller than the  
7 Chicago Academic Tutoring.  
8 MR. BERNARDI: Yes. The Chicago Academic  
9 lettering is much larger than the 4.5-inch, because I've  
10 been by the sign many times, you know, I've walked by  
11 that sign many times, the Chicago Academic lettering is  
12 larger than the Bernardi Securities. What is that, 4.5  
13 inches I believe is what we're requesting. The  
14 Tutoring, I don't honestly know.  
15 COMMISSIONER NAZARIAN: Again, my question was  
16 really directed at if there's a sign there, is anybody  
17 going to be able to read it? Not just with the coloring  
18 but with the size of it, too. Sometimes you really have  
19 to scope it out. But, you know, if Chicago Academic is  
20 larger than what you have as Bernardi Securities, I  
21 don't really have a problem with that. It should be  
22 large enough.  
23 But again, I guess I wanted to see a  
24 comparison, so I had in my mind how large this was going  
25 to be. You don't want something that's so large that  
26 it's disconcerting but so small that you can't read it  
27 and you have to drive by multiple times.  
28 MR. BERNARDI: Yes, I mean, the Chicago  
29 Academic print is larger than the Bernardi Securities  
30 which is the largest type, you know, that we're  
31 requesting. But the specificity, I mean, I just, I  
32 don't honestly know.  
33 COMMISSIONER NAZARIAN: Okay.  
34 MR. BERNARDI: I can ask IDP, our decorator  
35 that's working with the sign company to, you know,  
36 prepare that comparison for you as well. If that's what  
37 you're asking for, correct?  
38 COMMISSIONER NAZARIAN: Yes. Yes, I am.  
39 CHAIRPERSON BOND: So, the Bernardi Securities  
40 I agree, at four, 4.5 inches is not very tall really for  
41 a monument sign, and it is not going to be too large. I  
42 understand if you have some concern about the other  
43 lettering being a little bit small, but I think the main  
44 goal here is for Bernardi Securities to be visible.  
45 Then as you get closer to the sign, if you're a  
46 pedestrian you're walking, if you're slowing down to  
47 turn in, you then could perhaps read clearer the  
48 Municipal Bond Specialists.  
49 MR. BERNARDI: Yes, I understand.  
50 MRS. BERNARDI: So, you're looking for a color  
51 rendition of the sign and the size specifications of the  
52 lettering.

1                   COMMISSIONER NAZARIAN: As compared to what  
2 currently exists so that we have a visual that we can go  
3 with, that we can understand and compare, so we know if  
4 it's large enough. If it's too small, maybe it needs to  
5 be bigger, I don't know.

6                   MR. BERNARDI: Okay, all right.

7                   CHAIRPERSON BOND: Well, I think they're going  
8 to have some constraints on size because --

9                   COMMISSIONER NAZARIAN: Sure.

10                  CHAIRPERSON BOND: The length, you know, you  
11 can only have it so tall with the length of Bernardi  
12 Securities without that font becoming odd, right?

13                  COMMISSIONER TALTY: Well, and assuming that  
14 the drawing is to scale, I mean, I think it reads pretty  
15 clearly as far as I'm concerned. But I agree on the  
16 color, I mean, I think if the color is dark and then  
17 burgundy is dark, you're going to have an issue. I  
18 think it's beneficial to have the street number on the  
19 sign.

20                  CHAIRPERSON BOND: I don't know if it's  
21 necessary for you to have the Incorporated and the LLC  
22 at the end of it. I'm assuming that was just more of a  
23 design decision; or, is that because that's what's on  
24 your letterhead and your logos?

25                  MR. BERNARDI: It's the latter, it's on the  
26 logo.

27                  CHAIRPERSON BOND: Okay, right.

28                  MR. BERNARDI: The verticality of an LLC is a  
29 design creation but it's, we're Bernardi Securities,  
30 Inc., that's the address.

31                  CHAIRPERSON BOND: Right, right.  
32 Commissioners, do you have any more questions regarding  
33 the monument sign?

34                  MR. BERNARDI: Okay, so the protocol for this  
35 is we go back to the drawing board if you will, re-  
36 submit the information, the documents you're requesting,  
37 and then you have to reconvene, what, next month to  
38 consider this part of our request? Is that how it goes?

39                  CHAIRPERSON BOND: Right, it's a continuance,  
40 but we will go ahead and discuss your sign above your  
41 door and the landscaping, because the more that we are  
42 in agreement, then the next time that you come to us, we  
43 can be concise, and then it's not like next time you  
44 come, oh, we didn't discuss this and now you have to  
45 come back again. So, we would like to be as accurate as  
46 we can to make sure the next time you come back, that it  
47 is a final decision and you can move forward.

48                  MR. BERNARDI: So, it's one package, landscape  
49 plan, monument sign, signage over the door?

50                  CHAIRPERSON BOND: We can approve the  
51 landscape plan tonight, but the signage, well, the  
52 monument sign is definitely coming back to us, and then

1 the signage over the door we can discuss now; however,  
2 we still don't have the colors.  
3 MR. BERNARDI: Right.  
4 CHAIRPERSON BOND: So, I think that the  
5 signage needs to stay together.  
6 MR. BERNARDI: No, right, I totally agree.  
7 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Then we'll have the colors  
8 finalized and then we should be able to move forward.  
9 MR. BERNARDI: Yes, that makes sense. That  
10 makes sense.  
11 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Okay. Okay, so the signage  
12 over the door, do we have any questions about that,  
13 Commissioners? It's seven inches in height, pretty  
14 straight-forward.  
15 COMMISSIONER TALTY: I think it looks nice.  
16 COMMISSIONER McINERNEY: Yes, very nice.  
17 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Okay, right.  
18 COMMISSIONER MORRELL: Yes.  
19 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Then Mrs. Rose, if you are  
20 still active, would you like to discuss the landscaping?  
21 MS. ROSE: Sure. I'm here. Can you hear me?  
22 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Yes, thank you.  
23 MS. ROSE: Well, as you can see from that  
24 picture, the existing landscaping was a bit dated, and  
25 so we have designed a more welcoming entry. The  
26 entrance also changed from the north side of the  
27 building, now it's on the west obviously. So, we wanted  
28 a very gracious entry, both from the sidewalk and also  
29 the parking area.  
30 So, there is an 18-inch tall seat wall  
31 framing the courtyard. That includes the two-inch  
32 bluestone cap on the top. Then we've cut the  
33 landscaping low, so it won't interfere with that  
34 monument sign. We tried to put in plants that will,  
35 those that are exposed to potential road salt which are  
36 those, the junipers are a little tougher, the boxwood  
37 would be protected from any drift of road salt by that  
38 brick seat wall.  
39 We wanted to do a combination of formal  
40 but also sort of that Midwest aesthetic of ornamental  
41 grasses as well, which is why we chose the clumber grass  
42 that's in there. Then there are pops of seasonal color.  
43 The urns can obviously have spring, summer, fall and  
44 winter displays in them, and then we have some  
45 perennials framing the bluestone entry as well.  
46 So, let me know if you have any  
47 questions.  
48 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Commissioner Talty, do you  
49 have any feedback on the landscaping?  
50 COMMISSIONER TALTY: I think it looks fine.  
51 My only suggestion would be to reconsider using burning  
52 bush. I'm just, I'm getting, you know, so many other

1 municipalities that are kind of requesting we don't use  
2 that plant anymore because more and more groups are  
3 considering it an invasive species. So, even though I  
4 think in this context they're not really in danger of  
5 migrating anywhere, I would just suggest potentially  
6 selecting something else. Maybe a viburnum or something  
7 that gives you the color that you're going for, but just  
8 a different variety of plant.

9 MS. ROSE: The reason we chose that is that  
10 there's a very narrow space from the end of the sign to  
11 the building. It's about 2.5 feet. While it's not  
12 going to be an espalier form attached to the brick, it  
13 will be a quasi-espalier. Burning bush lend themselves  
14 well to a very narrow, thin pruning, whereas a viburnum  
15 would not do that. So, you know how you often see them  
16 trained on a frame? We can keep that pruned so it gives  
17 you the vertical aspect against the wall, but we can  
18 also keep it pruned so it fills that narrow space.

19 COMMISSIONER TALTY: Well, it's just a  
20 recommendation.

21 MS. ROSE: Okay.

22 COMMISSIONER TALTY: We're trying to, you  
23 know, trying to avoid using that plant.

24 CHAIRPERSON BOND: You're correct there with  
25 your statement that there is not really anywhere for it  
26 to go to, especially if they keep that pruned.

27 COMMISSIONER TALTY: I think in urban areas,  
28 you have less of that risk.

29 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Right.

30 COMMISSIONER TALTY: I think it's a  
31 combination of it being invasive and probably overused,  
32 you know, that the industry is kind of recommending not  
33 using it as often. So, like I said, it's just a  
34 suggestion.

35 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Okay, but we are finding it  
36 acceptable if they choose to go forward with it,  
37 correct? It's just a suggestion for them to consider?

38 COMMISSIONER TALTY: Yes.

39 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Okay, thank you.

40 Do any other Commissioners have feedback  
41 on the landscaping?

42 COMMISSIONER MORRELL: No, I like it.

43 COMMISSIONER McINERNEY: It fits.

44 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Yes.

45 COMMISSIONER NAZARIAN: I like it, too.

46 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Okay, any additional  
47 questions or comments on the proposal in general?

48 (No response.)

49 CHAIRPERSON BOND: So, Linnea, I think that we  
50 will split this for a motion to pass the landscaping and  
51 a continuance for the signage. Does that sound  
52 acceptable? Linnea?

1 MS. O'NEILL: Yes, that's okay.  
2 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Okay, so --  
3 MR. GUTIERREZ: Chairman Bond?  
4 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Yes.  
5 MR. GUTIERREZ: We do have somebody in the  
6 audience who I don't recognize their name. If you don't  
7 mind, I'd like to ask them if they wish to speak.  
8 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Yes, thank you very much.  
9 MR. GUTIERREZ: Please raise your hand on the  
10 Zoom hand raising icon.  
11 (No response.)  
12 MR. GUTIERREZ: Okay, they're not raising  
13 their hand, so I assume that they do not wish to speak.  
14 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Okay, so we don't have  
15 anyone in the queue or the audience that would like to  
16 make additional comments? No?  
17 MR. GUTIERREZ: No one is raising their hand.  
18 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Okay. All right, so may I  
19 have a motion to approve the landscaping for 423 Central  
20 Avenue?  
21 Linnea, I'm assuming we need to do this  
22 separately, make the motion to approve and the  
23 continuance separate?  
24 MS. O'NEILL: Correct, two motions.  
25 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Right, yes. May I have a  
26 motion to approve the landscaping for 423 Central  
27 Avenue?  
28 COMMISSIONER MORRELL: I'll move.  
29 COMMISSIONER NAZARIAN: I second.  
30 CHAIRPERSON BOND: All in favor? Oh, I'm  
31 sorry, we have to do a roll call of votes. So, roll  
32 call vote.  
33 Kathryn Talty.  
34 COMMISSIONER TALTY: Yes.  
35 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Joe McInerney.  
36 COMMISSIONER McINERNEY: Yes.  
37 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Patty Morrell.  
38 COMMISSIONER MORRELL: Yes.  
39 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Nancy Nazarian.  
40 COMMISSIONER NAZARIAN: Yes.  
41 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Excellent.  
42 Congratulations, that passes.  
43 MR. BERNARDI: Thank you very much.  
44 CHAIRPERSON BOND: May I have a motion to  
45 continue the proposal for the two-sided sign face on the  
46 existing ground sign and the wall sign for 423 Central  
47 Avenue?  
48 COMMISSIONER NAZARIAN: So moved.  
49 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Kathryn Talty? Oh, may I  
50 have a second? I'm sorry, may I have a second?  
51 COMMISSIONER TALTY: I'll second.  
52 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Okay, Kathryn Talty.

1 COMMISSIONER TALTY: Yes.  
2 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Joe McInerney.  
3 COMMISSIONER McINERNEY: Yes.  
4 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Patty Morrell.  
5 COMMISSIONER MORRELL: Yes.  
6 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Nancy Nazarian.  
7 COMMISSIONER NAZARIAN: Yes.  
8 CHAIRPERSON BOND: So, that is a continuance.  
9 If you could please come back with the colors that will  
10 be used, the background that will be used, and an image  
11 that shows on your monument sign your lettering on the  
12 correct color on the monument sign. That would be  
13 fantastic, and we will see you at our March -- Linnea,  
14 do you know that date?  
15 MS. O'NEILL: It should March 8th.  
16 CHAIRPERSON BOND: March what?  
17 MS. O'NEILL: 8th.  
18 CHAIRPERSON BOND: March 8th meeting, correct.  
19 If you have any questions, of course you can reach out  
20 to Linnea O'Neill.  
21 MR. BERNARDI: Great. All right, thank you  
22 very much, Committee Members. Appreciate it. We will  
23 see you next month.  
24 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Good night. May have a  
25 motion to adjourn the meeting?  
26 COMMISSIONER McINERNEY: I'll make that  
27 motion.  
28 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Second?  
29 COMMISSIONER MORRELL: Second.  
30 CHAIRPERSON BOND: All in favor?  
31 (Chorus of ayes.)  
32 CHAIRPERSON BOND: Meeting adjourned.  
33 (Whereupon, at 7:35 p.m., the above  
34 meeting was adjourned.)  
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37 APPROVED 3/8/21  
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