

MINUTES OF THE  
GATLINBURG ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN REVIEW BOARD  
March 26, 2015  
THURSDAY, 1:30 P.M., CITY HALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ken Webster  
Mike Anderson  
Steve Reilly  
Dan Booth  
Chris Johnson

MEMBERS ABSENT

Tim Heinrich  
Hannah Helton

OTHERS PRESENT

Cynthia Yoarick  
Carol Muszik

Staff Representatives: David Ball, City Planner  
Diane Townsend, Executive Secretary

Chairman Ken Webster called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. The minutes, of the, March 12, 2015, meeting were unanimously approved after a correction was made to item 6 (b) by staff after a motion by Mr. Steve Reilly and a second by Mrs. Chris Johnson.

Staff Report

Petitions and Communications from the Public

Old Business

New Business

**a) Review and consideration for proposed signage for “Thistle Dew,” located at 600 Glades Road, Suites 7 and 8, requested by Cynthia Yoarick.**

Staff presented the request for a business wall sign. Staff stated that the sign is painted on wood with rope lighting as the border. Staff stated that the sign will be placed on the column and railing and will not block the windows. The Board inquired about the dimensions of the sign. Staff stated the sign is approximately 57 X 37½. After further discussion, Mrs. Chris Johnson made the motion to approve as presented. The motion passed unanimously after a second by Mr. Steve Reilly.

**b) Review and consideration for proposed signage for “Zip Gatlinburg Tree Trek Adventures,” located at 125 Historic Nature Trail, requested by Carol Muszik.**

Staff presented the request for a projecting sign face replacement. Staff stated that the sign is made of a vinyl screen print with no lighting and will replace the existing sign. The Board inquired about the material of the sign. Mrs. Carol Muszik was present and stated that the vinyl was placed over a wood panel. After further discussion, Mr. Michael Anderson made the motion to approve as presented. The motion passed unanimously after a second by Mr. Steve Reilly.

**c) Aesthetic review and consideration for a foreign ornate object for “Gatlinburg Ziplines, Tree Trek Adventures,” located at 222 Savage Gardens Road, requested by Carol Muszik.**

Staff presented the request for a foreign ornate object. Staff stated that the applicant has installed a yellow corvette in a tree, as depicted in the pictures. Mrs. Carol Muszik was present and gave

## Environmental Design Review Board Minutes

March 26, 2015

Page 2

an overview of the object. Mrs. Muszik explained that the corvette is an element of the course and is located 400 feet from the Parkway, and 100 feet from Savage Gardens Road. Mrs. Muszik further stated that there is no signage on the vehicle and therefore wasn't sure why the item was required to be reviewed by the Board. Mrs. Muszik stated that her business has doubled since the car was placed in the trees and that customers love to have their picture made in the car, as depicted on her website and brochures. Mrs. Muszik added that the car was not placed in the tree to attract people to her business but to offer something different than other zipline courses. Mrs. Muszik added that other courses include elements such as gondolas, barrels, and kayaks. Mrs. Muszik also stated that she bought the car from "Iappa Unique Items," had it painted yellow in a body shop, and paid \$50,000 to have it hoisted up and tied to the trees with cables. Mrs. Muszik added that other elements exist at the course such as snowboards, picnic tables, etc. but cannot be seen due to the location of the items within the course. The Board asked if any of the trees had been cut to expose the vehicle from Parkway. Mrs. Muszik replied that no trees had been cut since the initial development had occurred several years ago. The Board asked how long the car had been in the tree. Mrs. Muszik stated 5 ½ months or since November of 2014. Mrs. Muszik then asked what the difference is between her request and the cars at "Star Cars Museum," the dinosaur at "Ripley's," the rocking horse at "The Shooting Gallery," or the yellow boat at N.O.C.

Mr. Dan Booth stated that he had been questioned by a member of the public as to the Board's approval of the automobile and was surprised to discover the car had been installed in the trees. Mr. Booth voiced concerns over the placement of the car and opined that he believed the car to be inconsistent with the intent of the Architectural Design Guidelines. Mr. Booth further opined that the placement of the car in the trees was inappropriate and detrimental to natural surroundings and beauty of the hillside area. Mr. Booth stated that he felt that the car in the trees was much different than placing objects in the developed areas of the commercial district. The Board discussed the color of the car and other elements located at the site. Mrs. Muszik replied that no one wants to have their picture made in a brown or green corvette.

Staff gave a brief explanation as to the classification of the object as a "foreign ornate object" which requires a review by the Board. For clarity purposes, Staff then read the section of the Zoning Ordinance that defines said objects along with parameters established by the Ordinance that the Board must consider in the review process.

After a lengthy discussion, Mr. Michael Anderson made a motion to table the request until the Board can go on site to view the object. Mrs. Muszik asked the Board if they could wait to review the item until April 26, 2015, since she will be out of town for the April 9th meeting. The motion passed unanimously after a second by Mr. Steve Reilly.

Unscheduled Items

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 2:10 p.m., after a motion by Mr. Steve Reilly and a second by Mr. Dan Booth.