

VILLAGE DISTRICT  
DESIGN COMMITTEE  
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TOWN HALL ANNEX  
238 Danbury Road  
Wilton, Connecticut 06897

Michael Bilby  
Kevin Quinlan, AIA  
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Rose Marie Verrilli  
John Weiss

## Village District Design Committee Meeting Minutes December 22, 2009

**PRESENT:** Michael Bilby, Kevin Quinlan, Rob Sanders, Rosemarie Verrilli and John Weiss and Town Planner Robert Nerney

**ALSO PRESENT:** Joseph Cugno, AIA of Cugno Architecture, LLC (representing Kim and Song Properties, LLC) and William Brennan, First Selectman and Richard Vail, AIA of Faesy and Smith (representing the Town of Wilton).

The meeting convened at 3:30 p.m. Mr. Nerney welcomed the committee members and introduced the applicants for the record. He noted that the meeting would be recorded and summary minutes would be made available within seven days pursuant to Connecticut state law.

### **Town of Wilton, (owner/applicant), Northwest Intersection of Center Street and Old Ridgefield Road, proposed veteran's memorial green and flagpole project.**

The Committee first reviewed the application of the Town of Wilton seeking to establish a memorial green and flagpole to honor Wilton's fallen war heroes. Mr. Quinlan recused himself due to a conflict of interest.

First Selectman William Brennan provided a project overview. He noted that the idea for the memorial evolved following a determination that an adjacent distressed maple tree needed to be removed. Mr. Brennan stated that funding for the project would be generated through private donations and in-kind labor services.

Discussion ensued concerning the design of the project. Mr. Brennan stated that the memorial would consist of several granite monument stones representing the various wars and conflicts that have occurred throughout American history. Each stone would be of varying height and arranged in an elliptical pattern. Mr. Brennan explained that the name of each Wilton resident killed in service would be engraved on the respective monument stone.

Mr. Brennan stated that evergreen shrubbery of appropriate height would be planted behind the monument so as to create a backdrop. The project would also include a traditional 40' colonial-style flagpole. Mr. Brennan noted that the flagpole would be illuminated by means of three floodlights; however, other features of the memorial green would remain non-illuminated.

Mr. Sanders asked whether the design would interfere with future road widening or intersection reconfiguration plans. Mr. Brennan indicated that the memorial would be positioned away from the road in order to avoid potential conflict. Mr. Bilby asked whether the monument area could be expanded recognizing the likelihood of future conflicts. Mr. Vail stated that the monument stones are designed to be repositioned as need. Mr. Weiss questioned the exclusive use of evergreen trees and noted that the inclusion of deciduous trees, such as birch trees, could add greater texture and interest.

The committee concluded that a comprehensive landscape plan, integrated with the planned hardscape improvements, needed to be developed. Mr. Brennan agreed to pursue the suggested changes and return to the committee at a later date.

**Kim and Song, LLC (owner), Joseph Cugno, AIA (applicant), 151 Old Ridgefield Road, proposed signage plan for retail/office building.**

The Village District Design Committee next reviewed the application of Kim and Song, LLC involving an existing retail/office building located at 151 Old Ridgefield Road. Architect Joseph Cugno explained that the purpose of the application was to seek approval for wall signage and a kiosk sign located near the building's southeast entry. Mr. Cugno explained that wall signage would be placed on the building's east and west elevations, noting that efforts were made to reduce the size of sign lettering. Mr. Cugno stated that the requested kiosk sign was intended to address the needs of second level tenants.

The committee expressed concerns regarding the proposed kiosk sign, opining that kiosk signs are not appropriate for buildings or sites of this nature. Mr. Quinlan expressed concern regarding the potential for long term damage to the building façade resulting from the changing of lettering. It was suggested the applicant explore the option of installing projecting signage, which could be altered so as to accommodate changes in tenancy.

The committee recommended that signage be limited to either wall or projecting signs restricted to the architectural band located between the first and second level. The committee also recommended that kiosk signage not be used and the alternative use of projecting signage, if pursued by the applicant, be reviewed by the committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Nerney  
Town Planner

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