

Minutes of a Meeting of  
ARCHITECTURAL BOARD OF REVIEW  
Meeting  
Held May 11, 2022

Members Present: Mark Chernisky, Councilman Michael Greco, Greg Ernst, Tom Sedlak

Excused: Kevin Krol

Others: Eric Tuck-Macalla (Building Director), Lauren Oley (Secretary)

Audience: Councilwoman Lydia DeGeorge, Councilman Dave Tadych, Daniel Straitiff

*\*Full recording of the meeting is permanently available on the City of Bay Village website under Government/Architectural Board of Review/View Most Recent Agendas and Minutes/Media*

Mr. Ernst called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. with roll call.

Mr. Ernst called for the approval of minutes for the meeting of the Architectural Board of Review held March 9, 2022

**Motion** by Mr. Chernisky, **Second** by Mr. Sedlak to approve the minutes of the ABR meeting held on March 9, 2022 as prepared and distributed.

1) <b>Applicant:</b> Dave Tadych <b>Property Owner:</b> City of Bay Village <b>Address:</b> Cahoon Park	Preliminary Planning Commission review of proposed 'Bay Village' sign in Cahoon Park <i>Item referred to ABR from PC 05/04/2022</i>
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Mr. Ernst introduced the next item on the agenda as the review of the 'Bay Village' sign at Cahoon park and turned it over to Councilman Tadych.

Mr. Tadych stated that last August he got the idea that he'd like to do a Bay Village Cleveland type sign. He went to the same people that did the 'Cleveland' signs. They have done one in Parma and a couple others. They have done all the major signs in all the hotels downtown – Signature sign is a very big company. He started out calling this a sign, but more recently we've been calling it artwork. He got the idea because he wanted to do something for Bay. He has stumbled upon a lot of ideas and came upon this one and has gone forward with it. Signature Sign presented 3 or 4 sculptures and he finally took it to the Mayor and the Law Director and went through the pictures and ideas. The Mayor went down and looked at the facility and they picked out the one they thought would benefit Bay the most, these boards didn't see the other ones on purpose to avoid confusing the issue, and it was his favorite anyway. Originally it looked like they could probably do this by spring, but COVID interrupted again, Bruce Farcus with Signature Sign, has come down with COVID. The concept is all here, measurements are all here, they looked at about 7 spots, he originally wanted it in his ward, but they ended up in the middle of the city and they ended up in Cahoon Park. There are proposed degrees on some of the maps on where the sign might go. Signature Sign wanted to put it closer to the sailboat, he did not, the idea of being able to walk to it would make more sense from the parking lot, but it was slowly moved more towards the

center. On one of the drawings, there are little red dashes to show the actual amount of space it will take up in the mammoth park. The one to the east is not far enough east for some people – they would like it more in line with Cahoon Rd. when you come down. Part of the issue with the location, as proposed in the drawing, is the walkway that is there – the idea is to move it way from the walkway a few feet and get it out of the way of the flashing signs. His hope is to get it done as soon as possible. He thinks the people of Bay will like it.

The board discussed that the sign would look the same as it does from the front only reversed – meaning you wouldn't be able read it properly from behind. The letters are a foot deep and the edge is blue.

Mr. Sedlak inquired what type of structure would be holding up the letters.

Mr. Tadych advised that there is a structure on one of their diagrams. It's a bar with the letters attached. What makes ours a little harder is the 'y' and the 'g' because they go below the line. The Cleveland sign, for example, doesn't have any letters that go below. There is a bar behind Bay and behind Village. The posts are set in concrete. If the diagram for the park, as presented for the next 15 years, come to fruition the sign can be moved by pulling up the steel. The sign was proposed in two heights 8' and 7' – Signature Sign felt that the 8' would need a walkway behind, but we're leaning towards the 7' letters. The next thing that is going to happen, once the board is done with this, is they're going to make cardboard letters, not all letters, the first and last for sure to see about putting the depth in so that people aren't trying to take pictures from the roadway. Moving it back, probably 30' by his guess, but that's to be seen.

Mr. Ernst inquired if there was thought of pushing it further back into the loop.

Mr. Tadych replied that there was thought of that, but that's fireworks property and that is why it didn't go back there. It probably will end up 30' back, but not right in the loop.

Mr. Ernst remarked that it might end up possibly 100' off the road?

Mr. Tadych replied in the affirmative.

Mr. Ernst inquired if it's centered on Cahoon Rd. – is it possible?

Mr. Tadych replied that it's where it is now is due to the crosswalk.

Mr. Sedlak stated that it's about where the crosswalk is?

Mr. Tadych replied in the affirmative.

Mr. Ernst attempted to clarify the potential new location taking into consideration the tree location.

Mr. Tadych remarked that it is a very strong structure – adults could climb on it.

Mr. Sedlak confirmed that the bar across the bottom was similar to what they've done on the Cleveland signs - So, we know it works.

Mr. Tadych replied in the affirmative. He added that there are 7 or 8 Cleveland signs and they've got an extra one all set to go up if a vehicle were to hit it.

Mr. Ernst summarized that the Planning commission felt that the siting of the sign was a question mark.

Mr. Chernisky inquired if the sign was recommending 7' vs. 8'?

Mr. Tadych replied that he doesn't particularly want to pay for the boardwalk and the 7' is bigger than the Cleveland sign.

Mr. Chernisky replied that it also appears, per the drawing, that the boardwalk would also need a handrail – he saw a note somewhere in the drawings.

Mr. Ernst stated that there would obviously be people taking pictures with the sign and walking around. With the amenity being the Lake – was thought given to the fact that you're not seeing much of the lake due to the cliff drop off? The issue with getting it closer to the cliff edge, in his mind, is that there is a rusty old fence that runs along the cliff edge that isn't very attractive.

Mr. Tadych stated that the other part of the problem is that the proposal for the 15 year look of the park is to cut the cliff off so there is no sense in putting it there – plus it's more visible in this location. They did look at putting the sign at Huntington, or the old library house, Columbia Park, Reece Park, and they took pictures in all these locations with it super imposed. Signature Sign kept pushing for these locations and when the Mayor and Law Director saw it, before he took it to anyone else, they sort of thought that it would be nice to have in Cahoon Park.

Mr. Ernst concurred that he likes it most at this park as well. He feels that centered on Cahoon Rd. 100' back would be the best option.

Mr. Tadych replied that he feels the same way. His hope was to have it in place by Fall. He was pushing for 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

Mr. Ernst stated that he feels it serves a dual purpose in the sense that, 'Hey you're in Bay Village' and it's a sign for the city, but it's also a place for people to gather and take pictures.

Mr. Tadych stated that is what they want in our parks.

Mr. Ernst added that when Bay Days and all the other stuff that happens in the center of town it's a backdrop to that.

Mr. Tuck-Macalla advised that there is no need for a vote this evening – just the comments which will go to the planning commission.

Mr. Ernst reiterated that he would like to see it 100' back centered on Cahoon.

Mr. Chernisky stated that he agrees with that statement.

Ms. Oley inquired why the letters needed to be 7'. She's been to the Cleveland sign and it seems like it's not that large. She understands that the 'g' and 'y' pose an issue...

Mr. Tadych replied that the only letters that are 7' are the 'B' and the 'V'. The other letters are small – they are raised up.

Ms. Oley replied that she's wondering what children's heads could peer over 4' tall letter?

Mr. Tadych stated they could peer into the letters or stand in front of them.

Mr. Chernisky inquired pointed out that you might be able to stand on the bar supporting the letters to peer over the letters.

Ms. DeGeorge inquired if the space between the Bay and Village was large enough for someone to stand in?

Mr. Tadych replied in the affirmative. Commenting that one-page indicates how large the space is. It's amazing how thick they are.

Mr. Ernst inquired if LED lights would be pointed at it?

Mr. Tadych stated that he isn't sure if that is the end result, but he think it would probably come up. There is electricity all the way through there – the sailboat has lights on it on a timeclock.

Mr. Ernst commented that whatever timer those lights are on would make sense to match.

Mr. Tadych stated that the paint is an interesting concept. It's an original concoction. They put it on the first Cleveland sign and because people were climbing all over it – it didn't work as well. They developed a stronger and nick proof paint.

Mr. Ernst inquired if there were any additional comments.

Mr. Straitiff inquired if the public was permitted to speak.

Mr. Tadych replied in the affirmative.

Mr. Ernst clarified that it's fine, but they're technically not a public forum.

Mr. Straitiff inquired if an alternate location in Cahoon Park, where the access road goes around with the gazebo and community house in the background – pivoting 180 degrees, was considered?

Mr. Tadych stated that he can't say for sure, but most of the park area is historical and he doesn't think the sign would be allowed in the historical park. They mark out the land in the park as to what belongs to the historical society, and the Cahoon barn is on of them, as you go south by the Skate park that is no longer considered historical park. That is just park. That is the difference over there.

Mr. Straitiff remarked that one of the appeals of the Cleveland signs is that you always have Cleveland in the background – it’s very dramatic. By considering the community house and gazebo sort which resonates Bay, in his opinion, as opposed to a very thin slice of Lake Eric and a fence as the background. He would comment that there is no wow factor for the current proposed location other than a thin slice of the lake, which isn’t even Bay Village. He also sought clarification of the coloring of the letters.

Mr. Tadych reiterated that the letters are white, but the 1’ thickness of the letters is blue or the depth edge.

Mr. Straitiff stated that he would share a concern about the scale - even the 7’ is large. The tallest point of the Cleveland sign rises to his chest (probably 5’tall) and it’s uphill – it has as sense of movement. He understands the issue of the dangly bits, but if the word Bay and Village were both independently rising up then the whole thing could be scaled down. So, people could be behind for posing so it’s not so large. He apologized and stated he just wanted to offer his comments as he understood this to be a public forum.

Mr. Ernst replied that it’s completely fine and encouraged him to attend the planning commission meetings. Adding that ABR is an advisory board to the planning commission which is where the official review takes place. That is where they are going to make the final determination of what proceeds – they’re just offering their comments to that board and they make the official ruling. His comments will be included in the minutes and they will be passed to the Planning Commission and they will make a ruling. He would strongly suggest that he attend that meeting as well.

Ms. Oley inquired if there will need to be a public hearing.

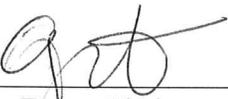
Mr. Tuck-Macalla stated that he believes there will be a public hearing, but it’s his understanding the next step is planning commission. He would think that at the next meeting they will request a public hearing.

Mr. Tadych stated that if you look at the ‘V’ in the page that has the blue tops – that is all of 6’, when he said 7’ he misspoke. Some of them it’s 6’.

Mr. Ernst stated that the ‘B’ is 7’, but overall it’s 6’9”ish. The top of the ‘age’ is 4’7”.

Mr. Tadych stated that it’s longer than the Cleveland sign because there is a lot more letters.

Mr. Ernst inquired if there were any further comments from the board. Hearing none the meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

  
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Greg Ernst, Chairman

  
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Lauren Oley, Secretary