

February 28, 2012

**TUCKAHOE SIGN AND AWNING BOARD**  
**TUCKAHOE VILLAGE HALL – 2:30 pm**

<b>Present</b>	Chairwoman	Ann Marie Ciaramella
	Member	Nicole Pushkal
	Member	Barbara Nieminen

**Also present:** Bill Williams                      Building Inspector

**Absent:** Michael Seminara                      Code Enforcement Officer

<b>Item #1</b>	<b>Approval of Minutes – January 23, 2012</b>	
<b>Item #2</b>	<b>29 Columbus Avenue</b>	<b>Adjourned</b>
<b>Item #3</b>	<b>72 Main Street</b>	<b>Return</b>
<b>Item #4</b>	<b>25 Main Street</b>	<b>Return</b>
<b>Item #5</b>	<b>88 Lake Avenue</b>	<b>New Sign</b>

**Item #1 Approval of Minutes – January 23, 2012**

**Member Pushkal motioned to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2012 meeting. This motion was seconded by Chairwoman Ciaramella and unanimously carried by the Board with a vote of 2-0. Member Nieminen abstaining due to her absence.**

**Item #2                      25 Main Street                      Return**

Mr. Fredrick of Unique Signs representing Industry 80, and Mr. Greco owner of Industry 80 returned because at the last meeting there was an issue regarding the finish used on the proposed sign. Mr. Fredrick brought two new samples of material to be used for the proposed two signs “Industry 80” and “Concept Salon”. One sample was a brush nickel aluminum letters as was suggested at the last meeting. This material does not reflect. Chairwoman Ciaramella reminded the applicant that his sign was approved with the condition that he returns with a new sample of the material to be used. Chairwoman Ciaramella asked if the lines of the brush nickel were vertical instead of horizontal, would it make a difference in the reflection. Mr. Fredrick said vertical might reflect a little more than horizontal because vertically would get the sun from both sides. Mr. Fredrick also presented another sample which was a swirled brush nickel aluminum. Discussion took place as to which brush nickel aluminum would have the least reflection.

**Member Nieminen made a motion to approve the material for the signs to be a swirly brushed aluminum with a satin finish; Member Pushkal seconded the motion and was unanimously carried by the board with a 3-0 vote.**

**Item #3                      72 Main Street                      Return**

Chairwoman Ciaramella informed the applicant that she checked with the attorney in regard to submitting a new application and was advised that a new application was not necessary. Ms. Scannell said she submitted a letter and a photo of the awning imposed on the building. Ms. Scannell asked if in reference to stripes the Village of Tuckahoe is included with Eastchester. Chairwoman said the Village of Tuckahoe is an incorporated Village in the Town of Eastchester. They share certain entities, like fire department, parks department and there are things that are not shared, such as the boards, library, police department, etc. This is an interesting Village, half of the Village goes to Tuckahoe schools and the other half goes to Eastchester schools. Chairwoman Ciaramella asked if she had anything else she wanted to say, Ms. Scannell said she wanted to put her awning up. Chairwoman Ciaramella said she had one thing to say, the photo you showed the board does not have the stripes on it. Member Nieminen also said that what the board was looking at is not true representation of the awning because it does not show the third stripe. Member Nieminen said if you look at Fresh Market's with the green and white striped awning, it looks very cute until you imagine what happens when all the stores down the line start putting all different stripes, and this is the issue that we don't want to happen. If we allow you to put up a striped awning, then the next business has the option to put a stripe awning, it can get really busy because everyone is going to seek getting their own colors and that is what we are try to avoid.

Mr. Nannariello, owner of the building, said that if you go down Pondfield Road in Bronxville, there are all different color signs, not sure if any are striped awnings. Member Pushkal said we have that too in the village, we offered her a red awning. Mr. Nannariello said that the Pondfield Road looks good, all different and unique signs or awnings. Chairwoman Ciaramella asked how wide is that street compared to Main Street. Mr. Nannariello said wider than Main Street. Chairwoman said the sidewalk and street are wider than Main Street. Member Nieminen said we have different color awnings too, if we can control it and have one stripe awning here and five stores down another one. Chairwoman Ciaramella said there are two things the board considers in addition to the code. The two things are the, gestalt, full picture of what the awning will look like in the general area and specific site. And the second is vision, and that means what is going to happen in the future as a result of this. The problem I personally have if we do approve this, we are opening the door for many other people to do the same thing. I know you are starting a third business, but if you thought the Village was falling off the map you wouldn't open another business. This Village is not going to return to the 1950 or 60's, the Village is looking ahead and that is why we need to have to a certain consideration to insure the fact that we are not opening a door which we can't close. I respect the fact that you really like this with your heart and soul, but our responsibility it to maintain a certain decorum for the Village. This would not be horrible, if it was alone, but if we open the door for everybody else doing this, it's a problem. Ms. Scannell said that the photo is the actual awning. Chairwoman Ciaramella said that the photo does not show the third stripe. She also said that if is it two color stripes, we are still opening the door.

Ms. Scannell presented photos of the business along Main Street. She pointed out Member Pushkal's business store front and asked Member Pushkal if in a design aspect being an interior designer, if her store front looked better than her awning. Member Nieminen said we're not here to discuss Member Pushkal store front. Member Pushkal said that her awning is to regulation code, a green awning and the décor is inside the window and is replaced every 6 months and we are not discussing the interior window design, we are discussing the awning. Chairwoman Ciaramella interrupted and said we are talking about the stripe awning and this turning to be a personal thing. This is not appropriate. Ms. Scannell said it is not personal; these are photos of Main Street. Member Pushkal said that her store front gets changed every 6 months and that her awning is to code. Chairwoman Ciaramella said that Member Pushkal does not have to justify her store front. Chairwoman Ciaramella asked Ms. Scannell if there was anything else she wanted to say. She said "The Village needs to be merchant friendly". Chairwoman Ciaramella agreed that is why we have to set a precedent otherwise we are going to have St. Nicholas Avenue in Manhattan on Main Street. Ms. Scannell asked the board to come to the merchant meeting, it's the first Wednesday of the every month at the Café, all the merchants got together, put an ad in the Journal Newspaper, introducing themselves; the merchants in Tuckahoe are suffering immensely. Chairwoman Ciaramella asked if this was part of the Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Scannell said the Chamber of Commerce does nothing for the merchants. Mr. Ecklund and I were talking about this, the Chamber of Commerce gets together, has dinner and does not talk about the businesses, they talk about what they did at their last vacation. Member Pushkal said she totally disagrees because she was the chairwoman of the Chamber of Commerce and now she is on the board, they have merchant meetings every other month, not at a restaurant and talk about concerns and problems with the town and the village.

Member Nieminen said we need to figure out how to resolve this; the colors are very sharp, the red, tan and black. What if you did the awning solid red with either a tan or black apron and Café 72 stays as is. Member Pushkal said we gave her that option last time. She also asked if the awning was already made. Ms. Scannell said yes, it's ready to go up. Member Pushkal asked why you would make it, if it wasn't approved yet. Member Nieminen asked if she owned the other business next door. Ms. Scannell said yes and she is also going to change that awning to the same one as this one so that building will have a uniform look including the center entrance to the building. Ms. Scannell explained that the building being far back, no one can see her awning, it blends in with the building; therefore she wants to change it to match the striped awning. Chairwoman Ciaramella said that is exactly what we are trying to avoid having other stripe awning on the same block. Member Nieminen said she is one opinion, looking at either side she thought it would look nice on that building, it's my opinion, she also said if she did all three awnings in the stripe it would be a too much. Ms. Scannell said that she would put up a third awning in the middle and pick a color, possibly red, to coordinate with the awnings on either side, it would look really nice. Chairwoman Ciaramella said given the fact there could be a second one, it would support to allowing more stripes in the future, so I really don't think it's appropriate. Member Nieminen said ok where do we go from here. Member Pushkal said should thought the plain red would be nice, but three awnings with the same stripes would be worse. I just don't like the stripes, but she's in a position that the awning is already made. Chairwoman Ciaramella said I feel sorry that this is the case, but we cannot make a decision based on the awning is made and not on what it looks like. Anyone else applying could have their awning made and claim it should be approved based on this precedent. She asked Ms. Scannell if she wants to think this over again with the suggestions that were made. Ms. Scannell said she would like a decision to be made on what is presented.

There was discussion as to whether a unanimous vote was needed to approve the awning. Mr. Williams asked if there was something about the awning that would require all three to vote unanimous. We need to determine if the awning is as-of-right or is she asking for variance for the stripes that are not allowed. Ms. Scannell said that the code does not mention that stripes are not allowed. Mr. Williams and Chairwoman Ciaramella reviewed the code to determine if an unanimous vote was needed.

Ms. Scannell asked if she would speak to Mr. Williams in private, request was granted.

**Ms. Scannell returned and asked to be adjourned to next month.**

**Item #4                      88 Lake Avenue                      New Sign**

Mr. Paul Hwang, representing "Tuckahoe Nail and Spa" presented an application for a new awning. The color of the awning is Seagrass green #9141. The manufacturer is Soldmaster and the material is flame retardant. The letter size presented was 16.5 inches. The placement of the awning is over the entrance door. There was discussion regarding the placement of the awning and the size of the letters. The board suggested that they place the sign over the window, to match the other store fronts in that area and also if he would like, he can add an arm sign by the door. The arm sign, if he was interested, should match the other arm signs located within the Village.

**The applicant will return next month with a new rendering of the sign.**

The next meeting will be held on Monday, March 19, 2012 at 2:30pm

There being no further comments from the public or business before the Board, upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 3:50 pm.