

**October 20, 2009**

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

**Present:** Chairperson Ann Marie Ciaramella  
Member Nicole Pushkal  
Member Barbara Nieminen

**Also in Attendance:** Bill Williams Building Inspector  
Michael Seminara Code Enforcement Office

**Item #1 Approval of Minutes – September 15, 2009**

**Item #2 29 Columbus Avenue Adjourned**  
**Item #3 4 Columbus Avenue New Sign**  
**Item #4 77 Lime Kiln New Awning**  
**Item #5 82 Lake Avenue New Awning**

**Item #1 Approval of Minutes – September 15, 2009**

**A motion by Member Nieminen to approve the minutes of September 15, 2009 meeting was second by Member Pushkal and unanimously carried by the Board with a vote of 3-0.**

**Item #2 4 Columbus Avenue New Sign**

Laurie Chan and Tay Chan, owners of Foo Chow Restaurant were present. Laurie Chan gave a brief history of their business, noting that her grandfather started the restaurant in 1972 and that the sign has been around since it opened. She feels that the sign represents stability. She also mentioned that people who move away and return are happy to see that they are still the same owners. By changing the sign it may hurt their business because people may think they are new owners. Foo Chow represents a small town in southeast China. It is where her grandfather and father were born and raised. They are also one of the only Chinese restaurants that do not deliver.

Chairwomen Ciaramella advised Laurie Chan that there are a few issues with the sign and that the code has limitations. Chairwomen Ciaramella pointed out that new signs have been going up in the mini mall and that they are very different than this sign. The issues with the sign are: 1) color, you have four different colors, code allows two colors; 2) a description, code does not allow a description unless it was a name that does not identify the business; and 3) a box lighted sign, and code does not allow box lighted signs.

Chairwomen Ciaramella also discussed that the sign is extremely inconsistent with the code. She also mentioned that we have restrictions and if we begin to loosen up on the restrictions, we will then get into a situation where we establish a precedent, particularly in the mini mall, and especially since we have been extremely careful to conform to the code.

Member Nieminen suggested that maybe if they saw a new sign made up, that they would think it would look more elegant and might want to make the change. Laurie Chan again expressed that the sign means a lot to them and that it is part of the business. She also felt that she should be grandfathered in, since they have been there for a long time.

Mr. Seminara explained that they had two years since the Law took effect to change their sign to conform to the new law and that the time frame has now expired and that is why they received a letter to conform to the Code. He also explained that the Code does not have a grandfather clause.

Laurie Chan also explained that the lighting of the sign is all tied in with the electric wiring of the premises and removing the sign will require more work than it appears. She also expressed that her father said that removing the sign is like taking away his life, it is extremely important to them to keep the sign as is.

Suggestions were also made to remove the sign and place it within the restaurant, possibly on the side wall or on top of the counter.

**The applicant was asked to return next month.**

**Item #3 77 Lime Kiln Road New Awning**

Sam DiTullo of Fabric Concept, representing Elide Tuckahoe Terrace proposed a new awning to replace the old awning that is presently up. The new awning fabric is by Herculite. The color is Cabernet and is fire resistant. The letters are a cream color. They will keep the original frame since it is in good condition.

**A motion was made to accept the application as submitted for 77 Lime Kiln Road, by Member Pushkal, seconded by Member Nieminen and unanimously carried by the board with a vote of 3-0.**

**Item #4 82 Lake Avenue New Awning**

Mr. John Park, representing 82 Lake Avenue, proposed two awnings, one to be placed over the entrance door and the other one to be placed over the front window. The color of the awning is Ruby Red with White lettering. Letter height is 6 inches. Fire resistant material, No lighting, sides of awning are closed, however the bottom is open. "Louis DeChiarro" is over the door awning and "Salon & Spa" is over the window awning.

**A motion was made to accept the application as submitted for 82 Lake Avenue, by Member Nieminen seconded by Member Pushkal and unanimously carried by the board with a vote of 3-0.**

**The next meeting will be held on November 17<sup>th</sup> 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 3:15 pm.**