

**MARIEMONT ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 17, 2023**

Mr. Wren called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Present were Mr. Ayer, Mayor Brown, Mrs. Getter, Dr. Lewis and Mr. Lockhart. Building/Zoning Official Rod Holloway was also present.

Mr. Ayer moved, seconded by Dr. Lewis, to accept the minutes as written for the June 28, 2023, meeting. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

1. A request was made from Mariemont Preservation Foundation located at 3919 Plainville Rd, Mariemont, OH 45227 to rework and/or replace the hard/landscape and signage located at 6601 Wooster Pike. In December 2022 the structure over the statue was previously granted a Certificate of Appropriateness by the ARB.

Findings of the Building Department:

Statutory Park is defined as a Landmark per 151.075 (F)(24)(d) (g) Dale Park with statuary, northwest corner of Plainville Road and Wooster Pike and thus part of the Historical District code.

§ 151.075 HISTORIC DISTRICT:

(H)(1) *Limitations on issuance of building and demolition permits.* No construction, reconstruction, alteration demolition, or removal of any structure or significant exterior architectural feature, including painting and staining, and including signage, thereof to any listed landmark structure or any other building within a historic district shall be undertaken prior to obtaining a certificate of appropriateness from the Architectural Review Board (see §§ [151.021\(E\)](#) and [151.025](#)) and a permit from the Building Commissioner, if appropriate.

(H)(2) *Regulations governing site modifications: Standards for review: design requirements for certificate Application of appropriateness.* The Architectural Review Board, in deciding whether to issue a certificate of appropriateness, shall determine that the application under consideration promotes, preserves, and enhances the distinctive historical integrity of the landmark structure as set forth in division (F) above, as well as the historical village character of the community and would not be at variance with existing structures within that portion of the district in which the structure is or is proposed to be located. In conducting its review, the Board shall make examination and give consideration to the elements of the application including, but not necessarily limited to:

- (d) Consideration shall be given to the method of removal or alteration of any original materials, hardware, signage, or architectural features and the method of construction or repair, so as to avoid damage to original materials, hardware, design, and architectural features.
- (e) Consideration shall be given to the use of the property, so as to maintain as nearly as possible the use of the property as originally intended
- (p) Historical integrity of all landmark and historic sites shall be maintained according to the original architects' design, town plan, concepts, and philosophy of Mary M. Emery, John Nolen, and the Mariemont Company.

Any act or process that results in any change to an archaeological feature shall require a certificate of appropriateness.

§ 151.129 SIGNS WITHIN HISTORIC DISTRICT:

Within the Historic District as indicated on the building zone map, signs as specified in §§ [151.126](#) and [151.127](#) shall be permitted, subject to all provisions of this chapter and in conformance with requirements of the State Basic Building Code. In addition, permitted signs shall be of material and style harmonious with any landmark structure to which they are attached. Signs within historic districts or attached to historic structures require a certificate of appropriateness.

Mr. Holloway noted that the application was signed by Part-Time Village Administrator Chuck Barlow.

Mr. Bob Rich said the plant selections have been made but there have been slight tweaks around the entry geometry. The sign has not changed, though we can talk more specifically about it. They are proposing a finish on the way which will be an exposed aggregate. It is a technique that is commonly used in park like settings. A similar example can be found at Isabella Hopkins Park. A stone slab is being recommended for the sign similar to the Emery Memorial (Town Square) and the Livingood Memorial. The difference is this sign will have bronze lettering and won't discolor the stone. The final wording has not yet been determined and the sign will not be lit though there is not opposition to having it lit. The Statuary itself will be illuminated. The sign could be visible from Plainville Road and Wooster Pike.

Ms. Marcia Duvall went through the planting proposals via a slide presentation. The intent is to keep it simple. They will be utilizing Prairifire Crabapple Trees which are insect resistant and have beautiful foliage. It holds onto its fruit. The entrance will be a mix of three daffodils comprising of Carlton Daffodils, Accent Daffodils and Salome Daffodils. Once they are done blooming, they will be augmented with eye catching annuals. They are lower maintenance than perennial flowers. Discussion ensued regarding how the switch over would take place. Mr. Rich said he would think in this Village that we would have a maintenance program that would take care of our parks and public spaces. Mr. Lockhart said he loves the design concept but it is also maintenance heavy. Ms. Duvall said the Parks Board/Garden Club would be available to assist in the care of the park.

The area will also showcase variegated Lily Turf, Morning Light Maiden Grass, Shenandoah Switch Grass and Desert Plains Fountain Grass. All of the plant selections were thought through very carefully to ensure that they will not require excessive care or attention by caregivers. It is the hope that the members of the Parks Board will continue the tradition of taking care of the garden. Mr. Ayer said the upkeep and maintenance of this park will need to be addressed by Council and added to the annual budget. Mayor Brown said it comes down to priorities and the amount of money available to spend on an array of projects in the Village, but surely, we are going to want to maintain the park. Council Member York said spaces have been identified in the Village that will receive athletic turf treatments (Bell Tower, Concourse, Center Street Island and part of Isabella Hopkins Park). We are putting together what constitutes taking care and the costs of taking care all these assets, which has never been done before. It would include a tree maintenance program. No doubt we are behind on this – we either have a resource problem or a management problem.

Discussion ensued regarding the tree canopy and the heritage trees.

Mr. Ayer asked if there was a plan to include repair to the masonry wall along Plainville Road. Mr. Rich said it is not in the scope of work to tuck point the wall or rejuvenate the steps or install handrails. The Village should consider those improvements. Mr. Ayer suggested painting the curb yellow to eliminate the need for no parking signs. Mr. Ayer asked if there should be a bike rack. Mr. Rich said it was not considered.

Mr. Holloway said the Village could add such items to the bid process for pricing options beyond what is shown in the drawings.

Mr. Lockhart moved, seconded by Mr. Ayer to approve the proposed hardscape and landscape as presented to the ARB. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

Mr. Ayer noted that it would make sense that the Village renovate the wall in a manner that will keep with the renovation to the rest of the park.

Dr. Lewis said the sign seems a bit rectangular and modern to her. Mr. Wren said he feels the sign perspective will go away once focused on the view. In person the sign will be much smaller than it is portrayed in the rendering. The sign will be knee level. Dr. Lewis moved, seconded by Mrs. Getter to approve the sign as proposed. On roll call; six ayes, no nays.

The meeting adjourned at 7:09 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mr. Brad Lockhart
Secretary