

## **REPORT OF THE DESIGN REVIEW BOARD**

During this past year the Design Review Board held 19 regular meetings during which 74 projects were reviewed, including seven (7) major construction projects, eight (8) minor construction projects, nine (9) antenna reviews and fifty (50) sign applications.

The Board completed its review of the new Wellesley Country Club and the review of the Department of Public Works and Municipal Light Plants new garage facilities, the Fiske and Schofield School modulars, a proposed multifamily development at 65 Washington Street that later did not move forward, as well as the proposed barn at Dana Hall. The Design Review Board wrapped up the final reviews for the Reidy Field dugouts, and began an initial review of the proposed Sprague Field synthetic turf until Town Meeting defeated the proposal.

The minor construction projects reviewed include façade renovations at 5-15 Washington Street, 54 Washington Street, the Mobil Station at 453 Washington Street, William Raveis at 50 Central Street, and the Needham Cooperative Bank at 458 Washington Street. The nine (9) antenna reviews include the installation of a Cingular antenna at 372 Washington Street, and the review of eight (8) Distributed Antenna System (DAS) antennas installed in residential areas by the Municipal Light Plant, which locate small cellular antennas at the top of telephone poles.

The magnitude of the Linden Square Project continues to require adjustments to approved design plans. The owners of Linden Square, Federal Realty, returned to the Design Review Board five times during the year for minor alterations including material changes, standing sign modifications, approval of a complete signage plan, and the removal of a proposed cornice at 190 Linden Street.

The Wellesley Inn completed the Project of Significant Approval process and the Design Review Board anticipates review, however has not begun the major construction review to date. All of the reviews by the Board have integrated many facets of Design including architectural form and function, aesthetics, landscaping, and lighting.

Section XXII of the Zoning Bylaw, "Design Review", authorizes the Design Review Board to review and make recommendations on all applications for commercial signs and awnings, as well as all projects defined as Minor and Major Construction Projects and Projects of Significant Impact in Section XVIA (Site Plan Approval) of the Zoning Bylaw.

The Board continues to publish and have available its agenda, meeting minutes, sign regulations, design guidelines, project updates as well as other related matters on the town-wide web site and in the Planning Board office

The Design Review Board's regular meetings are scheduled for the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Planning Board office. Residents are encouraged to attend.

### **Membership**

The Wellesley Design Review Board consists of five members appointed by the Planning Board as specified in Section XXII (Design Review) of the Zoning Bylaw and three alternate members.

Serving on the Design Review Board during 2006-2007 were:

David Grissino, Chairman  
Robert Broder, AIA, Vice Chairman  
Ingrid Carls  
Robert Skolnick  
Edward S. Hand, Alternate  
Helen Robertson, Alternate  
Sheila E. Dinsmoor, Alternate