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ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

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ZBA 98-40
Petition of Tenacre Country Day School
78 Benvenue Street

Pursuant to due notice, the Special Permit Granting Authority held a Public Hearing on Thursday, May 21, 1998 at 8 p.m. in the Great Hall at the Town Hall, 525 Worcester Street, Wellesley, on the petition of the TENACRE COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL requesting a Special Permit pursuant to the provisions of Section XXIIA and Section XXV of the Zoning Bylaw to allow construction of a 4 foot by 4 foot nonilluminated double-sided standing sign, with a total area of 32 square feet (16 sf/panel) at a height of 7 feet 2 inches and set back 5 feet from the front property line at its premises at 78 BENVENUE STREET, in an Educational District, to exceed the allowed height of 4 feet, to exceed the allowed area of 10 square feet, and to have less than the required 15 foot setback.

On April 30, 1998, the petitioner filed a request for a hearing before this Authority, and thereafter, due notice of the hearing was given by mailing and publication.

Presenting the case at the hearing was William Foley, trustee of the Tenacre Country Day School. Mr. Foley said that the sixth grade class last year raised money to replace the existing plywood sign. The new handcarved green sign will be the same size in the same location.

The Board asked why the sign had to be raised to a 7 foot height. Mr. Foley said that they need the visibility. The street is very narrow and they need to identify the school entrance. This is the only entrance to the school and the only sign identifying the school.

No other person present had any comment on the petition.

Statement of Facts

The subject property, the site of the Tenacre Country Day School, is located at 78 Benvenue Street, in an Educational District.

The petitioner is requesting a Special Permit to replace an existing sign with a 32 square foot double-sided nonilluminated standing sign (16 sf/panel) at a height of 7 feet 2 inches and set back 5 feet from the front property line, which will exceed the allowed height of 4 feet, the allowed area of 10 square feet, and will have less than the required 15 foot setback.

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The sign will be a handcarved, with a green ground and gold lettering identifying Tenacre Country Day School/Pre-Kindergarten-6th Grade.

A drawing of the proposed sign by Sign Language Signs, a site plan and photographs of the existing sign were submitted.

On April 23, 1998, the Design Review Board reviewed the proposal and voted to approved the project as presented.

On May 12, 1998, the Planning Board reviewed the petition and recommended approval of the sign.

Decision

This Authority has made a careful study of the materials submitted and the information presented at the hearing. The petitioner is requesting a Special Permit to install a sign identifying the Tenacre Country Day School.

This Authority is of the opinion that the proposed standing sign is in harmony with the intent and purpose of Section XXIIA in regard to height, area and setback.

Therefore, a Special Permit is granted, as voted unanimously by this Authority at the Public Hearing, to install the requested sign, subject to construction in accordance with the submitted sign drawing and site plan.

The Inspector of Buildings is hereby authorized to issue a permit for the sign upon his receipt and approval of an application. No sign can be installed until this permit has been issued.

APPEALS FROM THIS DECISION, IF ANY, SHALL BE MADE PURSUANT TO GENERAL LAWS, CHAPTER 40A, SECTION 17, AND SHALL BE FILED WITHIN 20 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF FILING OF THIS DECISION IN THE OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK.

John A. Donovan, Jr., Chairman

Kendall P. Bates

William E. Polletta

cc: Planning Board
Inspector of Buildings
edg

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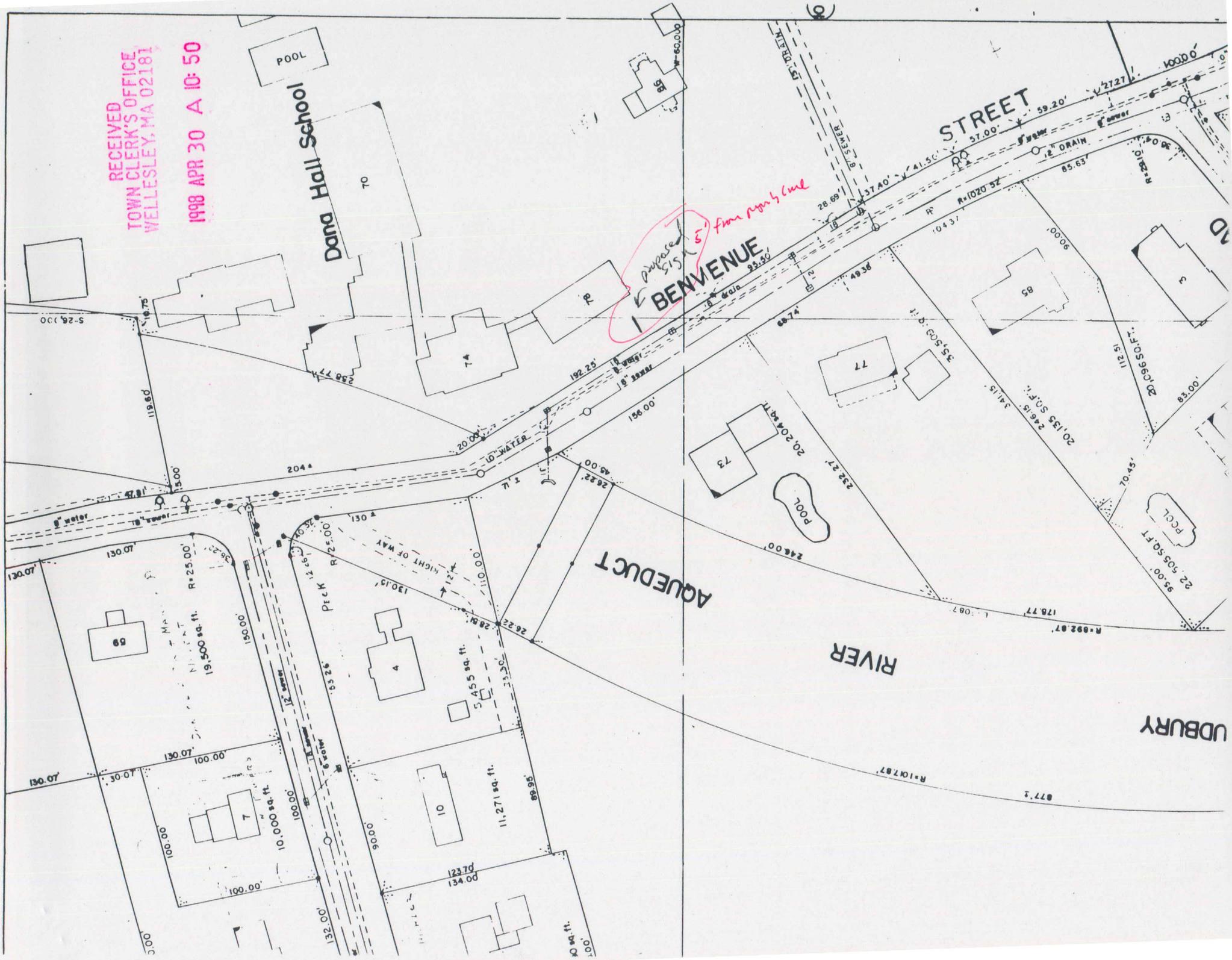
Sign Language Signs
Norwood Commerce Center
Endicott St. Bldg. 25
Norwood, MA 02062

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