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ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
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ZBA 91-8
 Petition of Wellesley Free Library, Fells Branch
 308 Weston Road

Pursuant to due notice, the Permit Granting Authority held a Public Hearing on Thursday, February 28, 1991 at 8 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room (Conference Room B) of the Town Hall, 525 Washington Street, Wellesley on the petition of the WELLESLEY FREE LIBRARY, FELLS BRANCH requesting a variance from Section XXIIA and pursuant to the provisions of Section XXIV-D of the Zoning Bylaw to exceed the signage requirements of area, height and setback in a Single Residence District, by erecting a two-sided standing sign, approximately 24.5 square feet, at a height of 8 feet 8 inches, with a minimum setback of 10 feet, in front of its premises at 308 WESTON ROAD, in a Single Residence District.

On February 11, 1991, the petitioner filed a request for a hearing before this Board and thereafter notice of the hearing was given by mailing and publication.

Presenting the case at the hearing was Sue Brickman, representing the Committee for the Branch Libraries, who said that the library has never had a sign, and is in need of identification. The sign, with a navy ground and white letters, would be two-sided; one side facing Fells Road, and the other facing the ramp from Route 9, perpendicular to Weston Road. The sign would not block traffic sight lines in the proposed location.

Paul Shackford, 12 Fells Road, objected to the height and size of the sign.

The Board asked if the Board of Library Trustees, which has authority over the property, had approved the sign. Mrs. Brickman said that the Board has not taken a formal vote, as there is a question if the branch libraries will remain open due to budget constraints. The Board stated that a letter indicating approval of the sign would be required from the Library Board before a sign permit could be issued.

Statement of Facts

The subject property is located at 308 Weston Road, in a Single Residence District, on land owned by the Town of Wellesley, over which the Board of Library Trustees has jurisdiction.

The petitioner wishes to identify the premises and is requesting a variance to erect a two-sided standing sign which would exceed the area requirement of 1 square foot, the height requirement of 4 feet, and the minimum setback requirement of 15 feet. The proposed standing sign, with a navy ground and white letters, would have two 12.25 square foot sides totalling 24.5 square feet, a height of 8 feet 8 inches, and a setback of 10 feet from the front property line.

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A drawing of the sign, a plot plan showing the location of the sign, and photographs were submitted.

The Design Review Board reviewed the sign on February 14, 1991 and voted to approve the design and placement of the sign with the recommendation that it have a navy blue face with white lettering.

The Planning Board, on February 26, 1991, voted to offer no comment on the request.

Decision

This Authority has made a careful study of the evidence submitted. The petitioner is requesting a variance to erect a non-illuminated two-sided standing sign to identify the Wellesley Free Library, Fells Branch at 308 Weston Road.

It is the opinion of this Authority that the library is in need of identification and that a two-sided standing sign is necessary for identification from Fells Road, the Route 9 ramp and Weston Road. This Authority is of the further opinion that the area, height and setback of the sign are necessary for visibility at this site.

Therefore, a variance is hereby granted for a non-illuminated two-sided standing sign with a navy ground and white letters, as depicted in the drawing noted in the foregoing Statement of Facts, to be located no closer than 10 feet from the property line, and subject to the following conditions:

1. A letter of authorization for and approval of the erection of said sign, signed by the Board of Library Trustees, standing as the property owner, must be submitted to the office of the Board of Appeals prior to the issuance of any permit by the Inspector of Buildings.
2. If the portion of the sign denoting the hours of operation is changed, a new drawing showing said change must be submitted to the office of the Board of Appeals prior to the issuance of any permit by the Inspector of Buildings.

The Inspector of Buildings is hereby authorized to issue a permit for the sign, subsequent to compliance with the aforesaid conditions, upon his receipt and approval of an application.

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.

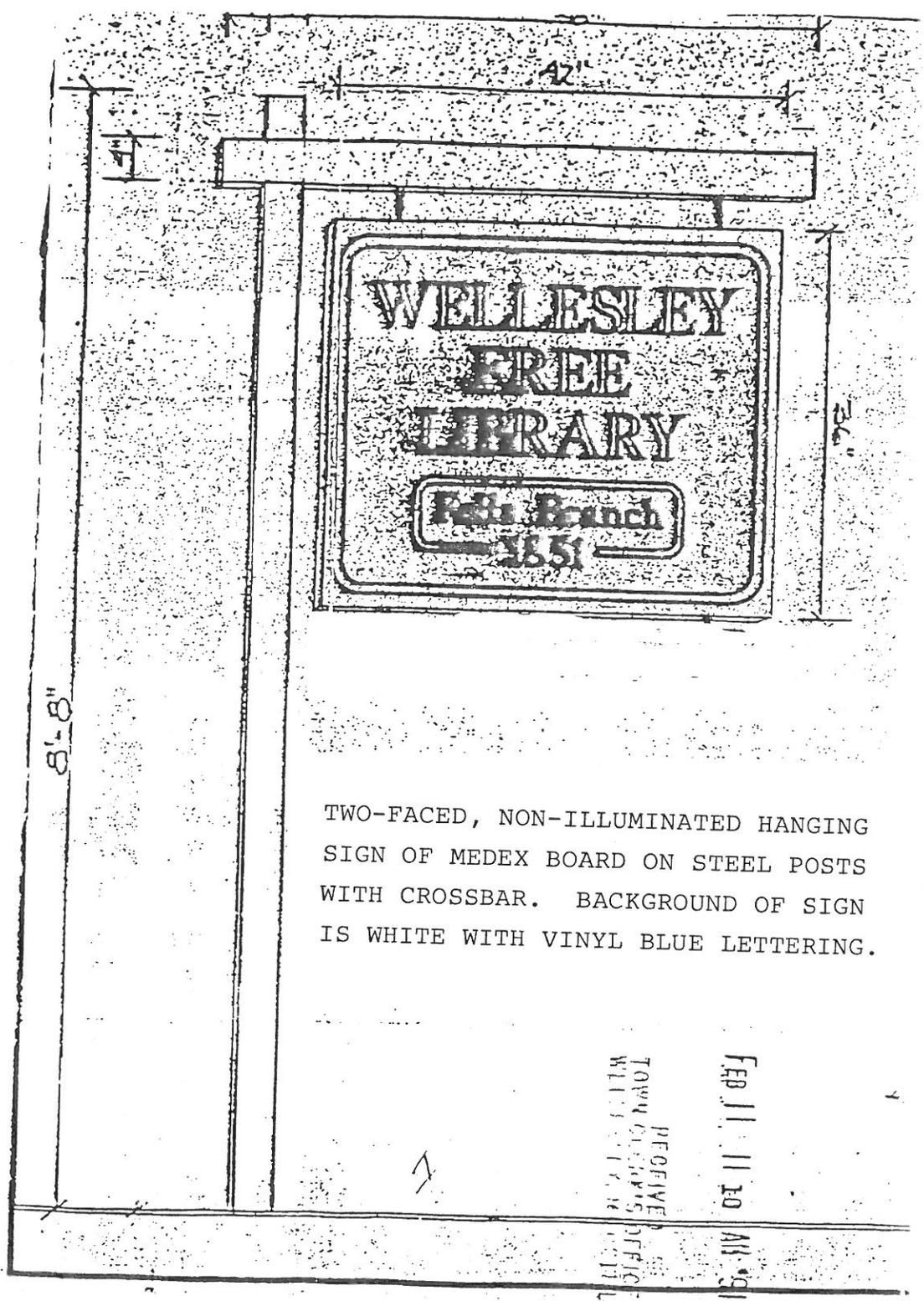

John A. Donovan, Jr., Chairman


Kendall P. Bates


William E. Polletta

cc: Planning Board
Inspector of Buildings
edg

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WELLESLEY, MA 02157
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WELLESLEY
 FREE
 LIBRARY
 Fall Branch
 1851

TWO-FACED, NON-ILLUMINATED HANGING SIGN OF MEDEX BOARD ON STEEL POSTS WITH CROSSBAR. BACKGROUND OF SIGN IS WHITE WITH VINYL BLUE LETTERING.

FEB 11 11 20 AM '91
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