

Planning Board Public Hearing Minutes
SITE PLAN REVIEW (SPR) – HOLYOKE MEDICAL CENTER, 575 BEECH STREET
(meeting is being recorded)

On Tuesday, September 8, 2015, the Holyoke Planning Board held a Public Hearing regarding a Site Plan Review submitted by Holyoke Medical Center, for the property located at 575 Beech Street. The meeting was held at 5:00 p.m. in the 4th Floor Conference Room of the City Hall Annex, 20 Korean Veterans Plaza, Holyoke, Massachusetts.

Attendance:

Planning Board

Mimi Panitch Chairman
Christian LaChapelle..... Vice-Chairman
John Kelley Member
Eileen Regan Member
Harry Montalvo Associate

Planning Staff

Marcos Marrero..... Director
Jeffrey Burkott Principal Planner
Sharon Konstantinidis Head Clerk

Others Present

Michael Wotzak SMRT, Inc., Architect
Spiros Hatiras Holyoke Medical Center
Carl Cameron Holyoke Medical Center
Mark Richter Holyoke Medical Center
Rick Shearns G. Greene Construction
Ken Costello SMRT, Inc., Project Manager
John Therrien Holyoke Medical Center

OPEN

At 5:02 p.m., MIMI PANITCH called for a motion to reopen the Public Hearing continued from 8/25/15. A motion was made by JOHN KELLEY and seconded by CHRIS LACHAPELLE. The motion carried 4-0.

KEN COSTELLO stated that the revisions to the plans (outlined on the revision list dated 9/3/2015) included the removal of the stair tower from the roof; location of the roof mounted a/c units; eliminating the hair pin turn for access to the ambulance drop off (now entering traveling west) and re-angle the parking spaces appropriately; location of transformer depicted; additional cast-in place retaining wall added at walk in patient entrance; and minor site grading modifications. He addressed the Planning Department response to comment letter dated 9/4/15. Regarding #10 circulation, MR COSTELLO noted that the emergency vehicles will no longer utilize the hair pin turn from Winchester Street to access the Emergency Department (ED). Instead, emergency vehicles will travel straight into the ED from Winchester, back into the parking spaces, and exit through the campus (Hospital Drive).

JEFFREY BURKOTT explained his continued concern of emergency vehicles traveling through the residential neighborhood via Portland/Winchester Streets as primary access instead of utilizing Hospital Drive through the main campus. He asked the applicant if they would consider changing the travel direction of the emergency vehicles. KEN COSTELLO responded that they were proceeding with the plan as submitted.

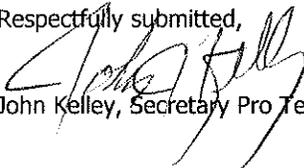
KEN COSTELLO noted that the request for a large sign had been removed from the submittal and will come back for approval as the sign plan develops. He called attention to the letter that was submitted from Carl Cameron noting that HMC had agreed to perform the traffic light study.

A sample of the building materials were submitted for review.

MIMI PANITCH opened the floor for public comment. No one was forthcoming.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Planning Board, MIMI PANITCH, at 5:19 p.m., called for a motion to close the Planning Board Meeting. A motion was made by JOHN KELLEY and seconded by EILEEN REGAN. The motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

John Kelley, Secretary Pro Tempore