On Tuesday, November 13, 2018, the Holyoke Planning Board held a Public Hearing regarding the above Special Permit Application. The meeting was held in the 4th floor Conference Room, City Hall Annex, 20 Korean Veterans Plaza, Holyoke, Massachusetts at 5:30 p.m.

EILEEN REGAN, at 5:56 p.m., called for a motion to open the Public Hearing and to waive the reading of the Public Hearing Notice. A motion was made by MIMI PANITCH and seconded by GUSTAVO ACOSTA. The motion carried 4-0.

JIM CARLIN explained that Walgreens was bringing the existing 132.5 square foot pylon sign into compliance with the Zoning Ordinance which allows for a maximum of 80 square feet with a Special Permit.

The Board reviewed the sign package as submitted. It was noted that the reader board was not electronic and would remain changed by hand.

EILEEN REGAN asked for those that wished to speak for or against, or to ask questions to come forward. No one was forthcoming.

WILLIAM RADNER stated that Walgreens has trees that are overgrown and hang over Dwight Street right-of-way, blocking his building and sign. The concern before fixing the sign should be for those individuals that hang out, are selling drugs, and sleeping overnight. MR RADNER added that no one appears to have the authority to remove the trees. The neighbors have been calling him to try to address the situation as it was not safe.

EILEEN REGAN responded that the Planning Board Public Hearing for the sign was not the appropriate forum to address this situation. She conveyed to Mr. Radner that he was at liberty to cut any branches over his property and noted that the police were best to handle any illegal activity on the site. Mr. RADNER expressed his concern of filing a complaint in fear of retaliation.

Adjournment - There being no further business to come before the Board, at 6:03 p.m. a motion was made by MIMI PANITCH and seconded by GUSTAVO ACOSTA to close the Public Hearing. The motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

John Kelley, Secretary