

From: [Todd Selig](#)
To: [Beth Olshansky](#); [Rick Taintor](#); [Karen Edwards](#)
Cc: [Andrea Bodo](#); [Patricia Sherman](#); [Molly Molloy](#); [Barbara Dill](#); [Paul Rasmussen](#); [Sean McCauley](#); [Sharon Ames](#); [Emily Innes](#)
Subject: Re: Minor Architectural Design and Color Committee
Date: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 12:56:18 PM
Attachments: [Letter-CDA-11-16-20f11.docx](#)

Dear Members of the Subcommittee,

I had a productive telephone conversation with Sean McCauley from Colonial Durham on Friday afternoon, 11/13/2020, regarding my own concerns regarding the selected brick color and the potential of selecting an alternative brick that might perhaps be a little more complimentary with the color palette ultimately chosen by the subcommittee, and this morning Mr. McCauley let me know a new brick palette was being sent to my attention at the Town Hall. As the subcommittee work is now complete, Mr. McCauley indicated he would be willing to work with me and our Town architect, Pat Sherman, if the Planning Board would ultimately also like to see an alternative brick color to accompany the color palette selected by the subcommittee. Once the brick palette arrives, assuming the Planning Board chooses to move in such a direction, we'll let everyone on the subcommittee know so you can offer your perspectives for Pat Sherman and me to consider.

It's important to clarify that Paul Rasmussen and I were the ones who selected the name of the subcommittee as discussed in our subcommittee proceedings. The name added the appropriate direction and boundaries to the role Paul and I believed the Planning Board had intended for the group – the composition of which I would ultimately organize in conjunction with Paul. Through give and take on both sides, the subcommittee and the applicant made tremendous progress in improving the overall project design.

It is important to note that the applicant had made it quite clear from the start that both the applicant and the applicant's architects preferred the "blue" color scheme submitted with the applicant's application to the Planning Board versus any changes recommended by the Town. The applicant grudgingly considered the colors recommended by the subcommittee, and after hours of discussion and much fruitful conversation, eventually came around to being open to compromise on the colors recommended by the subcommittee. The applicant did surprise the subcommittee at the end of the process during the third meeting by indicating it wanted to give the Planning Board the option to choose between the "blue" palette and the subcommittee's preferred natural tone palette. In retrospect, this is likely inconsequential as I believe the Planning Board will defer to the recommendation of the subcommittee that it established to painstakingly work through these complex color and design issues.

As part of the process, the Town's architect and subcommittee members did walk through aspects of the architectural design standards that Durham utilizes with the applicant's two architects in order to improve upon the overall project and better align the project to meet Durham objectives.

In fairness, it is my recollection that Sean McCauley and his team had made it clear in at least the second meeting (and possibly the first) that they were very set on the one brick color and they provided rationale as to why – consistent with other UNH buildings, other buildings in Town, etc. In

fact, it was because of the extensive discussion at our first meeting concerning brick that I took the time to photograph the applicant's proposed brick against the Courthouse and current Town Hall for comparative purposes and shared these images with the subcommittee in advance of our second meeting. Of course, several of us had concerns about the proposed brick color from the outset and continued to share such concerns with the applicant throughout the process.

In conclusion, the subcommittee process was very effective in identifying myriad ways to hone and substantially improve upon a significant project impacted by many factors outside of the subcommittee's control into as visually appealing a project as possible that fits with other design objectives for Durham and within the community as a whole.

As the principal organizer of this subcommittee effort, I would like to thank both the applicant and the members of the subcommittee for engaging in a process that resulted in a positive outcome for all concerned.

This memorandum will be shared with the members of the Planning Board and included in the public file for the project as a compliment to Beth's letter to the subcommittee, which is attached.

Todd

Todd I. Selig, Administrator

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He/him/his pronouns

Do your part to stop the spread of Covid-19: Wear a mask around others, avoid close physical contact, monitor your health, wash hands/disinfect!

From: Beth Olshansky <beth.olshansky@comcast.net>

Date: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 at 9:27 AM

To: Rick Taintor <rtaintor@ci.durham.nh.us>, Karen Edwards <kedwards@ci.durham.nh.us>

Cc: Andrea Bodo <afbodo@comcast.net>, Patricia Sherman <pacs03255@gmail.com>, Molly Molloy <mvmolloy247@gmail.com>, Barbara Dill <barbaradill@gmail.com>, Paul Rasmussen <pnrasmus@gmail.com>, Todd Selig <tselig@ci.durham.nh.us>

Subject: Minor Architectural Design and Color Committee

Dear Rick and Karen,

Please forward this email and attached letter to Colonial Durham Associates team members Sean McCauley, Emily Innes, and Sharon Ames as well as to members of the Planning Board. I would also appreciate your posting the letter online as usual.

Thank you.

Beth