



**Downtown Lima, Inc.**

144 S. Main Street, Suite 201

Lima, OH 45801

Phone: 419-222-2686

Email: [info@visitdowntownlimaohio.com](mailto:info@visitdowntownlimaohio.com)

Website: [www.visitdowntownlima.com](http://www.visitdowntownlima.com)

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**Members present:** Ken Blanchard, Cathy Clark, Bob Fitzgerald, Bart Mills

**Members absent:** Mike Flynn, Kent Fultz

**City of Lima:** Susan Crotty, Anthony DiPietro, Douglas Ditto, Amy Harpster

**Ex Officio:** Aubree Kaye, Sue Smith

**Guests:** Lisa Perry, General Manager of Brentily's; Matt Stetzer, Manager, The Elks Lodge #54

## **Design Review Board** **February 14, 2019 Agenda**

### **A. Call to order**

Once a quorum was established, Bart Mills called the meeting to order and asked members to review the minutes.

### **B. Minutes from January 10, 2019**

Bart Mills asked for approval of the minutes from January 10, 2019. Bob Fitzgerald motioned to accept the minutes. Cathy Clark seconded. All approve.

### **C. New Business**

1. Lima Elks Lodge #54  
302 W. North Street, Signage

This was the second review of this application for temporary signage at The Elks. The general manager of Brentily's restaurant, Lisa Perry, was present as well as Elks manager Matt Stetzer. Together, they wished to explain their need for temporary signage and seek suggestions from the Board for moving forward. The signage is crucial to the success of the new restaurant. Bart reported that he did call The Elks after last month's conditional denial of the application to explain the rationale. Mr. Stetzer explained that due to problems with the phone system, the call was not received. He also stated that he drove around the city and saw other similar temporary signs, so if such signage is not within city code, how were they permitted? Bart said that there is no specific ordinance restricting temporary signage, only that signs be made of "solid materials." Ms. Perry stated that as a fledgling business, she took an economical approach with the vinyl sign attached to metal posts. Bart replied that the Board has no exact definition of "semi-permanent" signage, but there were concerns about weather and wind. One existing example that was specifically cited by Mr. Stetzer had been installed on the side of a building without the Board's knowledge.

Mr. Stetzer further explained that the Elks' Trustees had not wanted to drill into the limestone exterior of their building to erect a permanent sign for the restaurant. Given that limitation, he asked for the Board's suggestions moving forward. Bob Fitzgerald mentioned a composite adhesive on the building rather than anchoring bolts. Ms. Perry wondered about a frame, a box of sorts in which signage may be inserted for the next 30 days until something permanent can be created. Both she and Matt stated that such eye-catching advertisement was crucial to the success of the restaurant. Bart suggested the corrugated plastic signs used by many churches and other which are cheap to create and can look quite nice. The idea of being able to switch out signage to advertise specials was appealing to Ms. Perry.

All agreed that there were options for continuing to display temporary signage for the next 30 days until a plan was created by The Elks. Board members assured both Ms. Perry and Mr. Stetzer that the design and colors of their sign were appropriate and that they wished for the success of the restaurant. Aubree Kaye offered other ideas for marketing the restaurant. Amy Harpster gave them specific dimensions for the new sign that would not require Board approval; however, if electricity was used to light the sign, approval would be required. Ms. Perry said recent conversations with Douglas Ditto had been very helpful. Bart stated that for now, the application would be rejected, but they should move forward with putting a sign up and return with a new application in 30 days. Mr. Stetzer said the new application will list the sign as permanent. Cathy Clark motioned to conditionally deny the application and Bob Fitzgerald seconded.

All approve.

## 2. Mercy Health / Bill Lyons, Cheap Sign Company 318 W. North Street, Signage

Bill Lyons, owner of The Cheap Sign Company, has been contracted to create a new sign for the Mercy Health Thrift Shop on North Street. The new sign will be a 96" x 48" double faced, extruded sign cabinet with SLS LED lighting. The sign design, colors and contents remain the same as the existing sign, but the size is much larger. Doug expressed concerns about the size and whether a design professional should be consulted. They are apparently using a secondary contractor. Bob Fitzgerald motioned to approve, and Ken Blanchard seconded.

### **D. Other**

While it is located out of the purview of the DRB, Ken Blanchard expressed concern about a "burgeoning" junk yard at the corner of N. Jackson and E. Pearl streets. The City of Lima is aware of it and is currently constrained from acting. Another location near the downtown area where junk is accumulating was also discussed.

Bob Fitzgerald motioned to adjourn. Cathy Clark seconded. All adjourn.