

Fair Haven Planning Commission
Town of Fair Haven - October 15, 2025 - Regular Meeting

Commissioners Present: Robert Richards - Chair, Ann Finley, Sam Lucci

Commissioners Absent: Linda Sienkiewicz - clerk, Deborah Laiacona - Vicechair

Others Present: Phil Adams - Zoning Administrator, Jennifer Jackson - Minute-taker, Kristine Braccidiferro - Sign Pro, Inc: applicant representative

Agenda

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:33 pm by Chair Richards.

2. **Review of Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

Approval of Minutes: Regular meeting - October 1, 2025

Mrs. Finley motioned at 7:41 pm to accept the minutes of October 15th. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lucci. All were in favor and the motion passed.

3. **New Business:**

- a. **Commercial Sign Application #A2025-044** for the proposed removal of the clock from the existing free-standing sign and replacement with an 8.8 sq. ft. internally illuminated cabinet sign. Replacement of the 7.7 sq. ft. wall sign. Replacement of the 2.3 sq. ft. store hours window vinyl and replacement of the drive-through hours window vinyl with a 1.3 sq. ft. wall plaque. Applicant: Kristine Braccidiferro of Sign Pro, Inc. Property Owner: Community Bank. Location : 97 Main Street. Fair Haven Tax Map # 24-51-26.

The PC had trouble starting the zoom meeting with the applicant, they were working on calling the applicant on the phone. Finally she called Chairman Richards' phone at 7:54 pm.

ZA Adams stated the initial proposal was to remove the clock and replace it with a digital clock. He stated he spoke with the applicant and explained the Historical Designation Application and the desire to keep the Downtown historical and asked that the bank reconsider. They stated they would try to repair the clock, in the mean time there would be a temporary sign in it's place. ZA Adams stated he saw no other concerns with their proposed signage. Mr. Lucci stated he loved the idea of saving the clock. ZA Adams stated a modern LED backlight sign was the original proposed change. Chairman Richards agreed the more period looking clock is better. ZA Adams stated he made the applicant aware of the 14ft height maximum regulation for a free standing sign. Chairman Richards stated from the application it doesn't look as if the sign will change much, just a modification of color. Mrs. Finley stated she did not like the bright orange color chosen for the sign. Mr. Lucci stated from the application it looked as if there were many shades of orange in their color branding. He also stated he thinks it will be hard to convince them to use any other color than their brand color.

Ms. Braccidiferro stated the plan was to take the clock, repair the components of the clock and replace the color of the sign. They would like to keep the structure of the sign the same; only change the branding. ZA Adams asked about the height of the sign. Ms.

Braccidiferro stated the clock was measured to be 13 ft. 2 in. to the top of the sign cabin. ZA Adams asked if the height would stay the same. Ms. Braccidiferro stated yes. ZA Adams asked what was needing approval? Ms. Braccidiferro stated the removal of the clock. Ms. Braccidiferro stated they would like to do the modifications to the other signs all in one trip and take the clock back to be fixed. The pole for the clock will remain while the box for the clock is being worked on. ZA Adams asked if the applicant would come back to the PC after more information was gathered about the clock? Ms. Braccidiferro stated it depends on the PC's needs.

Mr. Lucci asked about the color of the clock sign and the standard door vinyl, stating the color seems brighter than the primary brand color. He asked if there was a difference because of the printing of the application or if the color was actually brighter. Ms. Braccidiferro said it does appear different at times. There are different codes for the color. She will need to get confirmation, but the rendering color might be slightly different because the true color might not be available for rendering. Mr. Lucci asked for clarification because it seems quite bright, brighter than other Community Bank Signs. Ms. Braccidiferro clarified which colors the PC was talking about; the orange around the clock sign and the front door found on pages 11 and 7 of the application. Chairman Richards stated the PC would prefer the color on page 8. He explained that the PC is in the process of creating a historic district downtown. The bank is part of the historic district, a historically accurate sign is a better choice in general for the area. Ms. Braccidiferro stated that this application process was brought up by Community Bank, they wanted the sign lighted. Chair Richards stated the district isn't in effect yet, it has passed in the PC level, but is on its way to public hearings and the SelectBoard approval. He stated that the problem would be solved if a muted color was chosen. But, there is nothing in the zoning which would allow the PC to deny the application because of the color. He stated the applicant is well within their right to do whatever they would like, but it would be helpful to modify the color to the more muted color. Ms. Braccidiferro stated within her research she saw there were no color guidelines, which the Community Bank liked, but she feels they'd appreciate the concerns and could choose a more mild orange. She has a Benjamin Moore catalog that a different color of orange could be chosen from. They are open to compromise.

ZA Adams asked what the timeline for the project is. Ms. Braccidiferro stated as soon as possible, maybe midNovember, because fixing the clock is important in the whole design. Chairman Richards stated there is nothing for the PC to say no to at this point. He called for a motion on the application.

At 8:13 pm Ms. Finley **motioned to accept the commercial application with the signs and the refurbished clock, if the clock can't be fixed they should return to the Planning Commission for approval of the redesign.** Mr. Lucci seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

ZA Adams had a few procedural questions for Ms. Braccidiferro. He asked if he could hand deliver the Permit placard to the bank rather than mail it to her and then have to have the placard mailed back up to the bank. She stated that would be perfect. He then asked if an email containing the permit information was ok or if she needed original copies. She stated the email was sufficient. He then asked about the final inspection form and review and who should be contacted for that process. She asked to be emailed for the process. Ms. Braccidiferro

asked when the permit should be expected. ZA Adams stated Thursday or Friday of this week. Ms. Braccidiferro thanked the PC and signed off at 8:20 pm.

b. Discussion of items to include in the strategic 5-year Plan to be included in the Downtown Designation

Chairman Richards stated that because there were only 3 of 5 PC members present and no EDC members the discussion of the 5 year plan should be held off until the next meeting. All were in agreement. Mrs. Finley asked if any of the EDC was formally invited to join. Chairman Richards stated he didn't have their contact information. She gave the information.

4. Other Business:

- a. Public Comment: None**
- b. Review of Mail: None**
- c. Other: None**

5. Adjournment:

Mrs. Finley **motioned to adjourn at 8:22 pm.** Mr. Lucci seconded the motion. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennifer Jackson, Minute-taker

The Next Commission Meeting will be held on November 5, 2025 at 7:30 pm