

CITY OF PORT WASHINGTON  
DESIGN REVIEW BOARD MINUTES  
December 14, 2011  
Lower Level Conference Room, City Hall

Present: Rob Vanden Noven, Chief Mitchell, and Mike Muller. Also Present: Randy Tetzlaff, Director of Planning & Development. Absent and Excused: Brenda Fritsch and Amanda Williams.

1. ROLL CALL. Vanden Noven called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. and noted a quorum was present.
2. PUBLIC APPEARANCES: None
3. 80 FOOT OBSERVATION TOWER AT UPPER LAKE PARK, PAT POOLE, APPLICANT:  
An 80' observation tower in Upper Lake Park's Scout Overlook area is being proposed by a group calling itself the Friends of the Tower. Since the location is within a City park, the group through its spokesperson, Pat Poole, presented the proposal to the Park and Recreation Board in October and the Board recommended approval by an unanimous vote.

The specific location is on the site of the former Boy Scout Encampment or north bluff lookout. The wood structure would be built on 30' x 30' concrete pad surrounded by landscaping, bike rack(s), and signage. A nearby parking lot is just east of the proposed location. Upper Lake Park is zoned PUL, Park and Utility Land and the maximum height for an accessory structure is 85 feet. The tower could become a destination offering residents and tourists to see a panoramic view of Lake Michigan and the surrounding Port Washington countryside. The Plan Commission will need to decide whether the tower is an appropriate accessory use in the park and if the proposed location is the best one available. The Common Council will decide the actual fate of the tower because it must grant permission to build it on City property. By its vote, the Park and Recreation Board is willing to accept the tower as park property and maintain in the future.

The DRB members agreed that the tower would be a wonderful gift to the City and would be a draw. The location would not inhibit the views for residents to the west since their view is primarily looking SE towards the lake. If it is to be a tourist draw, the tower needs to be seen and not hidden from view. There should be adequate parking on the top of the hill to accommodate the tower, the stairs, and folks sitting in their vehicles viewing the lakefront. **A motion was made by Mitchell, seconded by Vanden Noven, to recommend approval of the observation tower as presented. All voting aye, the motion carried.**

4. ENCLOSURE AT HARBOR HILLS RECREATION CENTER, 101 FREEMAN DRIVE, BOB NISLEIT, APPLICANT: This item will be tabled at the request of the applicant.
5. FORTH COMING EVENTS: None.
6. ADJOURNMENT: **On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Muller, the meeting adjourned at 3:10 pm.**