

State College Borough Council  
March 18, 2004

The State College Borough Council met in joint session, on March 18, 2004, in the Council Chambers of the State College Municipal Building, 243 South Allen Street, with members of the Planning Commission, Design Review Board, Transportation Commission, Tree Commission, and others involved with designing the Beaver Avenue parking facility. The meeting was called to order at noon.

Council members present for all (or part) of the meeting:

Craig R. Humphrey  
James H. Meyer  
Janet K. Knauer  
Thomas E. Daubert  
Elizabeth A. Goreham  
Catherine G. Dauler

Planning Commission members present for part of the meeting:

Silvi Lawrence  
Bill Ryan  
Art Anderson  
Peter Hulburt  
Richard Schuhmann

Design Review Board members present for some or all of the meeting:

Zoe Boniface

Transportation Commission members present for some or all of the meeting:

Chris Falzone  
Christy Rambeau

Tree Commission members present for some or all of the meeting:

Nick Bolgiano

Others present:

Bill Welch, Mayor  
Thomas J. Fountaine, II, Manager  
Mark A. Whitfield, Director of Public Works  
Carl R. Hess, Planning Director  
Robin Neff, Timothy Haahs & Associates  
Ed Rahme, Timothy Haahs & Associates  
Alan W. Sam, Borough Arborist  
Herman L. Slaybaugh, Zoning Officer  
Edward C. Holmes, Parking/Facilities Coordinator  
Frank J. Schwab, Construction Manager  
Trish Meek, Tom Zilla, and D. J. Liggett, Centre Regional Planning Agency  
Teresa K. Sparacino, Downtown State College, Incorporated  
Charles R. Curley, SC Presbyterian Church  
Ned Book, State College Presbyterian Church  
Virginia Rainey, Huntingdon Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church, USA  
Carmine W. Prestia, District Justice, District Court 49-1-01  
Delores Taricani, Medical Arts Building managing partner  
David Guss and Rick Tetzlaff, Legg Mason  
Chris Caldwell and Jon Rockey, Northwest Savings Bank  
Alex Mathews, State College Area School District student  
Pat Vernon, State College Area School District teacher  
Fred Fernsler, Architect  
Mike Haluga, Architect

The purpose of this meeting was to conduct an open house with all affected parties to review the architect's design for a garage, proposed to be constructed on the southwest corner of Beaver Avenue at Fraser Street.

Robin Neff presented Scheme F, which incorporates two additional properties, two levels of commercial space, and the additional setback from Beaver, creating a total car count of 529.

Comments made in reference to the sketch were:

- Concern was expressed about vehicle/pedestrian interaction at entry and exit points.
- Add distinctive treatment to sidewalks where it crosses the driveway.
- Too much architectural consideration is being given for a garage.
- Eliminate the column on the corner of the stair tower.
- Many were favorable to making the garage a signature building and suggested more architecture be incorporated, with spandrel art and a significant stair tower. One comment in connection with these suggestions was that this would raise the bar for future projects, resulting in better looking buildings downtown.
- Concern over the height and prominence of the garage with respect to the State College Presbyterian Church across the street.
- Recognition that stepping the parking levels back from commercial spaces would lessen the impact of the height.
- A suggestion was made to shield areas where the sun would “blind” drivers.
- The height of the spandrels was questioned in reference to large vehicle headlights.
- Adding colors was appreciated – no grey concrete.
- Dolores Taricani indicated that the District Justice would require approximately 2,350 square feet of space, bringing the minimum square footage of the commercial space to 17,350 square feet.

Mr. Neff noted that a final rendering will be presented at the work session of the Borough Council at noon on April 2<sup>nd</sup> and a presentation will then be made to Council at its meeting on April 5<sup>th</sup>.

There being no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Barbara J. Natalie  
Assistant Borough Secretary

