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September 13, 2019

Mr. Tom Harrigan  
Zoning & Planning Administrator  
Assistant to the Village Manager  
Village of Elm Grove  
13600 Juneau Blvd.  
Elm Grove, WI 53122

RE: Berens Residence Pier Approval

Dear Mr. Harrigan,

We recently submitted an Accessory Structure Permit to the Building Board for review and approval for two (2) entry piers at the Berens Residence, located at 13400 Brook Ave. Our request for approval was tabled by the Board at the September 3rd meeting. I thank you for sharing their concerns with us as indicated in your recent email dated September 5, 2019. The intent of this letter is to offer our response to each of their concerns. See our responses below.

- The style and design of the monument piers do not complement the style of the home. They would have preferred to see all red brick.  
The white/tan and red hues of the piers were chosen to reflect both the home's siding, window sills, mortar & brick colors.
- The actual scale and size of the bricks used in the piers is different from that of the brick used on the home (the monument brick is smooth face with no joint).  
The scale and size of the pier materials is proportionate with the house materials. Additionally, they are more appropriate considering their application with the overall size and scale of the piers. The larger white blocks are visibly contrasting, yet similarly compatible to the red block materials, mirroring the same relationship the house siding has to the house brick. The smooth texture is inherent to the product.
- The Board is looking for consistency, something that would complement the home.  
The piers fit in well with other built elements on the property. Construction of the piers is consistent with the construction of the patio seat walls and columns. The pier caps match the caps on the patio seat wall and columns. Mortar joints are not necessary in their construction.



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- The Board was uncertain if a light fixture will be included on top of the pier. [If so, they would like to see a cut sheet of the proposed light fixture.](#)  
**See lantern image below:**



**Epiphany Lighting 104986 BK Cast Aluminum Outdoor Exterior Three Light Post Lantern in Black Finish by Epiphany**

Cast Aluminum Post Lantern with Clear Beveled Glass. Wet Location Exterior Post Mount in Black Finish. Width: 8; Height: 24"; Bulb: 3-60 Watt (C)

We believe the collaborative design process between home owner and contractor, successfully complements materials, colors and scale with the home and patio elements. We find the piers to be attractive, tasteful and complimentary with the home.

I hope our responses satisfies the Board's concerns and justifies our design selection process. This information should help the Board better understand the project and support them toward reaching agreement for approval. Please let us know how the Board may vote at the September 16th meeting for reconsideration of our request for approval.

Sincerely,

Gerard Rewolinski, PLA  
Sr. Landscape Architect  
Trees on the Move  
gerard@treesonthemove.com

cc: Richard Berens, file

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