

Ann Machado - The Inn at St. John, 939 Congress Street

From: Tom Jewell <tjewell@jewellandbulger.com>
To: AMACHADO@portlandmaine.gov
Date: 12/13/2013 12:29 PM
Subject: The Inn at St. John, 939 Congress Street

Dear Ann:

We would like to move forward with an appeal to the Planning Authority for a couple of new signs. We understand that because of initials on existing awnings, that they are considered as signs and that exceeds the number of permitted signs.

The owner has removed a 90 square foot sign on the west side of the building. They would like to install a new 90 square foot sign on the west side, as well as a 40 square foot sign on the east side. There is an existing sign on the front on Congress Street that they plan to keep.

I understand that the Applicant is within their permitted square footage, but the problem is with the number of signs allowed under table 2.6 for B-2 zone, single tenant lots.

If necessary, the Applicant will remove the current awnings and replace them with awnings with no logo, or will cover up the logo on the existing awnings. However, the "ISJ" initials on the awnings are fairly inconspicuous, and it seems a shame to remove, replace or alter perfectly fine awnings. We would hope that the building authority would allow relief from the number of signs allowed, so that the new directional signs can be installed. Perhaps a stipulation could be included that at the time the awning are replaced, that no initials or other advertising would be incorporated on the fabric.

Please let me know if we need to file a formal application and what that would entail.

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