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September 28, 2023

Letter to the Mendocino Historical Review Board

Re: Application 2023-0014

Planning & Building Services

Dear Mr. Roth, Mr. Kappler, Mr. Saunders, and Ms. Madrigal,

This is a letter regarding the application of Mr. Aum for renovating the warehouse building at 10546 Lansing Street in Mendocino. As the applicant is on the MHRB Board, he was not included in the salutation as it is presumed he will be recusing himself from MHRB Board a decision regarding this project.

This application is regarding changes to the warehouse that was built in 1906, and has been used as such for all the years since. It is with a lot of thought to understand that times have changed, and the need for a warehouse has become somewhat outdated due to the lack of properties available in the village of Mendocino. Small changes can be done, however, this is not a small change.

The design that the applicant has drafted is completely overblown with windows on the south side of the building. Under the proposed plans, the entire historic wall would be rebuilt to include 27 windows in an industrial design that has no bearing or resemblance to any other building in the town of Mendocino. The large panel of stacks of three windows side by side, times three, are more conducive to a downtown industrial area of a big city. The lights windows above add to the overall industrial effect. Nothing about this design fits in with any historical structure or outbuilding in the village of Mendocino. There are way too many windows to be considered fitting in with the historical guidelines. This is not in any way a historical design.

This design is not harmonious with the town, and appears very modern.

It would be to the benefit of the MHRB Board to look carefully at the photograph Attachment C of the application prior to making any decision.

As for the roof, it was historically comprised of corrugated metal. This design proposal presumes that a composition roof was approved, when in fact the MHRB Board did not approve the change of roof material for this roof from metal to composition on a prior application by the applicant. At this point, half of the roof is composition and half is metal due to the discovery by Planning that MHRB did not approve changing the roof material to composition shingles. The roof composition is an additional consideration for the current MHRB Board to make.

It is with trust and good faith in you as the MHRB Board that you make good and sound decisions regarding this application. Thank you.

Sincerely,