

Dear design review board chair:

The purpose of the Design Review Board is to review and approve the exterior design and aesthetic aspects of a building project to promote good design and continuity. It is the responsibility for aesthetic consideration and continuity that will be addressed here.

While it is imperative that the community embrace progress and the future, it is essential that these actions promote the values, culture and ambiance of The Village that is the heart of the community. Wauwatosa is known as the City of Homes, characterized as quaint and residential with small town feel. Our community is drawn together by more than its visual qualities. One element key to sustaining the “village feel” is the presence of the church bells.

The best plans are built on the strengths of the past. St. Bernard’s Catholic Church, established in 1911, laid the cornerstone for its new church building in 1926, almost 100 years ago. Since the construction of its first building, St. Bernards has had an important presence in the Village. In 1962, St. Bernards christened its last church which included the new bell tower. Since then, the bells have rung the hour and half hour throughout the day 365 days a year for 62 years. These bells do more than call the congregation together. They support the creation of an aesthetic fabric that wraps around the neighborhoods.

Let’s not lose this! Although the new development on the St. Bernards site will dramatically reduce the number of single family homes in the Village for which Wauwatosa is known, we don’t need to lose the ambiance created by the bells. There are options: here are two. The bell tower could be mandated to be a part of the new development with the bells maintained by the condominium organization. Or the bell tower could be moved to Root Common and maintained by the City.

As you consider the plans proposed for building condominiums in The Village, include the responsibility to ensure continuity of the ambiance, the feel.

Thank you for your consideration.

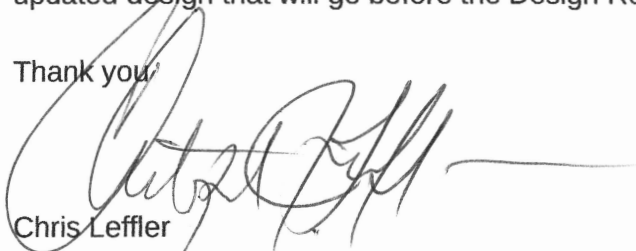
Susan Cerletty  
1848 Church St., Historic Heights  
414-405-1355  
[Susan.cerletty@gmail.com](mailto:Susan.cerletty@gmail.com)

Cc: Margaret Arney [marney@wauwatosa.net](mailto:marney@wauwatosa.net)  
Brad Foley [bfoley@wauwatosa.net](mailto:bfoley@wauwatosa.net)

To The City of Wauwatosa Design Review Board:

The Village of Wauwatosa BID has reviewed the most recent proposal for an apartment complex at 7474 Harwood Ave. Based on that review, we support Three Leaf Partners and the updated design that will go before the Design Review Board on July 18.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Leffler", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Chris Leffler  
President of the Village of Wauwatosa BID

**Sara Elmer**

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**From:** Stefanie Escobedo  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 27, 2024 9:56 AM  
**To:** Sara Elmer  
**Subject:** Fwd: [External] Building & Safety Contact Request

Please add this to the next DRB packet that St. Bernard’s is in. Thanks!

Thank you,  
Stefanie Escobedo  
Building & Safety Manager  
Office: 414-479-8913

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** gmb-webmaster@wauwatosa.net  
**Date:** June 26, 2024 at 6:37:31 PM EDT  
**To:** Sara Elmer <selmer@wauwatosa.net>, Stefanie Escobedo <sescobedo@wauwatosa.net>  
**Subject:** [External] Building & Safety Contact Request

A new entry to a form/survey has been submitted.

**Form Name:** Email the Building & Safety Division  
**Date & Time:** 06/26/2024 5:37 PM  
**Response #:** 1808  
**Submitter ID:** 21127  
**IP address:** 2603:6000:f100:6014:256d:81e7:3d2f:a1c1  
**Time to complete:** 4 min. , 26 sec.

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**Survey Details: Answers Only**

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**Page 1**

Coleen  
Michaelis  
Tosabeaner@yahoo.com

I know the review board turned down the design for the new apartment complex that will take the place of St. Bernard’s. Driving past it today, I noticed 4 beautiful bells on the building. I’d like to attach a photo, but I’m not able to in this format. I think it would be wonderful if those could be incorporated into the new design. Blending the old with the new. I think the residents of Tosa would love it!