Case: 1350 Massachusetts Avenue, Pavement Coffeehouse, BZA 01461-2017

Applicant: Pavement CoffeeHouse – c/o Lawrence Margulies

Proposal and Zoning Issues: The Board of Zoning Appeal Special Permit application is for a Fast Order Food Establishment (Sections 4.35.o and 11.30) to operate a fast order food establishment.

Harvard Square Advisory Committee: October 23, 2017

Summary: Larry Margulies presented the application for the special permit. The proposal is for a coffee shop on the two public levels of the arcade area. The hours of operation will be from 7am to 11 pm Sunday through Thursday and open until 1 am on Friday and Saturday evenings. Deliveries will be based on volume, at most twice a day. Customers will utilize the common area seating at the Smith Campus Center.

Trash and composting will be done through the building’s common area in the basement.

Signage will be part of the building wide plan.

HSAC comments: A motion was made and seconded to support the application for the Fast Order Food Establishment, that the proposal meets the guidelines of the Harvard Square Overlay District. There is a need for access to quality coffee and locally sourced baked goods in Harvard Square given the student population and the visitor volume. The Committee also discussed how the ground floor of the Smith Campus Center included such uses during the review of that BZA case.

The Committee discussed how the coffee shop would operate on the two levels of the Smith Campus Center.

All members in attendance supported the Fast Order Food Special Permit and find it in conformance with the Harvard Square Overlay District guidelines. There were no members of the public.

Committee Members in Attendance: John DiGiovanni, Matt Simitis, Frank Kramer, William Barry and Laruen Curry. Alexandra Offiong abstained from voting as she represents the landlord, President and Fellow of Harvard College.

Respectfully submitted for the Committee,

Liza Paden
Community Development Department