NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN COMMISSION ADVISORY REPORT

CHAPEL STREET AND PARK STREET (northwest corner), designation as "Gag Jr.'s RE:

Corner" to honor Vincent Gagliardi Jr. (Alderwoman Clark).

1451-08 REPORT:

Approval (see below) ADVICE:

BACKGROUND

Alderwoman Frances T. Clark proposes that the northwest corner of Chapel and Park Streets be named "Gag Jr.'s Corner" in honor of Vincent Gagliardi, Jr. For 50 years Mr. Gagliardi has operated successful businesses in the Chapel West neighborhood where he is an active member of the Chapel West Special Services District. Over his lifetime he has worked hard to improve the business climate and environment within the District and has encouraged other business owners to locate there. His own business, Gag Jr's. Liquor Shop at 1183 Chapel Street, is at the corner of Park and Chapel where the corner naming is proposed.

Street corners may be named in accord with Section 18-2 of the Code of Ordinances where a procedure is defined, including submission of a site plan showing location of all structures and street features, a plan for the sign drawn to scale, a petition of at least 250 city resident signatures (of which 2/3 must be neighborhood residents), and a fee paid (\$250).

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

The Commission believes it is fully appropriate to name the corner in the Dwight neighborhood after this devoted civil servant. The involved parties should work with the Department of Transportation, Traffic and Parking (TTP) on a site plan and wording for the sign which should easily fit on a standard sign block, due to its compact title. As TTP is responsible for creating, installing and maintaining such signs, it is important that a final design is developed in consultation with TTP.

Commission staff observes that of the 316 signatures on the petition, approximately one third are outof-town residents, leaving an additional 50 signatures of residents to be procured. Then two thirds of the residents who sign must be residents of the neighborhood in the proximity of street corner. One could argue that a number of the out-of-town residents may be business owners who have a vested interest in the neighborhood. It may be prudent to further revise Section 18-2(3)(iii) of the Code of Ordinances to add "business owners" from the neighborhood who could sign in favor of the naming even though they might not reside in the City.

ADVICE

Approval with Department of Transportation, Traffic and Parking to approve final sign design and location and signatures to be procured prior to the Aldermanic vote.

ADOPTED: April 20, 2011

Edward Mattison

Chair

ATTEST

Karvı M. Gilvarg, AIA Executive Director