The HDAC heard a Presentation from Anne McNally regarding the renovation and expansion of their restaurant at 8634 Germantown Ave. This expansion will involve the restaurant expanding into the space at 8632 Germantown Ave., previously Murray Opticians. The committee’s discussion was primarily concerned with the two front facades, and how they will be renovated to combine the two separate fronts. The McNally’s would like to restore the two front facades to their original appearance, which had a series of wood recessed panels and a half timbering design at the second story. Prior renovations included covering over the original brick with stucco and covering over the half timbering and panels with siding. The committee requested that, if possible, without damage to the original brick façade, that this renovation follow the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards, and include the removal of the added stucco, to expose the original brick. Because the McNally’s had not chosen their architect for this project at the time there were seeking our support, the committee requested that they return once their final designs have been completed. The committee voted to support their variance for the proposed use of a sit down restaurant. After our HDAC Meeting, committee member, Greg
Woodring, completed the attached rendering of a possible design for the renovated fronts of the two properties, which I presented to the McNally’s at the follow up DRC meeting, explaining that this was a possible design solution that they could consider. Feel free to contact Greg directly if you would like to discuss his design with him.

Updates:

East Chestnut Hill Ave.

Chestnut Hill East Train Station Barrier Wall

The Community was notified early last week that work on the proposed retaining wall that runs along the train tracks at the Chestnut Hill East Station was about to get underway. We worked closely with Septa back in 2016 on the design of this retaining wall, which will be constructed of stone facing at the base and a coated, painted metal at the top. A dark green color for the metal had been selected at that time. Upon learning of the start of the project, I contacted the Septa representative in charge of the project, expressing our gratitude and confirming that the original design was still in place. That was confirmed. See the article in last week’s Local for additional information on the project.
Two East Chestnut Hill Ave.

Much concern had been expressed regarding the differences in the development at Two East CH Ave. regarding the variations of the design of the new building, the materials used, and the removal of two heritage trees on the property. I had also expressed concern about the four/five street trees along Germantown Ave. as well as the removal of the original driveway stone wall that is being replaced with a new stone faced wall. We understand that Main Street Properties has been cited by the city for four violations.

Glen Falso, the owner of Main Street Properties has been invited to meet with community members who were involved with the original developer and the support of the variances for the project. I plan to attend that meeting, and will report on what is learned and the solutions moving forward.