



APPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Mike McGinn
Mayor

Diane Sugimura
Director, DPD

Marshall Foster
Planning Director, DPD

Julie Bassuk
Chair

Graham Black

Malika Kirkling

Laurel Kunkler

Tom Nelson

Julie Parrett

Osama Quotah

Norie Sato

Donald Vehige

Valerie Kinast
Coordinator

Tom Iurino
Senior Staff

April 21, 2011

Convened 10:00 am
Adjourned 4:00 pm

Projects Reviewed

Yesler Terrace Redevelopment
Unico
Active Voice Building
DPD Planning Division Update

Commissioners Present

Julie Bassuk, Chair
Graham Black (excused from 3:00pm-4:00pm)
Malika Kirkling
Tom Nelson
Osama Quotah (excused from 1:00pm-4:00pm)
Norie Sato
Donald Vehige (excused from 10:00am-12:00pm)

Commissioners Excused

Julie Parrett
Laurel Kunkler

Incoming Commissioners Present

Debbie Wick-Harris

Staff Present

Valerie Kinast
Tom Iurino



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April 21, 2011	Project:	Active Voice Building
	Phase:	Skybridge
	Last Reviewed:	Mar 17, 2011
	Presenters:	Ben Barron, Clise Properties Jay Reeves, Sclater Partners Architects PC
	Attendees:	Beverly Barnett, SDOT Angela Steele, SDOT

Time: 2:30pm – 3:30pm

PRESENTATION

Clise, Inc. proposed removing an alley skybridge and replacing it with a new one extending across the alley diagonally so that it could meet ADA requirements. The proposed skybridge provided a connection between the parking garage on 5th Avenue and the office building on 6th Avenue. Clise offered a public benefit package that consisted of a little plaza and landscaping at the north end of the alley where Jazz Alley has its entrance.

At the last review, the Commission approved the schematic design, but asked the design of the skybridge be refined and the plaza elements be improved and extended.

Clise responded to the commission's review. The skybridge was simplified, the awnings and canopies were redesigned, the lighting extended down the alley, the paving proposal changed, two parking stalls removed, and the plaza elements adjusted.

ACTION

The Commission thanked the design team for its presentation of the Active Voice Building Skybridge and its response to the commissioners' previous comments. The commission appreciated the changes to the skybridge that made it appear less bulky than before. The commission also appreciated the deletion of the parking spaces and the planter/plinth at the entrance to the alley and the more public and pedestrian focused space that brings.

With a vote of 6-0, the Design Commission approved the skybridge proposal and public benefit package on the condition that street trees or an acceptable substitute will be placed along Lenora to enhance the streetscape and improve the pedestrian experience. The commission made the following recommendations:

- **Refine the design to the Lenora Street side to add more character and panache. The Lenora streetscape is the most public part of the public benefit package since the improvements to the alley, while public facing, can also be perceived as more of a tenant amenity on private property. Also, with the new project across the street, the Lenora streetscape will be even more important and will help create interest and energy around the Active Voice Building.**
- **Work with SDOT to plant street trees along Lenora. If SDOT will not allow them, find alternatives to enhance the pedestrian experience along Lenora, such as landscaping, sculpture, art or other design elements. Send the design options to the commission for administrative review.**
- **Rethink the design, color, shape and material of the canopy. There is a clutter of language and elements in the canopy and awning; simplify them. Consider a lighter color to prevent heat gain underneath during the summer. Play with colored lighting, perhaps, under the canopy. Choose**

another material if possible; fabric may not be the right language for awning, especially given the architectural language of the building.

- **Choose sustainable materials for the lighting and the concrete, both composition of the mix and the color.**

Commissioner Wick-Harris did not vote because she is not yet confirmed.

Commissioner Quotah was not present for the review and did not vote.