



The City of Seattle

## Ballard Avenue Landmark District Board

Mailing Address: PO Box 94649 Seattle WA 98124-4649  
Street Address: 700 5th Ave Suite 1700

BLD 19/09

### MINUTES OF THE March 5, 2009 MEETING

TIME: 9:00 A.M.  
PLACE: Ballard Neighborhood Service Center  
5604 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NW

#### BOARD MEMBERS

Richard Hiner  
Marnie McGrath  
Jim Riggle  
Tobin Thompson

#### STAFF

Heather McAuliffe

#### Absent:

John Bureson, Vice Chair  
Steven Mako, Chair

As a quorum was present, the meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Marnie McGrath.

#### **030509.1 APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATES OF APPROVAL**

030509.11 5307 Ballard Ave NW  
James Weimann, Mike Skidmore

Application: Proposed amendment to design of siding for west elevation approved per BLD 04/09.

Staff Report: Heather McAuliffe explained that the applicant had previously proposed to reuse existing aged wood siding on the building, but that it turned out not to be possible. The new proposal was to install vertical wood siding and paint it. She distributed elevation drawings, photos and a color sample. The relevant guidelines were 2. Secretary of Interior's Standards and 5. Building Surface Treatments.

Applicant Comment: James Weimann explained that the replacement wood was the same as the Board approved earlier for the south wall of the addition at the back of 5307 Ballard Ave NW.

**Administer**

Public Comment: There were no comments from the public.

Board Discussion: Board members asked clarifying questions about the material and where the lengths would join. The applicant explained that there would be one or two joints visible for each length along the building, and that they would be flashed. Board members concurred that the replacement design and color met the guidelines.

Motion: Tobin Thompson made a motion to approve the application as submitted.

MM/SC/TT/RH  
4-0-0

030509.12 Shiku Sushi  
5310 Ballard Ave NW  
Robert Kim

Application: Approval for interior blinds, to be open 10:30 a.m. to closing time 7 days/week.

Staff Report:

- Retroactive application
- Installed as a precautionary measure after business owner learned of burglaries that were happening in Ballard.
- Blinds are drawn overnight.
- Blinds are opaque and cover storefront windows and entry door completely when drawn.
- In 2004-2005, the Board started to enforce transparency guidelines after many businesses had obscured their windows with window coverings, impacting the pedestrian experience/character of the historic district. Business owners agreed to open the blinds/curtains except in exceptional circumstances, such as when using the space for physical therapy, private meetings, or while employees are counting money.

Similar case:

Conor Byrne Pub – owner installed curtains and shut them from closing time until opening time due to concerns about employees being observed while counting money. To comply with the Board’s transparency guideline, the owner agreed to close the curtains only while employees were counting money.

Heather McAuliffe distributed photos of the blinds installed in the windows and provided a notebook of photos showing window coverings along Ballard Avenue in 2004-2005 when the Board reviewed numerous retroactive window covering applications. The relevant guideline was 7. Transparency.

Applicant Comment: Rob Kim explained that he installed the blinds after he heard about burglaries along Ballard Avenue.

Public Comment: There were no comments from the public.

Board Discussion: Board members discussed the necessity to have transparency in order to activate the pedestrian experience along Ballard Avenue. Most members thought that it was reasonable for blinds to be closed at night and concurred that opening the blinds at 10:30 a.m. was acceptable, citing the fact that most shops along Ballard Avenue open at 11 a.m. Tobin Thompson expressed reservations about having the blinds closed, because he thought it might be better for pedestrians to have the blinds open at night. The Board conducted a straw poll. Three members of four members indicated that they would support the application.

Motion: Richard Hiner made a motion to approve the application as submitted.

MM/SC/RH/JR  
3-1-0 (Thompson against)

**030509.2 BOARD BUSINESS:** There were no items discussed.

**030509.3 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Board members reviewed the minutes of the January 8, 2009 meeting.

Motion: Richard Hiner made a motion to approve the minutes as written.

MM/SC/RH/JR  
2-0-2 (Thompson, McGrath abstained)

**030509.4 REPORT OF THE CHAIR:** There was no report.

**030509.5 STAFF REPORT:** Heather McAuliffe announced that the property owners of 5313 Ballard Ave NW, the former cabinet shop, would be returning with an application to restore the clerestory windows.

Richard Hiner made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jim Riggle seconded the motion.

9:30 a.m. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather McAuliffe  
Board Coordinator