



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 34/08

MINUTES OF THE May 1, 2008 MEETING

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

BOARD MEMBERS

John Bureson
Steven Mako
Jim Riggle
John Widell
Elaine Wine, Chair

STAFF

Heather McAuliffe

Absent:

Linda Day
Marnie McGrath, Vice Chair

As a quorum was present, the meeting was called to order at 9:08 a.m. by Board Chair, Elaine Wine.

050108.1 APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATES OF APPROVAL

050108.11 Hayden Robinson Architect
5009 20th Ave NW
Hayden Robinson

Application: Approval for installation of signage on storefront.

Staff Report: Heather McAuliffe explained that the proposal only included vinyl signs on the door. She distributed materials from the application. The relevant guideline was 13. Signs.

Applicant Comment: There were no comments from the applicant.

Public Comment: There were no comments from the public.

Board Discussion: Board members concurred that the proposal met the guidelines for signage and transparency.

Motion: John Widell made a motion to approve the application as submitted.

MM/SC/JW/SM
5-0-0

050108.12 Richard Hiner Architects/Tom Zachary Landscape Architects
5337 Ballard Ave NW
Julie Elledge

Application: Approval for installation of signage on storefront and header.

Staff Report: Heather McAuliffe explained that the application was for both businesses in the space, some of it retroactive. She distributed exhibits from the application. The relevant guideline was 13. Signs.

Applicant Comment: The applicant explained the locations for the signs.

Public Comment: There were no comments from the public.

Board Discussion:

John Bureson pointed out that plastics were discouraged per 13. a. The applicant said the plastic sign on the header would be more durable than wood and would be painted to look like wood. Elaine Wine said that vinyl signs in the windows were discreet and did not make much of a visual impact. The Board discussed the plastic sample for the header sign and concurred that it would be acceptable.

Motion: John Widell made a motion to approve the application as submitted.

MM/SC/JW/SM
5-0-0

050108.13 Collective, Inc.
5339 Ballard Ave NW
Gail Miller

Application: Approval for installation of signage on storefront and header.

Staff Report: Heather McAuliffe presented a verbal and written summary of the application and distributed materials from the application. The relevant guideline was 13. Signs.

Applicant Comment: The applicant presented a material sample and explained that it was consistent with the “Edge LLC” sign that was currently installed on the header. The vinyl lettering on the windows would be white, not opaque as they appeared in the drawings.

Public Comment: There were no comments from the public.

Board Discussion: The Board was concerned that there might be too many signs but determined that the white lettering on the windows would not make much visual impact in the storefront.

Motion: John Burreson made a motion to approve the application as presented.

MM/SC/JB/JR
5-0-0

050108.14 Dolce Vita
5323 Ballard Ave NW
Andy Brackbill

Application: Approval for painting façade at street level.

Staff Report: Heather McAuliffe explained that the sandstone and wood trim at storefront level was currently painted gray and the applicant proposed to paint it black. The façade areas above the street level are unpainted sandstone. She distributed photos and a rendering. The relevant guideline was 5. Building Surface Treatments.

Applicant Comment: Todd Jacobsen, representing the applicant, said they were trying to clean up the space and make it as simple as possible. No signage is proposed.

Public Comment: John Cashman, a business owner, asked if they had considered sandblasting the paint off. Todd Jacobsen responded that you can’t sandblast in the city of Seattle. He said it is possible to soda blast, but that it would be messy and the street would have to be closed off.

Gene Morris, a property owner, said that Puget Sound Masonry does paint removal and did it to the building where the Other Coast Café is located. He said they can do brick or sandstone.

Todd Jacobsen responded that there were three layers of paint applied to the sandstone and it is easier to paint over it.

Board Discussion:

John Bureson said the proposed flat black paint was too modern looking and was not compatible with the building.

Jim Riggle suggested painting just the window frames black.

Elaine Wine said there would be a real contrast between the storefront area and the unpainted sandstone above it. She said it would create too much impact.

Elaine Wine conducted a straw poll of Board members to see how many would support the application as presented. No Board members were in favor.

Steve Mycon, the property's owner, said that he was considering removing the paint from the façade. Heather McAuliffe said she would meet with him later to do a site visit and consult about the proposal.

Todd Jacobsen asked if the Board would approve the application if only the trim were painted black. Board members concurred that painting the trim would be acceptable because it would create less of a visual impact.

Motion: John Widell made a motion to approve the application as amended by the applicant.

MM/SC/JW/JB
5-0-0

050108.15 Olympic Athletic Club
5301 Leary Ave NW
Mark Durall

Application: Approval for design of landscape plan for parking lot at 5214 Ballard Ave NW (demolition of existing building at 5214 Ballard Ave NW approved per BLD 14/08).

Jim Riggle recused himself from participating in the review of this application.

Staff Report: Heather McAuliffe explained the proposal and distributed exhibits from the application. The relevant guidelines were 8. Landscaping and 10. Street Furniture.

Applicant Comment: Mark Durall explained that the bench would be black metal, weighing 400 lbs so that it could not be carried off. The planters would also be heavy and durable. He described the plantings for the site.

Public Comment: Sara Chapman from the Deep Sea Fisherman's Union asked if these were to be permanent elements. Mark Durall answered that the flowers would be for this spring only and that they hoped to get financing by this fall and start construction.

Board Discussion: The Board discussed the size of the planters as they worked with the size of the bench and concurred with the applicant's choice.

Motion: John Widell made a motion to approve the application as presented.

MM/SC/JW/SM
4-0-1 (Jim Riggle abstained)

050108.2 BOARD BUSINESS

050108.21 Briefing by City of Seattle
Rick McMahan, Seattle Department of Transportation, Shaunie Cochran, Seattle Public Utilities

Briefing on Seattle streetcar network route alternatives: Ballard Avenue or Leary Avenue.

Shaunie Cochran explained that the line coming through the area would originate downtown and pass through Fremont. She said they originally considered running it straight up Leary, but determined that the 15th NW bridge underpass was too low for the system's infrastructure, requiring that it be rerouted under 15th NW at NW 46th. From there it could either come up Leary or Ballard Avenue. The line would end at the library. A special treatment could be applied to the concrete around the tracks to make it look like cobblestones. New poles would be installed along the street, and the existing telecommunications (lower wires) could be moved underneath the tracks. Some existing telephone poles would be removed. The others would be replaced.

Several property owners and business owners from the district raised concerns about the impact to the street and to parking/loading in the district, and that it potentially created a danger for bicyclists. One property owner spoke in support of it, stating that it was historically appropriate and would support the pedestrian environment in the district.

Board members expressed interest in the proposal but said more information was needed about the infrastructure and how it would change the streetscape.

050108.3 APPROVAL OF MINUTES: No minutes were available for review.

050108.4 REPORT OF THE CHAIR

050108.5 STAFF REPORT: Heather McAuliffe said that the owners of La Carta de Oaxaca were not able to attend and would present a color sample for their deck at the next meeting instead.

Steve Mako made a motion to adjourn the meeting. John Burreson seconded the motion.

10:50 a.m. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather McAuliffe
Board Coordinator