



The City of Seattle

Pike Place Market Historical Commission

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MINUTES

MHC 108/15

Wednesday, August 12, 2015

4:30 p.m.

PDA Meeting Room, 93 Pike Street, Room 307

COMMISSIONERS

David Guthrie, Chair

Bob Hale

Rachael Kitagawa

John Ogliore

Jerrold Stafford

Christine Vaughan

Staff

Heather McAuliffe

Melinda Bloom

Absent

Murad Habibi, Vice Chair

Frank Albanese

Marika Cialdella

Chair David Guthrie determined that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

He reminded Commission members to announce any conflict of interest or ex parte communication prior to review of applications.

081215.1 APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATES OF DESIGN APPROVAL

081215.11 Rummage Around
1501 Pike Place #312, Fairley
Mark Brady

Staff Report: Me. McAuliffe explained the application to install two blade signs and two off-premise signs. Exhibits included site plan, renderings, and sign details. Guidelines that applied to this application included 3.1 and 3.6.

DRC Report: Ms. McAuliffe said the Committee cited 3.1, 3.6.1, 3.6.2, 3.6.3, 3.6.6 (a) 2 and recommended to approve, with verification on required distance to bottom of sign.

Applicant Comment:

Matt Holland, PDA, explained the space has 9' ceilings with exposed duct work which impacts placement of the blade signs. He said the proposed location is not in a walkway and that he thought it was do-able. He said they want to maximize visibility as much as possible. He said that both blades will hang 4" below the duct. He said that there is inventory beneath sign so it would be visible but without walkway issues.

Mark Brady said there is so much ductwork and they are limited.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Commission Discussion:

Mr. Hale said DRC looked at it; he said he couldn't recommend approving the location because it creates a hazard for the blind.

Discussion ensued about safety issue with placement of blade signs and Commissioners suggested signs A and B be withdrawn for further exploration into other options and to include displays outside; signs C and D were ok.

Mr. Holland withdrew signs A and B.

Action: Ms. Vaughan made a motion to adopt a resolution to approve the application as amended by applicant.

MM/SC/CV/JO 6:0:0 Motion carried.

081215.12 Market Foundation – Western Avenue public art
Lillian Sherman

Staff Report: Ms. McAuliffe explained the application to install public art and lighting in front of Western Avenue wall. Exhibits reviewed included renderings, reflected ceiling plan, elevations, perspectives, method of attachment, and color/material samples. Guidelines that applied to this application included 3.1, 3.2 and 3.9.

DRC Report: Ms. McAuliffe said the Committee cited 3.1.2, 3.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.2.12, 3.9.1, 3.9.2, 3.9.10 and recommended to approve, with the condition that the DRC reviews and approves the rotation speed of the colored lights, to ensure that it is sufficiently gradual.

John Fleming, artist, presented via PowerPoint (report in DON file). He provided 1910 retaining wall drawings and drawings from 1990 restoration work. He said they would hang the art from structure above and will drill into girders. He explained that the art will be tapestry of aluminum strips; he said they have tested the work for wind and seismic load. He said the electrical equipment cabinet will be installed above – inside the Market. He said the lighting can be programmed to preference.

Public Comment:

Bob Messina said his earlier questions about pedestrian experience have been addressed. He said the experience will be positive and interesting near the Western wall. He said that he likes the spacing of the slats and said there is so much happening in the art work that it will provide a rich experience regardless of lighting.

Commission Discussion:

Mr. Hale appreciated the incorporation of Market colors into the art and said it was well done. He appreciated the workshops and using Market crafts persons and the public was good. He said DRC had question about color change in lights and suggested conditioning the motion on seeing the light and making adjustments.

Tamra Nisly, PDA, said they are amenable to reviewing with the Commission before programming the lighting and noted sensitivity to senior center and adjacent housing. She said they want subtle, barely perceptible transition.

Mr. Stafford suggested a baseline start.

Mr. Guthrie said to stick with the six colors representing the Market.

Ms. Vaughan thought the art piece and lighting was not in character of the Market; she cited 3.1.2, 3.2.10, and 3.2.12.

Mr. Hale said the DRC noted the columns will be untouched and visible; the art piece will act like a screen with the retaining wall behind it and still accessible.

Ms. Kitagawa asked about the two green directional signs installed behind the lower, south corner of the art piece.

Ms. Nisly said the two signs will be removed. She said the signs no longer serve a wayfinding function and are out of date.

In addressing Ms. Vaughan's concerns about the art piece and its lighting, and the fact that the wall will be covered up, Ms. Kitagawa read from 3.1 paragraphs 1 and 2.

Mr. Ogliore said that other tours don't go back there because it is dull and ugly but he said he does take tours there. He said that the area is in need of color and noted the plan to use Market colors. He said he sees this as an art project that will activate without disturbing the historic part of the Market. He said it is an art piece and not a project that will change the character of the wall.

Ms. Kitagawa said it would be different if it was being painted directly on to the wall.

Mr. Stafford said you can get behind it and see the wall. He said it isn't cladding and it stands off the wall.

Mr. Hale said that character defining features of columns and shops above are still there.

Mr. Guthrie said it has always been the back door and was an industrial street. He said it has needed activation for years – it has been an undesirable space. He said that it is unique with the rhythm of the columns and it is a blank canvas of wall with concrete worked pattern. He said that historic qualities are its form and function. He said the artist brought a project that works within the space and that doesn't alter the historic character – it adds to it. He said that each building is a time capsule and said this space has worked well for 100 years. He said the Market is adding a huge building on the other side and the use will change. He said the application doesn't violate 3.1, section 3. He said it is not cladding it is an art piece.

Ms. Vaughan said it is a beautiful art piece but it does not retain the character of the Market.

Mr. Guthrie asked about the signs to be removed.

Mr. Turnbull said they were installed in the late 1970s.

Action: Mr. Stafford made a motion to adopt a resolution to approve the application with the condition that the DRC reviews and approves the brightness of the lighting and the rotation speed of the colored lights, to ensure that it is sufficiently gradual.

MM/SC/JS/BH 5:1:0 Motion carried. Ms. Vaughan opposed.

Staff Report: Ms. McAuliffe explained the application for proposed changes to painting, lighting; install signage; install gate; clean “A-Point” sculpture and relocate its plaque. She noted that the application includes removal of the bench that is part of the artwork. Exhibits reviewed included photos, renderings, lighting specifications, signage details, and gate details. Guidelines that applied to this application included 3.1, 3.2, 3.5 and 3.6.

DRC Report: Ms. McAuliffe said the Committee cited 3.1, 3.2.1, 3.2.10, 3.5.1, 3.6.1 and recommended to approve, with the conditions that the DRC reviews and approves the lighting level of the LED lights to be added in the stairway, and that the color temperature of the LED lights be 2700k. The Committee also requested more details on the graphics for the signage to be installed at the Level 3 entrance.

Applicant Comment:

Tamra Nisly, PDA, explained that the goal is to activate the entrance to the DownUnder. She said the John Fleming piece fits into the activation of Western. She said the Pine Street staircase is one of the oldest things in the Market. She said that it is dark and drab and they want to add light and brightness with paint. She said they want to clean up the area where the art is; she said the bench/art attracts an unsavory element.

Public Comment:

Bob Messina said he supports the plan to enhance the stairwell. He said that even in the middle of a bright day the stairwell remains dark.

Responding to questions Ms. Nisly showed where the lights will be moved and said they want to have the light shining down.

Mr. Ogliore said it is an Oren sculpture. He said that he helped catalogue all the art in the Market. He said it is a signature piece and needs to stay. He said that the plaque should be moved so it is more visible.

Ms. Nisly said the plaque can't be removed without damaging the piece.

Ms. McAuliffe suggested that the PDA could apply for an identifying name sign that would identify it as the “A-Point Sculpture”.

Ms. Vaughan noted that such a sign would identify it as art and not an award, memorial or recognition.

Ms. Nisly said that the proposed light is not available in 2700 Kelvin but that she thought it would conform to the historic gradation per language in the Guidelines. She said the light will flush the wall and is the same light as the John Fleming art so it will tie in.

Ms. McAuliffe said the light doesn't conform and is stipulated for all business and public areas. She said that during the renovation the lighting in the Economy Arcade was switched out to all 2700 Kelvin. She said the Commission has consistently stipulated that the newer technologies equal the warmth of incandescent light, which has been determined to be 2700 Kelvin.

Discussion ensued; 3.5.1 was cited and Commissioners agreed that lighting must be 2700 kelvin.

Mr. Guthrie suggested moving forward with new signage and graphics for level 3.

Ms. Nisly said that per DRC request she provided graphics for level 3.

Ms. Vaughan said it looks similar to what was approved in the past and is consistent with what is there.

Action: Mr. Hale made a motion to adopt a resolution to approve the application with the conditions that the DRC reviews and approves the lighting level of the LED lights to be added in the stairway, and an alternate light fixture that accepts 2700k LED lights.

MM/SC/BH/JO 6:0:0 Motion carried.

081215.2 COMMISSION BRIEFING

081215.21 PDA – composting
Tamra Nisly

Briefing on potential composting equipment to be installed on Pike Place.

Tamra Nisly, PDA, provided a PowerPoint on potential composting equipment (full report in DON file). Following are Commission questions and comments.

Mr. Hale asked if the Harvester would replace dumpsters.

Ms. Nisly said it would. She said that they will identify 15 tenants for a test group; they will have a fob so are identifiable. She said it would compost fish, high stall items, flowers and stems

Mr. Ogliore asked what happens to the stems now.

Ms. Nisly said the flower farmers take home all the stems.

Ms. McAuliffe said the Commission will review design – location and appearance.

Mr. Guthrie said he liked the presentation and that he would prefer two smaller units rather than one big one. He said that two will be more usable and provide easier access for users. He said that it could be the marketing goldmine – it is educational and fits in with the mission of the Market to be sustainable and to provide services to vendors. He said that depending on size and what wrap it will function as infrastructure.

Mr. Ogliore said it is farm to table and back to farm.

Mr. Guthrie said it has unlimited potential.

Mr. Hale said that swapping two dumpsters for the equipment is good.

Ms. Kitagawa said it is not smelly.

Ms. McAuliffe said that it is additional infrastructure and recommended a separate sign that explains the project; she said that the sign should be a back drop and not the focus.

Ms. Nisly said it won't be huge.

Ms. McAuliffe said it must meet Guidelines and the wrap is huge. She said to consider the demonstration solar panel install proposed a few years ago by the PDA; the DRC determined that it would be really visible from the skybridge and noted that the building would become a backdrop to the solar panels. She suggested something more subtle.

Ms. Nisly said they would like some wrap so it doesn't look like a garbage can. She said she will come back and do a briefing on the wrap.

Mr. Guthrie said it doesn't need to be disguised – it is what it is.

Public Comment:

Bob Messina said he saw the presentation and videos on YouTube. He said he likes the idea and that it has a coolness factor. He said the dumpsters now are not positive.

- 081215.3 APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
July 22, 2015
MM/SC/JO/BH 3:0:2 Minutes approved. Ms. Vaughan and Mr. Guthrie abstained.
- 081215.4 REPORT OF THE CHAIR** No report.
- 081215.5 REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES:** No report.

081215.6 **STAFF REPORT** New member, Deborah Jones has been confirmed.

081215.7 **NEW BUSINESS**

6:40 pm Ms. Vaughan made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Guthrie seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather McAuliffe
Commission Coordinator