



The City of Seattle

International Special Review District

Mailing Address: PO Box 94649 Seattle WA 98124-4649
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ISRD 187/10

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF TUESDAY, September 28, 2010

Time: 4:30pm
Place: Bush Asia Center
409 Maynard Avenue S.
Basement meeting room

Board Members Present

Josh Osborne-Klein, Chair
Rich Murakami, Vice Chair
Brien Chow
Misun Chung Gerrick
Robert Ha
Bill Lee
Marvin Rosete

Staff

Rebecca Frestedt
Melinda Bloom

092810.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

August 10, 2010

MM/SC/MCG/RM 5:0:1 Minutes approved. Mr. Ha abstained.

August 24, 2010

MM/SC/MCG/RH 5:0:1 Minutes approved as amended. Mr. Murakami abstained.

092810.2 CERTIFICATES OF APPROVAL

092810.21 Washington Terrace Apartments

120 6th Ave. S.

Applicant: Laurie Rose, SEED Arts

Exterior design: Proposed installation of artwork on the building's exterior.

Ms. Frestedt explained the proposed installation of fourteen (14) art pieces distributed across three facades. The artwork will be constructed of steel powder-coated plates consisting of:

- Nine (9) 3'8" x 3'8" flat-mounted panels.
- Two (2) 2'10" x 9'6" flat-mounted panels.
- Three (3) flag-mounted steel banners projecting from the building by 1'x1' mounting plates located at the top and bottom of the banner.

She explained that the panels and mounting plates will be attached at the mortar joints. Exhibits included drawings and photographs. She reported that the artwork was designed by Alessandra Panieri and Dan Barsher. Final Design and Use for Washington Terrace were approved in October 2004. The building is located outside the Asian Design Character District.

Ms. Frestedt explained that the guidelines and Chapter 23.66 of the land use code do not specifically address artwork. The Board does not regulate content of artworks. She advised the Board to evaluate the proposal based on the artwork's colors, materials, method of attachment, proportions, and relationship to the building's architectural features and existing design elements. She provided background information noting that the Board reviewed the proposal on July 27, 2010 and deferred action pending submission of additional details about the cultural significance of the symbols and color combination. The Board also requested alternative color schemes that were more in character with the muted tones of the District. On August 24, 2010 the applicant presented information from the Wing Luke Asian Museum regarding the combination of symbols and colors. Following deliberation of the proposal the Board recommended to deny the artwork, as proposed, on the basis that the colors scheme was not compatible with the District.

Laurie Rose, SEED Arts, reported that they revisited the color palette of the standard powder coated metal and brought material samples featuring the revised colors for Board review. She explained that they added "more muted, earthy" tones to the original color selection and eliminated the bright pink that had been included in the earlier proposal. She commented that the bamboo design had been re-colored to fit in better with the overall design and creatures; the design remains the same.

Artist Alessandra Panieri went over the color samples and pointed out where each color would be used.

Ms. Chung Gerrick commented that she appreciated the applicants working with the board and adjusting the colors and noted that the colors are more compatible with the District.

Mr. Murakami noted the lack of representation of the building colors and Ms. Rose explained that the building is brick – not as brown/orange as some – and neutral above with red accents.

Mr. Rosete arrived at 4:55 p.m.

In response to a comment from the applicant, Ms. Frestedt pointed out that the leasing signs had not been approved by the Board. She agreed that the new color scheme presented was more responsive to the existing colors.

Ms. Rose said that in revisiting colors they took cues from the surrounding area – the roofs, gate, flagpole dragons – and said they wanted the art to “pop” off the brick. She said they will not be back lighting any of the pieces.

Public Comment:

Betty Lau said that she likes the cut out design.

Board Comment:

Mr. Chow thanked the applicant for making the changes.

Action: I move that the International Special Review District Board recommend approval of a Certificate of Approval for exterior design of artwork for the building façade, as proposed.

The proposed alterations meet the following sections of the **Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation:**

#9. New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction will not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and will be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.

#10. New additions and adjacent or related new construction will be undertaken in such a manner that, if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

MM/SC/MCG/MR 7:0:0 Motion carried.

092810.22

Publix Hotel

507 S. King St.

Applicant: Julia Nelson, Chinatown International District Business Improvement Area (CIDBIA)

Bill Lee disclosed that he works for the applicants and recused himself. He departed at 5:00 p.m.

Exterior design: Proposed installation of five (5) murals created by Artworks on the building’s exterior.

Mr. Frestedt explained the proposed installation of five (5) murals (dimensions: 4' h x 8' w) created by Artworks to be installed on the building's exterior. Exhibits included plans and photographs. She explained that the Publix Hotel was constructed in 1927 and is a contributing building to the National Register District; it is located within the Asian Design Character District. She reported that the guidelines and Chapter 23.66 of the land use code do not specifically address artwork. The Board does not regulate content of artworks. She advised the Board to evaluate the proposal based on the artwork's colors, materials, method of attachment, proportions, and relationship to the building's architectural features and existing design elements. She explained that the Board reviewed the proposal on August 24, 2010 and deferred action upon the applicant's submission of additional details about the proposed color palette, placement and attachment detail.

Mr. Osborne-Klein advised Board members that the Board's jurisdiction does not extend to content and that the Board would review the application for color only.

Applicant Comment:

Don Blakeney, CIDBIA Executive Director, framed the project for the Board and explained the effort to revitalize the neighborhood through public art. He said the proposed art will be a temporary installation and will be the first of several art projects in the district to celebrate different cultures and the history of the district.

Julia Nelson, CIDBIA, presented mockups and the proposed color palette and walked the Board through the packets. She pointed out the locations, placement, size and proportion to building and said that two are proposed to face King St. and three are proposed to face 5th Avenue S.. The 4' x 8' panels will be attached with toggle screws – four at the top and bottom and two on each side. She provided information on each panel and on Artworks, who will be doing the artwork.

Information was provided on Artworks, which is a grant-funded project that works with youth. Funding for the project is limited so the applicants are judicious in their contact with the agency so as not to use funds recklessly.

Board Questions:

Ms. Chung Gerrick asked for clarification on the measurement for the third panel which was shown as 13" and Ms. Nelson said it should be 13'.

Mr. Blakeney confirmed that all panels will be 4' x 8' and said the art will be painted on standard plywood. He said they will possibly come back in a year to revisit this work.

Ms. Frestedt clarified that unlike the Seattle Store Front project, that although this art work is temporary in nature, the proposal is not for "temporary installation" and the work will be installed for an undefined period of time.

Mr. Blakeney assured that they will be taking responsibility for any maintenance issues that may arise.

Ms. Nelson noted that the work will have an anti-graffiti coating on it.

Mr. Murakami advised the applicants that when mounting panels care should be used in placement so as not to go into original window frame and recommended confirming location of attachment prior to installation.

Public Comment:

Betty Lau commented that she was glad something colorful would be going up but cautioned against “hidden messages” noting that with male-dominated subjects gender had not been balanced. She questioned the choice of individuals noting more appropriate choices may have been made and provided examples of William Nakamura, George Tsutakawa, Frank Chinn, Ruby Chow, and Carlos Bulosan among others. She pointed out the importance of exhibiting gender balance, not giving hidden messages, and encouraged rotating and changing the murals and of sending a positive message.

Mr. Osborne-Klein encouraged the BIA to work with Ms. Lau on future iterations of this project.

Mr. Blakeney said that they look forward to lots of opportunities for public art and he appreciated Ms. Lau’s comments.

Board Discussion:

Ms. Chung Gerrick looks forward to the future work.

Mr. Rosete said the colors are very appropriate. They add to the district.

Mr. Osborne-Klein said the context of the colors and how they play with the building works.

Mr. Murakami said the color palette is similar to that of the first application but in context of the art it is totally different.

Action: I move that the International Special Review District Board recommend approval of a Certificate of Approval for exterior design of artwork, as proposed.

The proposed alterations meet the following sections of the **Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation:**

#9. New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction will not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and will be compatible with the historic

materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.

#10. New additions and adjacent or related new construction will be undertaken in such a manner that, if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

MM/SC/MR/MCG 6:0:0 Motion carried.

Mr. Murakami made a friendly amendment to the motion that the applicant confirm placement of the attachment so as not to cause damage to the store front frame and it was accepted by Mr. Rosete.

092810.3 GUIDELINE REVISION WORK SESSION

Ms. Frestedt explained that the guideline revision work session would be deferred. She stated that she did not have time to update the draft prior to the Board meeting.

092810.4 BOARD BUSINESS

Mr. Blakeney made a community announcement: He informed Board members of an upcoming CIDBIA Rate Payer meeting where sanitation and security plans would be discussed.

Ms. Frestedt explained that the ISRD Board election registration and nomination period is open. She confirmed that Position #3 - property/business owner/employee, currently held by Mr. Ha, is open. She said he has served two consecutive terms and cannot run again. Position #5 – At large (currently held by Mr. Lee) is open. Mr. Lee is eligible to run again. She said community members must be registered 30 days in advance to be able to vote and must re-register if their registration status or address has changed.

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