



The City of Seattle

Pioneer Square Preservation Board

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PSB 231/10

MINUTES for Wednesday, September 1, 2010

Board Members

Ann Brown
Erin Doherty, Vice Chair
Ryan Hester
Willie Parish
Catherine Person

Staff

Genna Nashem
Melinda Bloom

Absent

Adam Hasson
Lorne McConachie

Vice Chair Erin Doherty called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

090110.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

August 18, 2010

MM/SC/RH/AB

3:0:1 Minutes approved as amended. Ms. Doherty abstained.

090110.2 APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATES OF APPROVAL

090110.21 Olympic Block Building

101 Yesler Way

Installation of security gates on alley vestibules

ARC Report: Ms. Doherty went over the ARC report and explained two color options were provided and the committee agreed that the salmon color was more appropriate.

Sarah Lovesey explained that two window vestibules are being used for inappropriate activities and they are proposing security gates as an economical means to keep people out. She explained the two color options: a peachy color to match window trim and bronze to connect to the front of the building. She said they will be operable to allow cleaning of the windows. She said they will align with the building's columns.

**Administered by The Historic Preservation Program
The Seattle Department of Neighborhoods**

"Printed on Recycled Paper"

Mike Jones said the gates will not be the full height of the window so should not appear too overpowering.

Ms. Lovesey noted that they added decorative elements to the gates.

Ms. Doherty noted that they will go on non-historic façade and will be on an alley façade.

Mr. Jones explained they looked at architectural options that were too expensive and pointed out the intent to make them decorative.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Board Discussion:

Ms. Doherty commented that because they are hinged she did not think of them as gates but more as grilles. She said it would not be permitted on a storefront on the street but noted it is on an alley and is for security purposes.

Ms. Brown cited District Rules IX which prohibits gates on the storefront windows and limits the use of ornamental gates on street front entries to when added security measures are deemed necessary.

Ms. Person commented that it is an attractive design solution.

Mr. Hester said it is compatible with the existing mullions.

Board members agreed on the salmon color to blend with the existing salmon color.

Ms. Brown commented that matching the building is good.

Action: I move to approve a Certificate of Approval for installation of gates on the alley vestibules painted to match the existing color of the window trim.

Code Citations:
District Rules
IX Security Bars
III. D color

MM/SC/CP/AB 5:0:0 Motion carried.

090110.23

Metropole Building
423 Second Ave Ext S

Installation of temporary mural on the construction boarding

ARC Report: Ms. Doherty went over the ARC report and explained that it is a temporary art installation to be painted on the plywood around the Metropole Building which is a construction site. She said that ARC found it favorable and recommended

approval with the graphics, the text – which is a poem that is yet to finished be brought back for review.

Lisa Dixon, Alliance for Pioneer Square, explained they have been working with the building owner on this project to do a temporary mural on the Metropole Building. She said that someone had put up advertising and they ended up boarding over it a couple months ago and they finally had it painted the solid green that had been approved by the Board a couple years ago with the idea that they would come back with art work at a later time to finish off the project.

Jeff Jacobsen, artist, explained that the piece is a metaphor for the emerging artist in Seattle. He explained that the salmon representing feeding emerging artists in Seattle coming to the surface and breaking the surface and his goal is to inspire others who are progressing as artists. He said the coral that is growing from the emerging artists represents the inner souls growing out and being visible and the physical inspiration; he said the colors are healing and joyous colors. He said he chose purples and the brighter and lighter feeling – more spring - colors so that when people look at it they are warm, inspired, and energized. He said there are a lot of missions and drug rehabs in the area and this piece will positively affect the people in the area. The approximate size of the mural is 100' wide x 15' tall. He said that he believes this will be one of the largest pieces of fine art in Seattle history and said they are working on where to place it when it is removed from this building.

Mr. Jacobsen said that he will paint on site using spray paint and will use a scissor lift. He explained that he specializes in photo realism and that he did the history of Seattle mural in Occidental Park.

Ms. Dixon commented that the history mural in Occidental Park has more muted colors because it is a long term piece in the park.

Ms. Nashem explained that the Metropole building owner is still negotiating with the insurance company – following a fire a few years ago - on a settlement and that the reconstruction work is currently stopped.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Ms. Person said that the scale is huge and it is a very welcome addition to Pioneer Square. She said the colors are bright and noted that there is a huge difference between fine art and advertising and billboards. She said that if this was advertising she said it would probably not be appropriate. She said this art work is a welcome addition to a bleak but very important corner in Pioneer Square and she thanked the applicant.

Ms. Doherty noted that ARC talked about it being an educational tool as opposed to an advertising element which is an income-generator versus being a public education tool. She noted that it is temporary.

Ms. Doherty said ARC talked about the bright colors and she noted that most of the mural is fairly muted with small areas of the brighter colors. She said the darker colors are appropriate for the palette of the historic buildings.

Ms. Brown compared it to the signs for King Street Station which provided an historical explanation through art. She welcomed the mural in the district.

Action: I move to approve a Certificate of Approval for installation of temporary artwork as proposed

Code Citations:

District Rules

II Certificates of Approval

A. General Requirements

III General Guidelines for Rehabilitation and New Construction

MM/SC/RH/CP 5:0:0 Motion carried.

Mr. Jacobsen said it will take about one month to complete the mural and he intended to set up a webcam to share the process.

090110.24

Merrill Place

97 S Jackson St.

Painting of the exterior of the penthouse on the Schwabacher building

ARC Report: Ms. Doherty explained that the committee said that the colors are consistent with the overall palette and had asked for additional photos of the building.

Alan Cornell passed out photos of the entire building. He said they want to change the color to the grays provided in color samples to the Board.

Ms. Nashem explained that although not shown in the photos, the railings have been replaced with glass.

Ms. Brown said it is set back and not much of the penthouse can be seen.

Mr. Cornell said that the condos are set back.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Board Discussion:

Mr. Hester said the color choice is compatible with the district.

Ms. Doherty said the penthouse is new construction and she agreed that the gray shades are sedate and simple and serve as a background color. She commented that it is compatible with the district.

Action: I move to approve the painting of the exterior of the penthouse on the Schwabacher building as presented.

Code Citations:
III General Guidelines for Rehabilitation and New Construction
D. Color

MM/CP/AB 5:0:0 Motion carried.

090110.25 **505 First Ave S**

Installation of louvers

Ms. Nashem explained that ARC did not review the installation of the louvers

Bob Wicklein, Seneca Group, Casey Schuchart, Schuchart, and Jay Phillips, Starbucks, presented the application.

Mr. Phillips explained that a Nuance Communications will be taking the entire 7th floor of the building and noted the need to provide fresh air intake for the data room.

Mr. Schuchart explained that the fresh air intake and the exhaust need to be separated by no less than 10' per Code. He said the two new louvers will connect to two ducts; the work is capacity and energy code driven. He explained that they investigated putting the louvers at the spandrel which isn't possible because of the building structure. He said they located the louvers at the highest elevation they could. He said the louvers will match the building standard in color and manufacturer but will be a bit narrower and smaller.

Ms. Person said it is so high it probably won't be noticeable.

Action: I move to approve the installation of louvers as proposed.

Code Citations:
III General Guidelines for Rehabilitation and New Construction
SMC23.66.180 Exterior Building design

MM/SC/RH/WP 5:0:0 Motion carried.

090110.3 BOARD BUSINESS

090110.4 REPORT OF THE CHAIR: Lorne McConachie, Chair

090110.6 STAFF REPORT: Genna Nashem

9:30 a.m. Meeting adjourned.

Genna Nashem
Pioneer Square Preservation Board Coordinator
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