



The City of Seattle

Landmarks Preservation Board

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LPB 52/07

MINUTES

**Landmarks Preservation Board Meeting
Seattle Municipal Tower
700 5th Avenue, 40th Floor
Room 4060
Wednesday, February 7, 2007– 3:30 p.m.**

Board Members Present

Mark Hannum
Henry Matthews
Tom Veith
Stephen Lee
Molly Tremaine
Ron Martinson
Vernon Abelsen
John Schwartz
Virginia Wilcox

Staff

Elizabeth Chave
Sarah Sodt
Joanne Walby
Rebecca Frestedt

Absent

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Stephen Lee, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:35 pm.

020707.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Meeting of January 3, 2007 and January 17, 2007

Mr. Veith asked that his comments about the proposed heating wells in the park be included in the January 3 minutes. He also stated that on page 5, line 8 of the motion, parenthesis should be added around the work “specifically”.

Move to adopt the minutes of January 3, 2007 as amended.
MM/SC/HM/TV 7:0:0 Minutes adopted.

Mr. Abelsen pointed out a typo in the motion on page 7.
Move to adopt the minutes of January 17, 2007 as corrected.
MM/SC/HM/TV 7:0:0 Minutes adopted.

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

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020707.2 CERTIFICATES OF APPROVAL

020707.21 Pier 59/Aquarium
1415 Alaskan Way

Proposed changes to approved exterior signage

Applicant Comment: David Goldberg and Doug Sharp, architects from Mithun, presented the application. Mr. Sharp said they are proposing slightly different spacing and a metal finish for the lettering so it will contrast with the darker façade. He said they also propose to change the medallion sign from wood to a metal because they believe that wood would not weather the conditions on the waterfront well.

Board Questions:

Mr. Veith asked about the method of attachment of the medallion sign, he noted that according to the section drawing it appears that the attachment will affect the decorative vent which the medallion would be covering.

The applicant said they did not intend that the installation have an adverse affect on the decorative vent and will submit corrected drawings showing the method of attachments.

The Board discussed their previous decision to approve the medallion sign and said they were concerned that the new sign not hurt the vent beneath it.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

John Schwartz arrived at 3:55 pm

Board Discussion:

Mr. Veith said he felt that the vent behind the proposed medallion sign should be exposed, although, he added, the Board had already approved the medallion. He added that since the lettering is will be new, using aluminum material is appropriate.

Ms. Wilcox agreed, saying that signage changes over time and this sign is removable.

Ms. Tremaine stated that she felt the vent was an important historic feature that should not be covered up.

Action:

I move that the Seattle Landmarks Preservation Board approve the application for the proposed signage design revisions.

This action is based on the following:

1. The proposed changes do not adversely affect the features or characteristics specified in Ordinance # 121270 as the proposed work does not destroy historic materials that characterize the property, and is compatible with the massing, size and scale and architectural features of the landmark, as per Standard #9 of the *Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation*.
2. The other factors in SMC 25.12.750 are not applicable to this application.

MM/SC/HM/RM 7:1:0 Motion carried. Ms. Tremaine opposed.

020707.3 NOMINATION

020707.31 The College Club
505 Madison Street

Applicant Comment: Jack McCullough, representing the applicant Schnitzer Northwest, introduced Susan Boyle of BOLA Architecture + Planning to present the nomination report. He said the applicant wants to develop the half block on which this building is located.

Ms. Boyle presented the nomination. She stated that the College Club was founded in the early 1900s and was located originally on 6th and Spring Street until 1-5 construction forced it to move to its current lot across from the Federal Courthouse.

Ms. Boyle reported that the College Club's was founded as an alternative to the perceived elitism of other similar clubs. Ms. Boyle explained that in the early part of the century there were 700 social, commercial or ethnically-based clubs in Seattle. She said the new building, which she described as "blocky," was built in the Brutalist style by the architecture firm NBBJ in 1967. She said there are similar buildings in this style on the University of Washington campus and downtown on Fourth Avenue. In describing the building's features, she said it has recessed windows on the north side and northwest corner, a small entry on the north side and two floors of commercial tenants above the club spaces on the main floor.

Ms. Boyle said that the layout of the interior space has not changed except that the card room is now a lounge. She said the architect, Donald

Winkelmann, was called “Mr. Fourth Avenue” because he had designed several structures on this street. She noted that the Brutalist style of the building and lack of interaction with the street may make it difficult to like. Ms. Boyle said she did not think it met any of the Landmark criteria.

Board Questions:

Mr. Veith asked if Ms. Boyle felt the concrete was more delicate than other examples of Brutalist design.

Ms. Boyle said that it does have particularly fine concrete work, but that its small scale is what makes it differ from other Brutalist designs.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Board Discussion:

The Board discussed how the windows on the northwest façade don’t carry through to the base.

Mr. Lee said it seems that it was cast in place. He added that the base rejects the streetscape and pedestrian connection.

Mr. Matthews said he was not sure if he would describe this building as being in the Brutalist because it was calm and restrained, and the entry is so subdued.

Mr. Veith pointed out that it almost meets criteria D and E because the design is characteristic of its time and the designer was well know but he said it probably did not meet these criteria strongly enough to warrant a landmark nomination. He said he agreed with the staff report.

Ms. Tremaine agreed and stated that there are better examples of the Brutalist style in Seattle.

Ms. Wilcox stated that she believes it does not meet the designation criteria.

Other Board members stated similar opinions.

Action:

I move that the Board not approve the nomination of the College Club at 505 Madison Street as a Seattle Landmark, as per the reasons given in the Staff Report.

MM/SC/JS/VW 8:0:0 Motion carried.

020707.4 CONTROLS AND INCENTIVES

020707.41 Seattle First National Bank Building
566 Denny Way

Ms. Chave said the building owner requested a 60-day extension of the consideration of the Controls and Incentives agreement. She said there is an on-going real estate transaction taking place so the granting of the extension would be appropriate.

MM/SC/MT/HM 8:0:0 Motion carried.

020707.5 BOARD BUSINESS

There being no other Board Business, the meeting adjourned at 4:40 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Chave, Landmarks Preservation Board Coordinator

Sarah Sodt, Landmarks Preservation Board Coordinator