



The City of Seattle

International Special Review District

Mailing Address: PO Box 94649 Seattle WA 98124-4649
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ISRD 152/15

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF TUESDAY, August 25, 2015

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

Board Members Present

Ben Grace
Carol Leong, Vice Chair
Miye Moriguchi
Joann Ware

Staff

Rebecca Frestedt
Melinda Bloom

Absent

Marie Wong
Martha Rogers, Chair
Stephanie Carrillo

082515.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES
June 28, 2015
MM/SC/BG/CL 4:0:0 Minutes approved as amended.

082515.2 CERTIFICATES OF APPROVAL

082515.21 Real Home Network
672 S. Weller St.
Applicant: Tim Lee, business owner

Ms. Leong disclosed her work with Real Home Network and recused herself.

Ms. Frestedt explained the request for retroactive approval for exterior paint colors (Behr, medium blue “PPU15-5” and muted light blue “PPU13-9”), and for retroactive installation of vinyl decals in the window and installation of a new sign face in the existing sign cabinet above the entrance. Dimensions: 72 3/4” w x 35 5/8” h. Exhibits included photographs and samples.

Ms. Frestedt said the Eclipse Hotel was constructed in 1908. It is a contributing building located within the Asian Design Character District.

Applicant Comment:

Tim Lee provided an overview of the services they provide. He said the building paint colors were chosen to match with colors in their logo and in the sign. He said they reused the existing sign cabinet and just slipped in a new acrylic sign face. He said the electrical part isn't working and it will not be illuminated.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Board Discussion:

Board members agreed that they support the signs. Members discussed the colors noting that the bright colors may be a departure, but that they are not incompatible. The Board voiced no objections to the use of blue, but a member noted that the value of the lighter color was rather bright. A member then noted that the green window trim above has a similar value as the existing storefront colors. The applicant presented alternative color swatches, which were discussed. It was noted that other tones/shades may have been recommended if the project had been reviewed before the work was executed.

Mr. Grace stated that the storefront colors liven up the corner of the street, which is otherwise rather dark.

Ms. Ware noted that the storefront colors are similar to the intensity of the Canton Alley storefronts nearby.

Ms. Moriguchi noted the small size of the storefront and that the proposal is appropriate for this location.

Action: I move that the International Special Review District Board approve a Certificate of Approval for paint and signage, as proposed. This action is based on the following:

Relevant applicable sections of the International Special Review District Ordinance and District Design Guidelines:

SMC 23.66.030 – Certificates of approval – Application, review and appeals

SMC 23.66.336 – Exterior building finishes

- A. General Requirements**
- B. Asian Design Character District**
- 2. Colors**
- SMC 23.66.338 – Signs**

ISRD Design Guidelines for Awnings and Canopies, Façade Alterations, Security & Signs

II. Design Guidelines for Signs

A. Buildings with Multiple Tenants

Secretary of the Interior Standard #9 & 10

MM/SC/MM/BG 3:0:1 Motion carried. Ms. Leong recused herself.

082515.22

Kobe Terrace Park
650 S. Main St.

Applicant: Shwu-Jen Hwang, Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation (DOPAR)

Ms. Frestedt explained the proposed improvements, including: pathway maintenance, replacement of a failing timber retaining wall with a broken concrete wall to match existing in the garden, replacement of rail supports along the western edge of the garden and minor regrading, landscaping and addition of three (3) cherry trees. Exhibits included plans, photographs and specification sheets.

Applicant Comment:

Shwu-Jen Hwang, DOPAR, explained the proposal to remove loosened wall, smooth out grade, restore plants, and take out trail to put in mulch and maintain as a maintenance access trail. She said the guard rail doesn't meet rail requirements so will be replaced. She said they will remove the middle stair and restore the slope. She said they will replace bench board with fir.

Ms. Ware clarified that the design detail of the guard rail will be the same as the existing guard rail.

Ms. Hwang said that plant selection – fruit trees, huckleberries, cherry tree – was informed by input received during a community meeting. Using drawing she pointed out what would become the maintenance trail and noted they were trying to make it safer for the maintenance crews to access.

Board members discussed safety issues related to illicit behavior and activities. A member expressed concern that creating a mulch maintenance path could have the unintended consequence of looking like a more established path, open to anyone.

Ms. Ware disclosed she works for Interim who manages the Danny Woo Garden although she is not involved with this project.

Ms. Frestedt said it would be best for Ms. Ware to recuse herself.

Ms. Hwang said it will be a very narrow mulch path – they don't want to encourage people to use it. She said they just want the trail "to disappear". She said the rail they are replacing is a guard rail – not a hand rail.

Ms. Leong asked if additional lighting had been considered and if there were any future plans to address lighting.

Ms. Hwang said there is lighting now along the trail but no new lighting is planned as part of this project.

Ms. Leong asked that lighting be addressed in the next wave of work planned for this park. She said many people do not feel safe using the garden or being in the space at night. She said people would be able to enjoy the gardens more with better lighting and safety issues addressed.

Ms. Hwang said she would share the suggestion with her manager.

Public Comment:

Bill Lee commented on materials, noting that elders don't like gravel because it is slippery; they prefer mulch.

Ms. Frestedt asked if the trail will be signed and noted that people may think it is a formal passageway.

Ms. Hwang said it will not be signed. It will not be real visible; it will be tucked behind bushes and trees.

Mr. Grace reiterated concern that the area is a hotbed for illegal activity.

Ms. Hwang said that the walkway is already there – they are just formalizing it. She said they have pruned the bushes down and some have been removed. She said they will keep the bushes low.

Ms. Leong suggested adding a recommendation to the motion about additional lighting. Mr. Grace supported the recommendation.

Action: I move that the International Special Review District Board approve a Certificate of Approval for design and landscaping, with the recommendation that DOPAR take into consideration lighting for Kobe Terrace Park in future plans. This action is based on the following:

The proposed design meets the following sections of the **International Special Review District Ordinance and applicable Guidelines:**

SMC 23.66.030 – Certificates of Approval – Application, review and appeals

SMC 23.66.336 – Exterior building finishes

A. General requirements.

Secretary of the Interior's Standards #9 and #10

MM/SC/BG/MM 3:0:1 Motion carried. Ms. Ware recused herself.

082515.3 BOARD BUSINESS

Adjourn

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