



Town of Hilton Head Island
Design Review Board
Tuesday, July 16, 2019 at 1:15 p.m.
Benjamin M. Racusin Council Chambers

MEETING MINUTES

Present from the Board: Chairman Dale Strecker, Vice Chairman Michael Gentemann, Cathy Foss, David McAllister, John Moleski, Debbie Remke, Brian Witmer

Absent from the Board: None

Present from Town Council: Tamara Becker

Present from Town Staff: Chris Darnell, Urban Designer; Josh Gruber, Assistant Town Manager; Teresa Haley, Senior Administrative Assistant

1. Call to Order

Chairman Strecker called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.

2. FOIA Compliance – Public notification of this meeting has been published, posted, and mailed in compliance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act and the Town of Hilton Head Island requirements.

3. Swearing in Ceremony for New Board Members David McAllister and John Moleski – Josh Gruber, Assistant Town Manager, performed the swearing in ceremony.

4. Roll Call – See as noted above.

5. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Darnell noted that Northridge Plaza Improvements DRB-001415-2019 and Northridge Plaza Sign DRB-001416-2019 were withdrawn prior to the meeting. The Board approved the amended agenda by general consent.

6. Approval of Minutes – Meeting of June 25, 2019

Vice Chairman Gentemann moved to approve the minutes of June 25, 2019 regular meeting as corrected. Ms. Foss seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

7. New Business

a. Sign

i. Bauer & Metro Sign, DRB-000617-2019

Mr. Darnell presented the project as provided in the Board's agenda package. Mr. Darnell pointed out that the proposed sign height exceeds what is currently allowed in the LMO. Staff recommends approval with the following conditions:

1. Note on the plans that the existing understory will remain.
2. Remove the Philodendron from the planting plan.

Chairman Strecker asked if the applicant would like to add to Staff's narrative. The applicant presented statements regarding the project and answered the Board's questions.

The Board made comments and inquiries regarding the project, including: the landscaping plan, sign height, colors, and lighting. The applicant indicated the landscaping plan and tree removal proposed on the site are not part of this submittal, and asked the Board to consider only the sign and its immediate surroundings. The Board indicated the existing landscaping shall be maintained at a 5 ft. height minimum, and replaced if disturbed during construction. The Board expressed concerns with the sign exceeding the maximum height allowed by the LMO. The proposed sign location is closer to the bike path/road and sits at a higher grade than existing area signs. The Board indicated the sign height shall be a maximum of 6 ft. above the path, but not exceed 12 ft. above grade. The proposed colors shall match the existing colors of the building. The proposed One Shot Blue color shall be approved by Staff. The Board asked about any existing and proposed lighting. The applicant stated there is no existing lighting or proposed lighting at this time. The Board pointed out that landscaping and lighting plans can be submitted for review for another meeting, if desired.

Ms. Foss made a motion to approve DRB-000617-2019 with the following conditions:

1. Any and all new plantings shall be maintained at a 5ft. height around the sign base to conceal the base.
2. Plantings that are pulled out for construction of the sign shall be replaced with 5ft. tall plantings.
3. Colors shall match the existing colors of the building. Staff shall confirm the blue copy on the sign for approval.
4. Landscaping plans, including tree removal, are not part of this review and approval.
5. The sign height shall be a maximum of 6 ft. above the path, but not to exceed 12ft. above grade.
6. There is no existing lighting or proposed lighting.

Ms. Remke seconded. The motion passed with a vote of 7-0-0.

8. Appearance by Citizens – None

9. Board Business

The Board briefly discussed the process for reviewing extensive alteration/additions and possible opportunities for improvement. Upon the conclusion of the discussion, the Board was in favor of Staff's practice to encourage applicants to attend the DRB meeting to receive comments on their application, and withdraw it prior to a possible vote for denial.

10. Staff Report

- a. Minor Corridor Report – Mr. Darnell stated there was no report.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:14 p.m.

Submitted by: Teresa Haley, Secretary

Approved: July 30, 2019