MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF MOUNTAIN BROOK
VILLAGE DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE
MAY 15, 2019
CITY HALL, 56 CHURCH STREET, MOUNTAIN BROOK, AL 35213
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER

Present: Lynn Ritchie
          Brian Barrett
          George Israel

Absent: Bo Grisham, Chairman
        Sally Legg
        Stutts Everette
        Ellen Elsas
        Alice Womack, Council Liaison

Also present: Hunter Simmons, GIS Manager
              Tammy Reid, Administrative Analyst

The regular meeting of the City of Mountain Brook Village Design Review Committee was held
on Wednesday, May 15, 2019, in the Council Chamber at Mountain Brook City Hall. Mrs.
Ritchie called the meeting to order at approximately 8:00 a.m.

1. Approval of Agenda

   Mrs. Ritchie presented the agenda for consideration.

   Motion:         Mr. Barrett, motion to approve the agenda as presented.
   Second:        Mr. Israel
   Vote:          Aye: Ritchie, Barrett, Israel
                   Nay: None

   The agenda stands approved as presented.

2. Approval of Minutes – April 17, 2019

   Motion:         Mr. Barrett, motion to approve the minutes as printed.
   Second:        Mr. Israel
   Vote:          Aye: Ritchie, Barrett, Israel
                   Nay: None

3. Case V-19-09: Illuminated – 2415 Montevallo Road

   Hank Lawson, Cain Awning Co., Inc., 1301 3rd Avenue South, Birmingham, Alabama,
presented the application for an awning sign. Jennifer Pate, the applicant, also attended the
meeting.

   Mrs. Ritchie called for a motion.
Motion: Mr. Barrett, motion to approve the awning sign application as submitted.
Second: Mr. Israel
Vote: Ayes: Ritchie, Barrett, Israel
Nays: None

4. Case V-19-10: Golden Age Wine – 2828 Culver Road

Brandon Loper, the applicant, presented the sign application:

- Adding “wine shop” to the left window and “wine bar” to the right window, as well as a logo on each window. Also, “wine shop & bar” and logo to be added to the back window. These will be painted on or made of vinyl.
- New planting at the entrance.
- Fixed bench in front of both windows; river rock underneath.
- He wanted to remove the existing awning because of its condition, but the property owner did not agree. The existing awning will remain.

Mr. Simmons stated that there is an issue with the condition of the existing awning. Should the applicant decide to add signage where the awning is now, or to add a new awning sign, the aggregate of signage will need to be reviewed and may require movement of some of the requested signage to meet requirements. The color of a new awning will need to be approved by the Committee, via email.

Mrs. Ritchie called for a motion.

Motion: Mr. Barrett:

Motion to approve the application, with conditions, as follows:

- Proposed signage as submitted.
- Exterior improvements, which includes plantings and benches, with the requirement that the benches are anchored.

This approval is contingent upon resolution of the maintenance issue with the existing awning.

Second: Mr. Israel
Vote: Ayes: Ritchie, Barrett, Israel
Nays: None


Grant Gramstad (Paradigm Architecture) and Ann Sanders (Mountain Brook Plaza) attended the meeting. Mr. Gramstad:

Proposed are two façade signs to be mounted on new stucco bands on the parapet; the signs will face the parking lot and the Highway 280 side of the structure. The purpose of the stucco bands is to create a contrasting backing for the signs. A height variance is requested for better
visibility and to anchor this end of the shopping center, as well as to balance with the Verizon sign on the other end.

Mr. Simmons stated that there is a height limit of 2’.

Committee concerns:

- The blue color presented does not read well; all-white lettering seems a better option.
- The stucco band may impede the visibility of the signs of other businesses.
- The projection of the sign is a concern.
- The Master Sign Plan does not allow for raceway signs.

Mrs. Ritchie asked that a mock-up of the signs at heights of 2’ and 2’-6” be sent for consideration.

Mrs. Ritchie called for a motion.

Motion: Mr. Barrett:

Motion to conditionally approve the sign concept as submitted, with the following recommendations:

- Both signs maximum height to be 2’-6” and attached to the brick façade rather than the proposed stucco band. A slightly larger proposal may be presented for consideration for the front façade (parking lot side).
- All-white lettering.
- Maximum of 7” depth for protruding raceway if there is no option to reduce; 6” is the code requirement.

Final approval is pending receipt and acceptance of new drawings incorporating Committee recommendations.

Second: Mr. Israel

Vote: Ayes: Ritchie, Barrett, Israel
Nays: None

Note: The Village Design Review Committee approved (May 15, 2019) the sign proposal revision as submitted via email, as follows:

- The maximum height of both signs to be 2’. This includes the proposed stucco backing that is around the sign only; stucco to be the mocha color submitted.
- Logo may include the blue color submitted.
- The maximum depth of the sign is to be 6”, which includes the raceway.

Should a variance for the sign height to be 2’-6” be requested, the Committee will consider that option at its meeting of June 19, 2019.
6. **Adjournment:** The next meeting will be held on June 19, 2019. There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting stood adjourned at approximately 8:35 a.m.

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[Signature]

Tammy Reid, Administrative Analyst