Present: Lynn Ritchie, Chairman
Brian Barrett
Ellen Elsas
George Israel

Absent: Stutts Everette
Ashley Spotswood
Katie Wohlwend
Alice Womack, Council Liaison

Also present: Dana Hazen: Director of Planning, Building & Sustainability
Tyler Slaten: City Planner
Tammy Reid: Administrative Analyst

The regular meeting of the City of Mountain Brook Village Design Review Committee was held on Wednesday, November 20, 2019, in the Council Chamber at Mountain Brook City Hall. Mrs. Ritchie called the meeting to order at approximately 8:00 a.m. It is noted that the case that carried over from last meeting, Center State Mortgage, withdrew their application.

1. Approval of Agenda

Mrs. Ritchie presented the agenda for consideration.

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

The agenda stands approved as presented.

2. Approval of Minutes – October 16, 2019

Mrs. Ritchie presented the minutes from the October 16, 2019 meeting.

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

3. Case V-19-26: Mon Ami, 40 Church Street

Aja Michel Powanda, applicant, presented the request to install a new awning with signage and store-front signage. The awning will protect the clothing from sun damage.
Mrs. Ritchie stated that the proposed awning signage and the existing window signage exceed the Zoning Regulations for sign area aggregate. Also, the proposed awning letters and Eiffel Tower image exceed the maximum vertical dimension allowed.

The Committee made the following comments/suggestions:

- Eliminate window signage; the repetition on window and awning compete with each other.
- Reduce awning size to allow the brick façade to be seen on both ends of the awning and for the dental molding to be seen at the top.
- Keep window signage; reduce awning size and use the stripe detail.
- Striped awning detail will catch the eye.
- The lettering and image on the window is attractive.
- Reducing lettering on the awning to meet height requirement may be too small and less noticeable.
- The proposed awning size is out of proportion with the small building.
- New renderings should be submitted for review.

Motion: Mr. Barrett, motion to approve the following:

- An awning reduced in size to allow the brick façade to be seen on both ends of the awning and for the dental molding to be seen at the top.
- A stripe-pattern material for the awning with no lettering/logo.
- Window signage approved as submitted.

Second: Mrs. Elsas

Vote: Aye: Barrett, Elsas, Israel, and Ritchie

Nay: None


David Brandt, Fravert Services, 133 West Park Drive, Birmingham, presented the sign application. Requested is a façade sign and door vinyl graphics. The façade sign is a 3” deep, fabricated aluminum cabinet with push-through acrylic logo and border; internally illuminated with LEDs. Lettering for “FINCH” is 16” in height.

Mrs. Ritchie called for a motion.

Motion: Mr. Israel, motion to approve the application as submitted.

Second: Mrs. Elsas

Vote: Aye: Barrett, Elsas, Israel, and Ritchie

Nay: None

5. Case V-19-28: The Happy Olive, 261 Rele Street

David Brandt, Fravert Services, 133 West Park Drive, Birmingham, presented the sign application, which is a modification to the sign that was approved on August 21, 2019. The letter color was considered and approved on site by the Committee. The approved signage was installed, but the owners were not happy with the lack of contrast between the color of the signage and the building façade. A back panel (painted to match the trim of the
storefront) was installed behind the existing letters to provide contrast and increase visibility; this alteration was not approved by the Committee. Mr. Brandt stated that this was not a malicious action; the business opening was scheduled in two days and the addition of the backing solved the visibility issue.

The applicant is asking for approval which will allow the approved lettering to be applied to a 1/8” plate aluminum back panel; panel painted to match the fascia color.

Mr. Israel asked about the size of the letters. Mr. Brandt stated that the exact letters are being used; no change.

Mr. Brandt said that the change was discussed with and approved by the owner of the building.

Mrs. Ritchie called for a motion.

Motion: Mrs. Elsas, motion to approve the sign application as submitted, which is a revision of the signage approved on August 21, 2019. This revision is the addition of a backboard to provide contrast to increase visibility and readability.

Second: Mr. Barrett
Vote: Aye: Barrett, Elsas, Israel, and Ritchie
Nay: None

6. Case V-19-29: Blue Root Co., 2822 Petticoat Lane

John McCary, RaderMcCary, Inc., represented the applicant. The request is for approval of a paint color and an entry door for a prepared food point-of-sale retailer within the existing Patina footprint. The area within Patina to be used is currently a storage area. Food will be prepared off-site and brought to the location. A Dutch door with a glass top portion will be added to operate as a pickup window.

The façade, door, and flush roof drain will be painted with Benjamin Moore Cloud Cover White paint. The applicant will return with a sign application at a later date.

Mr. McCary asked if the Dutch door could be widened. Mr. Israel stated that change request could be submitted at the same time that the signage application is submitted.

Motion: Mr. Israel, motion to approve the paint color submitted, to be used on the façade and door as specified.
Second: Mrs. Elsas
Vote: Aye: Barrett, Elsas, Israel, and Ritchie
Nay: None

7. Election of Village Design Review Co-Chairman

Mrs. Ritchie opened the floor for nominations. Mrs. Elsas nominated Brian Barrett. There were no other nominations.

Motion: Mrs. Elsas, motion to elect Brian Barrett to serve as committee co-chairman.
Second: Mr. Israel
Vote: Unanimous voice vote in favor of Brian Barrett serving as co-chairman.
8. **Adjournment:** The next meeting will be held on December 18, 2019. There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting stood adjourned at approximately 8:28 a.m.

\[\underline{T. Reid}\]

Tammy Reid, Administrative Analyst