MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF MOUNTAIN BROOK
VILLAGE DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 21, 2020
CITY HALL, 56 CHURCH STREET, MOUNTAIN BROOK, AL 35213
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER

In response to COVID-19 social distancing mandates, the meeting was held via audio conferencing.

The regular meeting of the City of Mountain Brook Village Design Review Committee was held on Wednesday, October 21, 2020, at 8:00 a.m., via audio conferencing. The roll was marked as follows:

Present: Brian Barrett, Co-Chairman
Ellen Elsas
Stutts Everette
George Israel
Ashley Spotswood
Katie Wohlwend

Absent: Lynn Ritchie, Chairman

Also present: Dana Hazen: Director, PBS
Tyler Slaten: Planner
Tammy Reid: Administrative Analyst

Brian Barrett presided the meeting.

1. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Barrett presented the agenda or consideration.

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

The agenda stands approved as presented.

2. Approval of Minutes – Minutes will be presented at a later date.

3. Case V-20-31: Buff City Soap, 250 Rele Street

Rick Hayes, Ingenuity LLC, presented multiple size options for the façade sign. The applicant’s preferred height is 20” for the larger letters in the logo. Since the requested size is in excess of the 16” height maximum, a variance is requested. The 16” seemed odd and out of place for the space. The largest letters will be approximately 20” with varying heights of the
other letters. There will be no other signage. The “Boutique” on the window from the previous tenant will be removed.

David Brandt, Fravert Services, stated that the sign will be reverse lit channel letters.

Mr. Barrett stated that the 16” version does leave a lot of white space and that the 24” is too large. He stated that a variance will be required to use the 20” tall lettering.

Mr. Israel asked the average height of the lettering since the letter sizes vary. Mr. Hayes stated that he feels the average would be approximately 16”. Mr. Brandt said he would guess the average would be 16” or less.

Mr. Israel noted that the lighting should be 2700-2800K. Mr. Brandt said they will meet that requirement.

Mrs. Elsas said that the 20” letters look more proportional to the space and that it should be noted that if a variance is granted, it is based on the specifics of this case only so as not to set a precedent. Ms. Spotswood agreed.

Mr. Barrett called for a motion.

Motion: Mrs. Elsas, motion to approve the sign application as follows: The color is approved. A height variance is approved that allows for 20” letters as shown in Exhibit B of the application. Lighting: The correlated color temperature will be 2700K-2800K. It is noted that should a variance be approved, it is based on the varying letter heights and the size of the band to which the sign will be applied. An approval would be case specific so as not to set forth a precedent.

Second: Mr. Israel

Vote: Aye: Barrett, Elsas, Everette, Israel, Spotswood, and Wohlwend
Nay: None

4. Case V-20-32: Slims Pizza & Bar, LLC, 65 Church Street

Bruce Lanier and Doug Shaddix presented the application. Mr. Lanier outlined the proposal: The existing gutter and downspout will remain and the existing façade will be repaired and painted. The exterior changes will include removing the faux column wraps and existing planters. A new fabric awning in a clay color is proposed with a LED light strip. Also, new white oak doors painted hunter green. Outdoor seating is requested.

Mr. Lanier stated that the scope of work is independent of possible improvements by the building owner. He is unaware of any future plans for the building.

Mr. Israel asked if the awning could be straight at the bottom rather than scalloped. The applicant said they can make that adjustment.
Mrs. Elsas said that sidewalk tables were mentioned; however, there are no furniture specifics. Also, there is not a complete color pallet to consider. Mr. Israel agreed that the total scope of work needs to be considered. The spirit of the design submitted is good, but the committee will need to review the signage, materials list and color palette for further consideration.

Mr. Hayes stated that he is asking for approval of the concept of the design submitted so repairs can begin and that the requested additional material will be submitted at a later date.

Mr. Barrett called for a motion.

Motion:       Mr. Israel: Motion to approve the spirit of the design submitted, allowing the repairs to the structural awning to proceed. The committee will review signage, materials list, and color palette upon submission. This is not establishing a precedent for keeping the awning or looking at other options.

Second:      Ms. Spotswood

Vote:        Aye: Barrett, Elsas, Everette, Israel, Spotswood, and Wohlwend

Nay:         None

5. **Adjournment:** There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting stood adjourned. The next meeting will be held on November 18, 2020.

______________________________
Tammy Reid, Administrative Analyst