

RALEIGH APPEARANCE COMMISSION
Minutes of the Business Meeting
Thursday, May 20, 2010

Members present: Elizabeth Byrd, Mitch Fluhrer, Bang Le, Julieta Sherk, Tom Skolnicki, Vincent Whitehurst, and Stan Williams.

Members not present: Tyler Highsmith (*unexcused*), John Holmes (*excused*), Jim Harris (*unexcused*), Andrew Leager (*excused*), Omar McCallop (*excused*), Cindy Szwarcop (*excused*), and Ted Van Dyk (*excused*).

Visitors & Guests: None present.

Staff present: Doug Hill.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Development Review Committee

Vincent Whitehurst reported on the April 20, May and May 18 committee meetings. He noted plans for a Golden Corral restaurant on Capitol Boulevard had been asked to return as elevation renderings had been incomplete. He added that a committee recommendation for after-hours dimming of lights at a proposed Infiniti car dealership on Capital Boulevard had not been adopted by plan applicants. Discussion followed concerning the impact of committee comments.

REVIEW OF MARCH 18 MINUTES

Tom Skolnicki called for review of the minutes of the March 18 commission meeting, on which action was deferred at the April meeting due to lack of a quorum. Elizabeth Byrd moved the minutes be approved. Stan Williams seconded; passed unanimously.

REVIEW OF APRIL 15 MINUTES

Tom Skolnicki called for review of the minutes of the April 15 commission meeting. Elizabeth Byrd moved the minutes be approved. Stan Williams seconded; passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (*con't.*)

Strategic/ Outreach Committee

Wake County Parking Deck Aesthetic Improvements: Elizabeth Byrd reported that the County and City are conferring as to the final deadline for Empire Properties to begin improvements to the deck exterior. She noted Empire views the banner idea positively. She also noted the several Durham Performing Arts Center banners which had been removed had been damaged by cross-winds and were undergoing repair; no such currents, however, would be expected at the County deck, as the walls are closed.

Sir Walter Raleigh Awards: Tom Skolnicki reported that a choice of speaker is still under consideration, and additional funding for the ceremonies needs to be secured. Discussion followed regarding both topics.

OLD BUSINESS

May Discussion: UDO Diagnostic & Approach Report

Tom Skolnicki reported on the May 4 discussion with City Council and members of boards/commissions. He stated the meeting had primarily consisted of the project consultants outlining issues for which direction from City Council would be needed. He noted the format of the meeting had been rather formal, with limited discussion. In reply to a question about the pace of the project, the consultants noted that Raleigh's recent adoption of a new Comprehensive Plan had afforded ready guidance to move ahead. Mr. Skolnicki cautioned that the previously-proposed "test case" option – assessing effects of the updated Code by applying provisions to hypothetical development in specific areas of the City – has been dropped in favor of a focus on defining physical transitions from commercial to residential areas. Mitch Fluhrer asked about the status of the commission's recommendations regarding essential design standards; Mr. Skolnicki replied no information was available yet.

NEW BUSINESS

2010-11 Work Program

Tom Skolnicki noted that the City Council had approved the commission's work program requests at the May 4 Council meeting.

Design Standards Outreach

Commission members considered opportunities for keeping the commission's call for basic design standards moving forward.

OTHER BUSINESS

Reports and Requests of Commission Members

There were no additional reports or requests.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:15 PM.

JUNE 2010 MEETING SCHEDULE

Development Review Committee	Tues., June 1 – 4:00 PM; Room 809, OEP Tues., June 15 – 4:00 PM; Room 809, OEP
Strategic/Outreach Committee	Wed., June 9 – 5:00 PM; Room 303, RMB
Appearance Commission	Thurs., June 17 – 5:30 PM; Room 305, RMB