

RALEIGH APPEARANCE COMMISSION

Minutes of the Meeting

Thursday, January 15, 2015

Members attending: Julieta Sherk, Brian O'Haver, Dean Rains, Kelli Goss, Rolf Blizzard, Asa Fleming, Brandy Thompson, Tika Hicks, Damien Graham, John Koonce, Jedidiah Gant

Members excused: Robby Johnston, Vic Bruinton, Cari Jones

Staff attending: Elizabeth Alley, Rotonda McKoy

SITE PLAN REVIEW

SP-66-14 Overture at Crabtree North

- The Commission recommends additional enhancements to the pedestrian environment on Lead Mine Road. Improvements should include enhancements to the building entrance on Lead Mine Road, highlighting the connection between the building and the street, and consideration of wider sidewalks.
- The Commission encourages the replacement of the surface stormwater detention pond with a more urban type of stormwater treatment in future phases of development nearby. In the meantime, the Commission encourages making the wet pond more of an amenity, including plantings and connection to the site, as it is visible from the residential units in this development.
- The Commission suggests further screening of north elevation of the parking deck through articulation and the application of additional architectural elements.
- The Commission commends the quality and variety of the plant palette.

SP-62-14 Hyatt House

- The Commission suggests the use of a hard surface material for the entirety of the ground floor of all elevations.
- The Commission commends the proper placement of red maple on the site.

SP-15-13 The Edison

- The Commission understands this request to be a sequencing plan, not a phasing plan. Should the project be a phasing plan the Commission recommends that there be a mechanism in place to ensure that the streetscape elements and all of Phase 2 of the project are completed, should circumstances change mid-construction.

REVIEW OF MEETING MINUTES

The Commission reviewed the December 18th meeting minutes. Brian O’Haver asked for an amendment to the wording of the site plan comments. Julieta Sherk called for a review of the minutes. Tika Hicks moved that the minutes be approved as amended, the motion was seconded by Jedidiah Gant and the motion passed unanimously.

STRATEGIC/OUTREACH BUSINESS

Working Group reports:

Tika Hicks, representing the Design Policy working group, announced that there would be a work session on Thursday January 22nd 5pm at 14 E Peace St. The group’s goals for the year will be to educate the Commission on the UDO Administrative Alternate standards, as well as to advocate for any desired non-alternate reviews and define the review process for those projects.

John Koonce, representing the Design Education working group, outlined the group’s work program for the year focusing on a rebranding initiative for the Commission to coincide with the Sir Walter Raleigh Awards, including creating a project brief about the Commission’s identity. The working group will also develop a strategy for how to explore the concept of non-mandatory plan reviews.

OTHER BUSINESS

Hillsborough Phase II Commission response

Julieta Sherk gave an overview of the memo to Council regarding the Commission’s Phase II Hillsborough project. Brian O’Haver made a motion approving the memo, which was seconded by Damien Graham and passed unanimously. Julieta reminded Commission members that the public hearing is the evening of February 3rd.

Lecture Opportunities

Elizabeth Alley updated the Commission regarding two lecture opportunities: one in February with related commissions and Council, and a public lecture in March. John Koonce made a motion to support the lectures and authorize budget related budget expenditures. Asa Fleming seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Budget Update

Elizabeth Alley updated Commission members on the remaining FY15 balance, and the budget request for FY16.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:40 pm.