

RALEIGH APPEARANCE COMMISSION

Minutes of the Meeting

Thursday, February 5, 2015

Members attending: Julieta Sherk, Brian O'Haver, Kelli Goss, Asa Fleming, Brandy Thompson, Tika Hicks, Damien Graham, John Koonce, Jedidiah Gant, Jamie Thompson, Robby Johnston

Members excused: Cari Jones, Dean Rains, Rolf Blizzard

Staff attending: Elizabeth Alley, Rotonda McKoy

SITE PLAN REVIEW

SP-48-14 Union Bank at Strickland Rd

- The Commission recommends shifting the parking lot island that is part of the pedestrian pathway leading from Mutual Court to the business entrance to provide more direct and safe passage for pedestrians.
- The Commission recommends the addition of transparent windows or other articulation on and evergreen plantings in front of the north building elevation to screen and add visual interest to the predominantly blank wall that is visible from Strickland Road. The Commission does not recommend the use of faux fenestration, but instead recommends taking cues for articulation from the remaining elevations, and responding to the site lines from Strickland Road to the north elevation.
- The Commission suggests preservation of the existing trees along the Strickland Road frontage, to the extent possible.
- The Commission recommends limiting the use of stucco to the inset portions of the façade, and refining the material palette to include just one color of stucco. The Commission does recommend including a limited amount of stucco on the primary building to tie in to the stucco drive through canopy.
- The Commission recommends thoughtful placement of the dumpster and a dumpster screen that is compatible with the main building materials.
- The Commission recommends a more diverse plant palette, and the use of more than one type of vine.

Six Forks Road Draft Corridor Study

- The Commission recommends that staff and consultants plan for design flexibility that may be required due to future funding challenges.
- The Commission strongly supports the inclusion of the storm water features in the design, and recommends appropriately sizing the planting beds at back of curb to accommodate the large canopy trees shown in the schematic design.
- The Commissions recommends the thoughtful selection and placement of plantings to highlight neighborhood gateways.

- The Commission appreciates the opportunity to review this project at the early schematic stage, and commends the level of thoughtfulness and detail shown in the project approach.
- The Commission asks to play a continued and active role in this project's future and requests repeated review of the project as it moves into design/construction.
- The Commission supports and encourages the Urban Design Center's continued role in thoughtful corridor design.

REVIEW OF MEETING MINUTES

The Commission reviewed the January 15th meeting minutes. Julieta Sherk called for a review of the minutes. Tika Hicks moved that the minutes be approved, the motion was seconded by Damien Graham and the motion passed unanimously.

STRATEGIC/OUTREACH BUSINESS

Working Group reports:

Tika Hicks, representing the Design Policy working group, gave a brief overview of the group's intention to educate the Commission on the UDO Administrative Alternate standards.

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.

Public Education

Elizabeth Alley gave a brief update on the upcoming lectures, and encouraged Commission members to attend.

ADJOURNMENT

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