



CITY OF PARK RIDGE

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY
PRESERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

APPEARANCE COMMISSION

Thursday, January 20, 2011
Council Chambers, City Hall
505 Butler Place
Park Ridge, Illinois

MINUTES

Chairman Kidd called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

A. ROLL CALL

Present

Brian Kidd, Chairman
Randall Derifield
Kim Kuhlman

Staff

Jon Branham
Sophie Tidd

City Council

Alderman Sweeney

Absent

Chris Buti
Ellen Upton

Others Present

Approximately 3 Citizens

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner Derifield, and seconded by Commissioner Kuhlman, that the minutes of the regular meeting of December 16, 2010, be approved. The Commission, by voice vote, unanimously approved the minutes.

C. *CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Commissioner Kuhlman, and seconded by Commissioner Derifield, that the Consent Agenda be approved.

Vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES 3 Commissioners Kidd, Derifield and Kuhlman
NAYS 0 None
ABSENT 2 Commissioners Buti and Upton

D. APPEARANCE REVIEW

1. *Appearance Case Number SG-11-01: Wall Sign for Blu Fish Sushi Bistro, 130 North Northwest Highway

Cosmos Sign & Design submitted an application for wall signs for Blu Fish Sushi Bistro at 130 North Northwest Highway. The wall signs would consist of blue and white channel letters on a black background. The signs would be illuminated.

Exhibits of the size, design, colors and installation of the wall sign was entered.

The Commission found the wall sign to be designed appropriately for the building and area.

On a motion by Commissioner Kuhlman, seconded by Commissioner Derifield, the Commission

AGREED to approve the wall sign at 130 North Northwest Highway, Appearance Case Number SG-11-01, as submitted.

In making the motion, the Commission made findings of fact, based on the exhibits presented. The design and colors of the wall sign would be compatible with the character of the building and would be appropriate for the site. Therefore, the Commission found that the proposed wall sign would be designed in accordance with the standards, spirit, and purpose of the Urban Design Guidelines.

Vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES 3 Commissioners Derifield, Kidd and Kuhlman
 NAYS 0 None
 ABSENT 2 Commissioners Buti and Upton

2. Appearance Case Number EG-11-01: Electric Generator Review, 504 South Western Avenue

Highland Park Electric and Carl Turano submitted an application for an electric generator at 504 South Western Avenue. The proposed generator would be located in the interior side yard. The generator screening would consist of existing shrubbery around the generator.

Exhibits of the location, screening and installation of the electric generator were entered.

The Commission found the electric generator location and screening to be designed appropriately for the building and area. A hedge of three to four yews should be planted in an arc formation surrounding the generator, ensuring that it is high enough to screen the generator.

On a motion by Commissioner Kuhlman, seconded by Commissioner Derifield, the Commission

AGREED to approve the electric generator review at 504 South Western Avenue, Appearance Case Number EG-11-01, subject to a hedge of three to four yews planted in an arc formation surrounding the generator, ensuring that it is high enough to screen the generator.

In making the motion, the Commission made findings of fact, based on the exhibits presented. The location and screening of the electric generator would be compatible with the character of the building and would be appropriate for the site. Therefore, the Commission found that the proposed electric generator would be designed in accordance with the standards, spirit, and purpose of the Urban Design Guidelines.

Vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES 3 Commissioners Derifield, Kidd and Kuhlman
 NAYS 0 None
 ABSENT 2 Commissioners Buti and Upton

3. Appearance Case Number SF-10-03: Landscape Plan Review for Single Family Residence, 1630 Birch Street

Architectural Studio and Jennie Smith submitted an application for a landscape plan review single family residence at 1630 Birch Street. The proposed residence would be a two-story structure with a two-car attached garage. Proposed materials include stone, red brick, cream trim, and gray asphalt shingles. This case was approved at the December 2010 meeting.

Exhibits of the building's size, design and relationship to the neighboring buildings were entered.

The Commission found the revised landscape plan to be designed appropriately for the building and area. An eight to ten foot ornamental tree or three ninebarks should be added to the right corner of the house. The serviceberry at the left corner of the house should be at a height of eight to ten feet. The number of burning bushes behind the serviceberry should be reduced to three, as shown on Exhibit A.

On a motion by Commissioner Derifield, seconded by Commissioner Kuhlman, the Commission

AGREED to approve the landscape plan review for the single family residence at 1630 Birch Street, Appearance Case Number SF-10-03, subject to adding an eight to ten foot ornamental tree or three ninebarks to the right corner of the house, increasing the height of the serviceberry at the left corner of the house to a height of eight to ten feet, and reducing the number of burning bushes behind the serviceberry to three, as shown on Exhibit A.

Vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES 3 Commissioners Derifield, Kuhlman and Kidd
 NAYS 0 None
 ABSENT 2 Commissioners Buti and Upton

E. OTHER BUSINESS

Awards Program

Jon Branham suggested that the nominations for the Awards Program be submitted by the public and presented to the Appearance Commission. Commissioner Derifield asked what the proposed timeframe would be for a project to be considered. Jon Branham stated that the first award time period could be somewhat open-ended, but future years should be limited to one year. Chairman Kidd stated that in order to eliminate gray areas, the date a Certificate of Occupancy was granted could also be used as criteria.

Commissioner Derifield suggested eliminating the word “sympathetic” in terms of additions. He also stated that the terms landscape and garden were synonymous.

Chairman Kidd stated that he liked the idea of asking the public their opinion as to why a certain property was nominated.

Chairman Derifield suggested that there be a note referencing the Urban Design Guidelines.

Commissioner Kuhlman stated that she agreed and that doing so may heighten the public’s awareness of the Urban Design Guidelines.

Commissioner Derifield stated that there were some pitfalls but the Awards Program would generate interest. Involving the general public would bright to light things that the Appearance Commission might not readily recognize.

Commissioner Derifield stated that he would not recommend awards for interior work.

Commissioner Derifield asked staff to make the necessary corrections and provide longer descriptions in the cover memo.

F. CITIZENS WISHING TO BE HEARD ON NON-APPEARANCE REVIEW CASES - None

G. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

APPEARANCE COMMISSION

Date

Chairman

Sophie Tidd
Recording Secretary

These minutes are not a verbatim record of the meeting but a summary of the proceedings.