



City of Birmingham Design Review Committee
Meeting Minutes
March 10, 2021

Meeting Time: 7:30 a.m.

Meeting Location: Webex Video & Teleconference

Applicants please note: The decisions of the Design Review Committee (the Committee) are binding. It is each applicant's responsibility to see that the decisions of the Committee are carried out as stipulated. Any changes or deviations from the Committee's decision, including but not limited to: colors, forms, configurations, materials, assemblies or any other aspects of the approved work shall not be undertaken by the applicant or the applicant's agent unless said changes are approved by the Committee beforehand. Under the terms of City ordinance, any change or deviation from work approved by the Committee constitutes a violation of the ordinance and renders the applicant subject to citation with penalties as prescribed by a city magistrate.

Members Present: Abra Barnes, Ivan Holloway, Creig Hoskins, Lea Ann Macknally, Richard Mauk, Sheila Montgomery-Mills, Ben Wieseman,

Members Absent: Scott Burnett, Willie Oliver, Chris Swain, Brian Wolfe

Staff Present: Karla Calvert, Lauren Havard, Pamela Perry, John Sims, Paige Largue Thomas

Others Present: Mike Benton, Hanno van der Bijl, Geoff Boyd, Mike Carpenter, Malcolm Marler, Ginger Street

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m. by Chairman Mauk. He stated that the minutes from the 2/10/2021 were ready. Hoskins made a motion to approve the minutes. Wieseman seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

- I. Name:** Mr. Mike Benton (Owner)
Site Address: 525 47th Street South
District: Avondale Park (Local Historic District)
Requesting approval for: New construction of residence

Statements: Chairman Mauk asked if there was a report from the LHAC. Thomas stated that the proposal was approved on condition by the LHAC.

On March 4, 2021, the Local Historic Advisory Committee (LHAC) for the Avondale Park Local Historic District heard the DRC case for the property located at 525 47th St. S. The recommendation of the Local Historic Advisory Committee was to Approve with Conditions the design review request for the following reasons:

In a meeting on February 17, the applicant agreed with revisions suggested by the Committee to his original plan. The applicant resubmitted revised plans. The committee approves and recommends the revised plans as submitted.

Applicant's plan is in keeping with the architectural integrity of the neighborhood.



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The LHAC also made the following findings:

1. The proposed change, erection, or demolition: Conforms to the design standards established.
2. The proposed change, erection, or demolition: Is compatible with the character of the historic property and the historic district and does not detract from their historic value.
3. The proposed erection, alteration, restoration, relocation or demolition, in whole or in part: Will not detrimentally change, destroy, or adversely affect any significant architectural feature of the resource.
4. The proposed erection, alteration, restoration, relocation or demolition, in whole or in part: Will be compatible with the exterior features of other improvements within the District.

Thomas stated that the plan was to build a single family residence. The applicant stated that he was willing to comply with the LHAC's conditions. Mauk stated that he didn't see the colors called out. Wieseman stated that the colors were listed on the rendering. Mr. Benton stated that the colors were approved by the LHAC.

Motion: Montgomery-Mills made a motion to approve this proposal as presented, in agreement with the LHAC.

Motion seconded by: Macknally

Discussion: none

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

- II. Name:** Ms. Ginger Street (Contractor)
Site Address: 4203 Clairmont Avenue
District: Forest Park (Local Historic District)
Requesting approval for: Restoration and repair to the porch and porch flooring

Statements: Chairman Mauk asked if there was a report from the LHAC. Perry stated that the proposal was approved on condition by the LHAC. Perry stated that the applicant agreed to all the conditions except one: the coping around the clay tile floor of the porch.

On March 2, 2021, the Local Historic Advisory Committee (LHAC) for the Forest Park Local Historic District heard the DRC case for the property located at 4203 Clairmont Avenue. The recommendation of the Local Historic Advisory Committee was to Approve with Conditions the design review request for the following reasons:

Coping at terrace to be thermally cut, gauged (smooth cut) bluestone with field in



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random rectangular pattern. Maintain and repair existing columns. If trim must be replaced, do so with profiles to match existing type and height of existing profiles. Submit exterior light replacement to Local Historic Review Committee upon selection.

The Local Historic Advisory Committee found that the proposal is in keeping with the architectural integrity of the neighborhood.

The LHAC also made the following findings:

1. The proposed change, erection, or demolition: Conforms to the design standards established.
2. The proposed change, erection, or demolition: Is compatible with the character of the historic property and the historic district and does not detract from their historic value.
3. The proposed erection, alteration, restoration, relocation or demolition, in whole or in part: Will not detrimentally change, destroy, or adversely affect any significant architectural feature of the resource.
4. The proposed erection, alteration, restoration, relocation or demolition, in whole or in part: Will be compatible with the exterior features of other improvements within the District.

Ms. Street presented her case for replacing the porch floor. She stated that she wanted the coping to have a more natural edge, while the LHAC wanted the coping to have a smoother finish. Ms. Street stated that the coping would be a Pennsylvania Blue stone, and she liked the natural edge. She stated that the smooth finish made it look like concrete. She also stated that only 8' of the coping was visible from the street, and that the house sits about 60' back from the street. Mauk asked if the historic (or contributing) nature of the house would be affected by this change. Thomas said no. Thomas stated that the NPS would just have to make a judgment call. Macknally asked if the stairs would be affected as well. Ms. Street stated that the stairs (both the tread and the riser) would be covered with the bluestone tile. Mauk asked if the light fixture had glass panes. Ms. Street stated that the light fixture was open, with no glass panes.

Motion: Macknally made a motion to approve this proposal as presented, allowing the applicant to use the coping of her choice. This approval included the light fixture.

Motion seconded by: Montgomery-Mills

Discussion: none

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

- III. Name:** Mr. Geoff Boyd (UAB Planning, Design & Construction)
Site Address: 1922 & 1924 7th Avenue South (Kracke Building + Pittman Center)



City of Birmingham Design Review Committee
Meeting Minutes
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Meeting Time: 7:30 a.m.

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District: Midtown

Requesting approval for: Demolition

Statements: Mr. Boyd presented his plan to demolish the Kracke building and the Pittman Center. Both buildings are primarily used as office space. He stated that the buildings would be demolished in anticipation of the new genomics building on UAB's campus. He stated that the plans for the renovations of the buildings and open space would return to DRC. Wieseman verified that the buildings would be demolished in favor of a new greenspace and entrance way for the genomics building. Wieseman also verified that the renderings that Mr. Boyd presented were showing the intent for what would go back in place of the demolished buildings.

Motion: Wieseman made a motion to approve this proposal for demolition as presented.

Motion seconded by: Hoskins

Discussion: none

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

IV.

Name: Ms. Karen Wilson

Site Address: 2173 Highland Avenue

District: Five Points South

Requesting approval for: Revised Master Plan

Statements: The applicant was not present. Sims stated that the applicant wanted to modify their signage master plan to create one large banner, instead of two smaller ones, for leasing information. Sims stated that the overall square footage of the signs would not change. Mauk asked if the banner would exceed what the DRC allows. Sims said no. Mauk verified that there would not be a phone number on the sign. Mauk asked if the banner would be temporary. Sims said yes, for 90 days.

Motion: Montgomery-Mills made a motion to approve this proposal and for the temporary banner to be up for 90 days.

Motion seconded by: Hoskins

Discussion: none

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

V.

Name: Mr. Mike Carpenter

Site Address: 1520 7th Avenue North

District: Downtown Northeast

Requesting approval for: Conceptual Design

Statements: Mr. Carpenter presented his plan to paint the brick on the building he



City of Birmingham Design Review Committee
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wanted to buy. Mauk stated that he supported painting the brick due to its condition. Wieseman stated that there is a precedent for painting the brick on buildings that have had this much repair work done over the years, for continuity's sake.

Motion: Montgomery-Mills made a motion to approve this proposal as presented.

Motion seconded by: Holloway

Discussion: none

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 a.m.