



## City of Birmingham Design Review Committee Summary of Meeting January 13, 2021

**Meeting Time: 7:30 a.m.**

**Meeting Location: Webex Video & Teleconference**

**(Video Link: <https://birmingham.webex.com/birmingham/j.php?MTID=mee271bfde95ba42df35d2310dd92b76c>;**

**Meeting Phone Number: 1/415-655-0002 or 1/312-5358110; Meeting Access Code: 146 794 5308; Meeting**

**Password: cR6DM3YynP3)**

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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.

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**Members Present:** Scott Burnett, Ivan Holloway, Creig Hoskins, Richard Mauk, Ben Wieseman, Brian Wolfe

**Members Absent:** Abra Barnes, Lea Ann Macknally, Sheila Montgomery-Mills, Willie Oliver, Chris Swain

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

**Others Present:** Lauren Barrett, Zach Feldman, Hershel Hamilton, Majella Hamilton, James Laughlin, Chris Manes, John McCary, Rima Patel, Matt Shaver, Jamie Sransky, Brian Tye, Jeremy White

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:36 a.m. by Chairman Mauk. He stated that the minutes were not ready.

- I. Name:** Mr. John Forney (Architect)  
**Site Address:** 4417 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue South  
**District:** Avondale Park (Local Historic District)  
**Requesting approval for:** ~~New construction of residence~~

**Statements:** This item was removed from the agenda.

- II. Name:** Mr. Jimmy Laughlin (Architect)  
**Site Address:** 4445 Clairmont Avenue South  
**District:** Forest Park (Local Historic District)  
**Requesting approval for:** Construction of pool and ancillary structure



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**Statements:** Thomas stated that the LHAC approved this proposal. There was the condition that drawings describing the required fencing around the pool be presented to the local committee for review. The recommendation of the Local Historic Advisory Committee was to Approve the design review request for the following reasons:

The Applicant's plan 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.

Mr. Laughlin stated that the owner wanted to add a small pool house and pool. He stated that the lot is large and encompasses 2.5 parcels. He also stated that the pool house would be identical to the main house in style, materials, and color. In addition, he stated that the pool house would have a metal roof. Wolfe asked what the fence would be made of, and Mr. Laughlin stated that the fence would be a simple black iron fence, to meet code.

**Motion:** Hoskins made a motion to approve this proposal, in agreement with the LHAC.

**Motion seconded by:** Holloway

**Discussion:** none

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

**III. Name:** Mr. and Mrs. James and Jennifer Sransky

**Site Address:** 4230 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue South

**District:** Avondale Park (Local Historic District)

**Requesting approval for:** Removal of existing awning unoriginal to the house and



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construction of new awning

**Statements:** Thomas stated that the LHAC voted to approve this proposal as presented.

The recommendation of the Local Historic Advisory Committee was to Approve the design review request for the following reasons:

Applicant's plan 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.

Mr. Sransky presented his plan to remove the existing awning on the house and replace it with a new one. The new awning will project 3' from the house. He stated that the new awning will repeat the same shape of the existing roof. He also stated that the new awning will be cedar and will be painted to match. He stated that the awning will be supported by brackets, and there will be a new light installed. The roof of the awning will have the same asphalt shingles as the main roof. Hoskins asked why Mr. Sransky didn't mimic the shape of the brackets on the back of the house. Mr. Sransky stated that he'd be willing to change the shape of the brackets to match.

**Motion:** Hoskins made a motion to approve this proposal as presented, in agreement with the LHAC.

**Motion seconded by:** Wolfe

**Discussion:** none

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

**IV. Name:** Mr. Jeremy White (Land Development)



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**Site Address:** 1201 3rd Avenue South (The Marshall)

**District:** Midtown

**Requesting approval for:** Revision of Façade Material (Last seen 3/11/2020)

**Statements:** Mr. White presented his revision of a façade material on The Marshall. He stated that he wanted to change the color of the residential windows from white to dark gray. He stated that he also wanted to change the railings from a decorative mesh to simple vertical pickets. He also stated that instead of using brick pavers, he wanted to switch to concrete broom finish. Wolfe asked if this development was in the Parkside District. Mr. White said no. Sims stated that at a previous meeting, the applicant had agreed to use the Parkside Guidelines to inform their design decisions. Mr. Manes stated that they wanted to take all the brick pavers out of the plan, and replace them with standard concrete. Mr. White stated that if it would be acceptable, they could do a stamped concrete at the corners, instead of brick pavers. Wieseman stated that he was under the impression that the Parkside Guidelines were extended to I-65.

**Motion:** Wolfe made a motion to carry over the case pending more information.

**Motion seconded by:** Hoskins

**Discussion:** Hoskins asked why the applicant wanted to make these changes. Mr. White stated that money was an issue, and also matching with their neighbors.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

**Motion:** Wolfe made a motion to reconsider the motion.

**Motion seconded by:** Hoskins

**Discussion:** none

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

**Motion:** Wolfe made a motion to approve the windows and railings, and to carry over the hardscape revisions in order to confirm if the proposal is in the Parkside District.

**Motion seconded by:** Wieseman

**Discussion:** Hoskins asked if the changes were monetary or aesthetic. Mr. White said both.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

**V. Name:** Mr. John McCary (RADERMCCARY, INC.)

**Site Address:** 3027 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue South

**District:** Lakeview



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**Requesting approval for: Renovation**

**Statements:** Mr. McCary presented his plan to replace and grow the existing storefront. He stated that he'd also like to replace the awning with a new canopy. He stated that the new canopy would project 4' from the building. He stated that he would return with colors. Hoskins asked if it would be butt-glazed. Mr. McCary said yes. The new canopy will be very similar to the existing, but the new one will have overhead supports.

**Motion:** Hoskins made a motion to approve this project conceptually, with colors, canopy details, attachments, and framing system to return.

**Motion seconded by:** Wieseman

**Discussion:** none

**Vote:** The motion carried.

- VI. Name:** Ms. Catherine Holcombe (Arlington Properties)  
**Site Address:** 1143 1st Avenue South (Denham Building)  
**District:** Midtown  
**Requesting approval for:** Bollards in front of the building

**Statements:** Ms. Catherine Holcombe was not present. Wieseman presented the plan to install bollards outside the Denham Building, for safety. He stated that the building has been hit by several cars that failed to stop at the stop sign across the street. Hoskins asked if the bollards were permanent. Wieseman said yes. Wolfe asked how many bollards would be installed. Wieseman said there would be four.

**Motion:** Hoskins made a motion to approve this proposal as presented.

**Motion seconded by:** Wolfe

**Discussion:** none

**Vote:** The motion carried, Wieseman recused himself.

- VII. Name:** Ms. Rima Patel  
**Site Address:** 1032 20<sup>th</sup> Street South (Birmingham Apothecary)  
**District:** Five Points South  
**Requesting approval for:** Exterior Painting

**Statements:** Ms. Patel presented her plan to paint the exterior of Birmingham Apothecary, to update it and repair it. She stated that she wanted to paint, repair and



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remove the rust stains. Mauk stated that the Committee doesn't like to approve painting previously unpainted brick. Wolfe also stated that the front of the building looked pretty busy. Ms. Patel stated that she would be willing to remove the posters in the windows. Hoskins suggested hiring an architect to help to reimagine the façade. Mauk stated that he didn't remember approving the canopy sign on the front of the building. Hoskins asked Sims if this site was part of a larger plan. Sims said he would check.

**Motion:** Wolfe made a motion to carry this case over for the applicant to work with an architect and possibly have a working session.

**Motion seconded by:** Holloway

**Discussion:** none

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

- VIII. Name:** Mr. Lauren Barrett (Barrett Architecture Studio)  
**Site Address:** 1420 7th Avenue North (The Ballard House)  
**District:** Downtown Northwest  
**Requesting approval for:** Fence and Handicapped Ramp

**Statements:** Mr. Barrett presented his plan to add a fence and handicapped ramp to The Ballard House. He stated that the new fence would be 3' high and would connect with a fence at the rear of the building. Ms. Hamilton stated that the fence would protect the historic house, and would also enclose a new community garden that is planned. Mr. Hamilton stated that there is currently no accessible entry into The Ballard House. He stated that the triple window would be replaced with French Doors and a deck, and the ramp would lead up to the deck to provide access. Hoskins asked what color the deck would be. Sims said they'd be painted to match. Wolfe verified that the railing on the ramp and deck would be painted dark bronze. Wieseman verified that the ramp would be contained in the side yard. Mr. Hamilton stated that landscaping would be planted to hide the deck and ramp.

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

**Motion seconded by:** Wolfe

**Discussion:** none

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.



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There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 a.m.