



City of Birmingham Design Review Committee Meeting Minutes August 10, 2022

Meeting Time: 7:30 a.m.

Meeting Location: City Council Chambers, 3rd Floor, City Hall

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. In addition, please note that prior to obtaining any permit(s), all applicants must meet with Zoning staff to determine compliance with the Zoning regulations. Design Review approval does NOT mean that Zoning has approved the request.

Members Present: Scott Burnett, Ivan Holloway, Creig Hoskins, Richard Mauk, Shelia Montgomery-Mills, Willie Oliver, Brian Wolfe

Members Absent: Abra Barnes, Chris Swain, Ben Wieseman

Staff Present: Karla Calvert, Lauren Havard, John Sims

Others Present: Robert Daniels, Robert Emerick, John Forney, Emily Hiester, Billy Johnson, Steve Kirkpatrick, Alex Krumdieck, Lea Ann Macknally, Sandy Miller, Derrick Owens, Hyunwoong Shin, Joe Sweeney, Dwayne Timothy

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m. by Chairman Mauk. He stated that the minutes were not ready.

- I. Name:** Mr. Robert Emerick
Site Address: 5529 1st Avenue South
District: Woodlawn
Requesting approval for: Master Signage Plan

Statements: Mr. Emerick presented his plans to update the signage master plan for the Social Venture building, to account for new signage for the 1st Avenue side of the building. Mr. Emerick stated that the sign painted on the building would be no more than 25 square feet. He also stated that he would be adding a small blade sign that would mirror the signage across the street. He also stated that vinyl door signage would be added to the front doors of the tenant spaces. Burnett asked if this proposal met the



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Guidelines. Sims said yes.

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

Motion seconded by: Hoskins

Discussion: none

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

II.

Name: Mr. John Forney (Architect)

Site Address: 3809 5th Avenue South

District: Avondale Park Local Historic District

Requesting approval for: New duplex dwellings on vacant site

Statements: Chairman Mauk asked if there was a report from the LHAC. Calvert stated that the proposal was approved as presented.

On August 1, 2022, the Local Historic Advisory Committee (LHAC) for the Avondale Park Local Historic District heard the DRC case for the property located at 3809 5th Av. S, and the Committee took the following action: Approve.

The recommendation of the Local Historic Advisory Committee was to Approve the design review request as presented.

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. Forney presented his plan to build a new duplex in a vacant lot in the Avondale Neighborhood. Mauk asked what type of materials would be used. Mr. Forney stated that he would use hardie board siding, cypress posts, composite shingles, and windows with simulated divided lights. He stated that he used surrounding houses as inspiration for the setbacks and appearance of the duplex.



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

Motion seconded by: Wolfe

Discussion: Burnett verified that the colors had been presented and approved.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

III.

Name: Mr. Steve Kirkpatrick

Site Address: 2201 Highland Avenue South

District: Five Points South

Requesting approval for: Signage

Statements: Mr. Kirkpatrick presented his plan to do a sign for sign change out from Bankcorp South to Cadence Insurance. Mauk asked if the signs would be internally lit. The applicant said yes. Hoskins asked if the signage met the Guidelines. Sims said yes.

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

Motion seconded by: Montgomery-Mills

Discussion: none

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

IV.

Name: Mr. Steve Kirkpatrick

Site Address: 2211 Highland Avenue South

District: Five Points South

Requesting approval for: Signage

Statements: Mr. Kirkpatrick presented his plan to rebrand a bank. He stated that it would be a sign for sign change out. He stated that the signs would be internally lit. Hoskins asked if the signage fit within the Guidelines. Sims said yes.

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

Motion seconded by: Montgomery-Mills

Discussion: none

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

V.

Name: Mr. Steve Kirkpatrick

Site Address: 2100 3rd Avenue North

District: 21st Street North

Requesting approval for: Signage



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Statements: Mr. Kirkpatrick stated that the third building had a rooftop sign that needed the face changed out to the new logo. He stated that all the signs would be changed out to reflect the new owner. Mauk asked if there were any additional tenants in the building. Mr. Kirkpatrick stated that there might be, but that they weren't requesting signage.

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

Motion seconded by: Montgomery-Mills

Discussion: none

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

- VI. Name:** Mr. Dwayne Timothy (CTSM Architects Inc.)
Site Address: 1628 2nd Avenue North (Brother Bryan Mission)
District: 4th Avenue North
Requesting approval for: Renovation (Phase II) (Last seen 5/12/21)

Statements: Mr. Timothy presented his plan for improvements to the Brother Bryan mission building. He stated that the first floor was the focus of Phase II. He stated that new windows would be added. He also stated that an awning and signage would be added to the building as well. He stated that there would be two blade signs added to either side of the building, and that each sign would be 8 square feet. Mr. Timothy also stated that there would be vinyl signs on the doors. Mr. Timothy stated that he would need to regrade the sidewalk to create accessible access to the building. Burnett verified that all of the first floor glass would be clear.

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

Motion seconded by: Holloway

Discussion: none

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

- VII. Name:** Mr. David Brandt (Fravert Services)
Site Address: 2 North 20th Street (2 North 20th Building)
District: Birmingham Green
Requesting approval for: Signage Master Plan (Last seen 8/22)

Statements: Mr. Brandt presented his plan to add a monument sign to the master signage plan for the 2 North 20th building. Mr. Brandt stated that the sign would be at the corner of Morris Ave and 20th Street. He stated that the sign would be 4'x8' in size and would not be in the ROW. He stated that the tenants listed on the sign don't have any signage on the building. He stated that the sign would only include tenants that



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occupied full floors. Mr. Brandt also stated that this was the only addition to the previously approved master signage plan. Mr. Brandt stated that the sign would be silver, black and white and would blend in with the building itself. Burnett asked what would stop all other buildings along 20th Street from requesting signage like this. Mr. Brandt stated that the sign would sit fully on the 2 North 20th property and not within the ROW. He stated that this building was unique in that it has space to put a monument sign on its own property because of its architecture. Mr. Brandt stated that the sign would be non-illuminated. Hoskins re-read the previous motion made, stating: “the master sign plan on the condition that, upon the earlier to occur of (i) the expiration or earlier termination of the term of the sign lease for the existing rooftop sign and (ii) December 20, 2028, the owner must submit an updated master sign plan to the Design Review Committee for its approval that shows its plan for either the upgrade or discontinuance of the rooftop sign. Expanding on the above, the Design Review Committee has determined and found that the original use of the existing rooftop sign involved scrolling, illuminated text; accordingly, any upgrade to the existing rooftop sign shall be consistent with the original use and character of such sign in terms of shape, size and monochromatic illumination. In no event shall the approval granted herein be deemed to extend beyond midnight on Wednesday, December 20, 2028. Approval of this Master Sign Plan by the Design Review Committee is for design review purposes only and shall not be construed as to prohibit the City’s enforcement of any other applicable ordinance to the existence or maintenance of any sign contained therein.”

Motion: Hoskins made a motion to approve this proposal to add a monument sign.

Motion seconded by: Wolfe

Discussion: Burnett verified that the sign was monochromatic and would remain monochromatic.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

VIII. Name: Ms. Lea Ann Macknally (Macknally Land Design)

Site Address: 1800 Powell Avenue South (Powell Ave. Steam Plant) Last seen 7/29/22

District: Midtown

Requesting approval for: Final Site Elements; Public Streetscape and Pedestrian Plaza per Parkside Guidelines

Statements: Ms. Macknally presented her final plan for the site plan and ROW improvements. She stated that signage would return at a later date. Macknally stated that there was a 15’ ROW on the east and west sides of the building. Ms. Macknally also stated that the Powell Avenue ROW was included in her site plan. She stated that



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she would be removing all the curb cuts from the Powell Avenue ROW, but needed to add one back to connect the Powell Ave Steam plant site to the parking lot site to the south. Wolfe asked if Powell Avenue would be pedestrian only. Ms. Macknally said that it has already been vacated and would be pedestrian only. Ms. Macknally stated that there would be a series of ramps to connect the elevation at the back of curb to the finished floor elevation of the building. She stated that each ROW would have a 5' clear path for ADA accessibility, site lighting, landscaping, and site furnishings.

Wolfe asked how the site would deal with its trash. Macknally stated that the development team would use a trash valet service to removed trash from the site. Wolfe asked if there were planters around the entrances to the building. Ms. Macknally stated that there were planters. She also stated that the Powell Avenue promenade would be accessible by vehicles for special events. She also stated that all trees along Powell Ave. would be in planters. Ms. Macknally stated that she would be using the same plant palate that was used in Railroad Park. She also stated that the lawn areas would use synthetic turf.

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

Motion seconded by: Burnett

Discussion: none

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

IX.

Name: Mr. Derrick Owens

Site Address: 2131 7th Avenue South

District: Midtown

Requesting approval for: New Construction (Last seen 4/13/2022)

Statements: The applicant presented his final materials for a previously approved building. He presented his material and color palate. He stated that he would be using anodized aluminum storefront and windows, and smooth-face block with small panels of wood slats. He stated that signage would return at a later date.

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

Motion seconded by: Holloway

Discussion: none

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session:

Motion: Wolfe made a motion to move the Committee into Executive Session.



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Seconded by Oliver.

The motion carried unanimously.

Motion: Wolfe made a motion to leave the Executive Session.

Seconded by Hoskins.

The motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, Wolfe made a motion to adjourn. Hoskins seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 a.m.