

RICHT DESIGN COMMISSION

MEETING OF

May 8, 2014

Members Present

Courtney Nicholas
George Davis
Sheri Chaney
John Ranson
Peyton Keesee

Members Absent

R.J. Lackey
Justin Ferrell

Staff

Ken Gillie
Renee Burton
Scott Holtry
Clarke Whitfield
Christy Taylor

Chairman Davis called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

ITEMS FOR PUBLIC HEARING

1. *A request for a Certificate of Appropriateness to install landscaping at 657 Craghead Street.*

Open the Public Hearing.

No one was present to speak.

Mr. Gillie stated this is just a City project to do the landscaping at the Science Center around the digital dome. They are hoping to start work on it next week if possible.

Close the Public Hearing.

Mrs. Nicholas made a motion to approve the request as submitted. Mrs. Chaney seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

2. *A request for a Certificate of Appropriateness to install 15 temporary banners along Main Street and Craghead Street sign posts.*

Open the Public Hearing.

Present on behalf of the request was Mr. Dan Hayes, Alumni Director of Averett. For our homecoming celebration we are trying to include as much of the City as possible. Homecoming is going to be October 17-19. We are hoping to have banners to let people know that it is coming up and open to the public. Most of our events happen on Saturday the 18th at our North campus. The number 15 came from that is what I think I can afford. I am flexible with the number if you think more or less would be better. I would love to answer any questions.

to date on the proposed banner?

Mr. Hayes responded so we can use them every year. The hope is that they will see other things on marquees and posters at businesses to direct them to the date.

Mrs. Nicholas asked will that mean that they are taking down the banners that are already up?

Mr. Gillie responded if it is on the same pole that they are proposing, yes they would come down.

Mr. Ranson asked are you going to provide the brackets?

Mr. Gillie responded we already have brackets available and they made their signs based on what we have for use.

Close the Public Hearing.

Mr. Ranson made a motion to approve the request as submitted. Mr. Keesee seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

3. A request for a Certificate of Appropriateness to renovate 401 Bridge Street.

Open the Public Hearing.

Present on behalf of the request was Mr. Bobby Adkins, Blair Construction. I am the project manager representing Blair as well as the developer. I am hoping to answer any questions that you have.

Mr. Ranson stated it would be nice if you could summarize what you are doing.

Mr. Adkins stated it is a four story building with the basement being the first floor. The proposal now is to renovate the first and second floor for commercial space with future renovations on the third and fourth floors for condominiums as residential use.

Mrs. Nicholas asked is the building empty?

Mr. Adkins responded yes. There is some minor storage in it, but there is no tenant.

Mr. Keesee asked does this building back up to the other one?

Mr. Adkins responded they are side by side.

Mr. Keesee asked is there a wall between them?

Mr. Adkins responded it is kind of a box in the center. There is a courtyard in the center of the building and I am not sure who it belongs to. On the parking lot side and the

way that connects the two that are already blocked

Mr. Ranson asked is the project getting tax credits?

Mr. Adkins responded yes, we are seeking historic tax credits. They are much more stringent in keeping with the time period of the exterior look. It is our intentions to keep the construction in period.

Close the Public Hearing.

Mr. Keesee made a motion to approve the request as submitted. Mrs. Chaney seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

- 4. A request for a Certificate of Appropriateness to install a 20" x 24" free standing way-finding sign in the Main Street Plaza.*

Open the Public Hearing.

No one was present to speak.

Mr. Ranson asked does it say exactly where it is going to be?

Mr. Gillie responded it is between where the trees are and the gazebo that they have put in and the fountain. It will be just a low pole with the sign attached to it.

Mrs. Nicholas asked why is it being called a way-finding sign when it includes nothing about finding your way?

Mr. Gillie responded we didn't know what else to call it. We are working on a way-finding package for the entire City. This kind of got ahead of it but since the Plaza has opened up, they wanted to put it there.

Mr. Holtry stated in the Design Guidelines, this best fit the description.

Close the Public Hearing.

Mr. Ranson made a motion to approve the request as submitted. Mr. Keesee seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The March 13, 2014 minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.



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Mr. Sims stated I just wanted to thank you. I have received some positive comments that this Board is easy to work with.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Approved By: