

RIVER DISTRICT DESIGN COMMISSION

MEETING OF

November 12, 2015

Members Present

Peyton Keesee
George Davis
Sheri Chaney
John Ranson
Justin Ferrell
R.J. Lackey
Courtney Nicholas

Members Absent

Staff

Kenny Gillie
Tracie Lancaster
Clarke Whitfield
Anna Levi

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

ITEM FOR PUBLIC HEARING

- 1. A request has been filed for a Certificate of Appropriateness to install a 3.9 square foot round aluminum and vinyl sign at 311 Court Street.*

Mr. Davis opened the Public Hearing.

Mr. Davis cruising by Court Street I noticed the sign is already up is that correct?

Mr. Gillie stated do you want to answer that one?

Present on behalf of the request was Ken Sloneke.

Mr. Sloneke stated yes that is correct. We used two screws to put it up gently so we could take the picture for the application.

Mr. Lackey entered at 4:02 PM.

Mrs. Nicholas stated it says in the application it's round but in the picture it looks different.

Mr. Davis that's the second one they had an add on.

Mrs. Chaney stated No this one says 311.

Ms. Levi stated the packets that are in front of you are the added items.

Mr. Gillie stated this is the little round one.

Mrs. Chaney stated so they are both are 311. I didn't realize that.

Mr. Davis Closed the Public Hearing.

Mrs. Chaney made a motion to approve the request as submitted. Mr. Keesee seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 6-0-1 vote. Mr. Lackey abstained from the vote (since he missed the discussion).

2. *A request has been filed for a Certificate of Appropriateness to construct a metal and acrylic painted sign of 60 square foot at 444 Wilson Street.*

Mr. Davis opened the Public Hearing.

Mr. Sloneke stated I will say that is also my sign so if there is any questions about that I would be happy to answer them.

Mrs. Nicholas stated do you have a preference of which option?

Mr. Sloneke stated I actually have a preference for the smaller option which is option two. Option one is the full sixty square feet of the two it's the larger. I think I prefer the lower but we are not quite at the phase where we finalize the design yet for the front. I didn't see anything about sixty above being practical for that building in spite of the fact that it's 67 feet across.

Mr. Davis closed the Public Hearing.

Mr. Ranson made a motion to approve option two which was the smaller of the two signs. Mr. Keesee seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

Mr. Davis announced that four additional items were requested to be added to the agenda. The Board voted and the additional items were approved to be added to the agenda by unanimous vote.

3. *A request has been filed for a Certificate of Appropriateness to install a 16 square foot projecting sign at 311 Court Street.*

Mr. Davis opened the Public Hearing.

Present on behalf of this request was Ken Sloneke and Kristen Gusler.

Mr. Sloneke stated the business is L shaped. Her business is in the lower part of the building and my office is in the basement. So even though it sounds like the same address they are not really the same building. They are attached by a doorway but they are not the same structure.

Mr. Ranson stated what is this sign made out of?

Ms. Gusler stated we are looking at doing composite aluminum. It's like metal aluminum on the outside then it has a filler on the inside.

Mr. Ranson stated so the wood is part of it?

Ms. Gusler stated yes its part of the design and graphic.

Mr. Sloneke stated that sign will be seen from Court Street. The building is 91 feet long and the sign will be over 20 feet high at the tallest section. So it's a very large wall running along Court Street that the sign will be on.

Mrs. Nicholas stated will the squares be 4x4?

Ms. Gusler stated I'm looking at either 4x4's or 3x3 I haven't quite decided on that.

Mr. Lackey stated the size is important. It's not a zoning issue with the size of the sign is it?

Mr. Gillie stated a 4x4 will comply, 3x3 would work. They haven't exceeded the maximum even with the 4x4.

Mrs. Chaney stated so she could do up to a max of 4x4 and approve it that way.

Mr. Lackey made a motion to approve up to a 4x4 sign. Mr. Ferrell seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

4. *A request has been filed for a Certificate of Appropriateness to install a 262 square foot sign at 500 Main Street. Sign will be refurbished from the original "Home of Dan River Fabrics" sign and will be constructed of metal with red neon tubing.*

Present on behalf of this request was Corrie Teague.

Ms. Teague stated as you may have read in the newspaper the Danville Historic Society is the owner of the old [HOME of DAN RIVER FABRICS] sign that used to be on top of the White Mill. There is a small group between the Danville Regional foundation and History United, some City Employees, City administration and the Historic Society that have gathered together to figure out the best way to use the sign. It's been in storage for quite some time. The Historical Society has been able to get a grant from the Danville Regional Foundation to refurbish the HOME portion of the sign. Over the Holiday season this will be part of the Holiday lights tour and after that will be going back to Power Signs for the installation of neon tubing and the IDA has approved this sign to go on the former Downtowner. We would like permission for it go on this

particular lot based off the approval today this sign will have to be attached to the building. It is a fairly large sign and will need to be bolted against the wall along Union Street.

Mr. Davis stated where about is this on the building?

Ms. Teague stated well it's a fairly large sign. It's a little less than 12 feet tall. Each letter is less than 12 feet tall. So it would more than likely be right in front of the building. So the brick wall facing Main Street it will be attached to that.

Mr. Lackey stated the brick that is facing Main Street but its back in the back.

Mr. Whitfield stated if you will recall when the Downtowner came down this exposed that wall which it's not the most attractive wall in Danville.

Mrs. Nicholas stated for how long would it stay?

Ms. Teague stated 6 months. As you may also recall this is the site that is going to be used for a future parking facility. So we are not asking for it to be installed here permanently, just temporary.

Mr. Lee Vogler of the Danville City council stated I am also a part of the group that Corrie mentioned involved with this sign. I just wanted to add onto what Corrie said she already mentioned the basics of it but this sign is something that people use to see for a number of years and when you came into town you knew you were home. So the ability to bring this sign back, especially the HOME portion of it, we think would be a great thing to do. They said that Home is Where the Heart is and I think for us in Danville our heart is in the River District. So I can't think of a better place to have this sign so the ability to put this there at least for the six months until we can find a permanent place after that I think it would be a good location and as we have had that vacant lot for a while now. I think it would be a good place to have it for folks to come see it and know that you are truly home in the River District. So I would ask that you please approve this today and it thank you for your time.

Mr. Davis closed the Public Hearing.

Mrs. Chaney made a motion to approve for the six month time frame. Mr. Ranson seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 4-1-2 vote. Mr. Ferrell and Mrs. Nicholas both abstained from the vote due to conflict of interest.

Mr. Lackey stated I believe that the people that make the rules need to follow them closer than everyone else. This is way larger than anything we have ever approved before. I'm going to vote no because of that. It's temporary and I'm glad it's temporary.

But I think there is other City property and I just don't think it should go there. I think the City needs to follow its own rules.

Ms. Teague stated might I add a comment?

Mr. Gillie stated it's up to you are the Chairman.

Mr. Davis stated yes go ahead.

Ms. Teague stated this is considered part of the public art trail that's throughout the River District so even insurance that would be Tailored under the Parks and Recreation Public art trail throughout the River District. So it's not a sign per say or it's not owning a business or a particular establishment it's considered part of the local community art.

Mr. Lackey stated Mr. Whitfield if it's not a sign and it is art should it be coming in front of us?

Mr. Whitfield stated yes.

Mr. Gillie stated you approve the art when they put all the things downtown as well. That's why I bought it to you.

Mr. Whitfield stated if it goes in the River District it has got to come in front of you all if it's new.

Mr. Lackey stated that clarifies things I glad it's there on the record.

Mrs. Chaney made a motion to approve for the six month time frame. Mr. Ranson seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 4-1-2 vote. Mr. Ferrell and Mrs. Nicholas both abstained from the vote due to conflict of interest.

Mr. Gillie stated do they have to say why they are abstaining?

Mr. Whitfield stated well typically they would but since I found out about it at 3:58. I will create the resolution and give those to Tracie after they have signed them.

Mr. Gillie stated okay.

5. A request has been filed for a Certificate of Appropriateness to install a directional hanging sign at 310 Main Street.

Mr. Davis opened the Public Hearing.

Ms. Teague stated as you may know we have multiple tenants in 310 and 312 Main Street. Since the installation of the stairwell has upstairs tenants are sharing one common entry point at 310, regardless of whether they are tenants of the 310 or the 312

spaces. So we needed to install a sign in order to direct the pedestrian traffic into one common area so that they can go to the upper floors for the businesses. I did not put the actual size in the packet but it's the exact same size as the Lizzy Lou sign hanging from the building.

Mr. Davis stated I'm sorry the what sign?

Ms. Teague stated the Lizzy Lou sign hanging from the building is less than two feet by one foot.

Mrs. Chaney stated Is this a projecting sign as well?

Ms. Teague yes so it would hang right outside of the door of 310 Main Street.

Mrs. Nicholas will it impact the mural that is already there?

Mrs. Teague stated it's not going to be on the mural side it is going to right where 310 and 312 meet right there.

Mrs. Nicholas stated okay.

Mr. Lackey stated what are the Lizzy Lou colors?

Ms. Teague stated she has the black iron clamp with a white sign and then she has turquoise and green with a black arrow I believe it has white background with teal, green and black.

Mr. Ranson stated are we looking at the sign and awning?

Mr. Davis stated it's just the sign right now.

Mr. Lackey stated so we have five things.

Mr. Davis stated the awing is number four.

Mrs. Nicholas stated how far off the ground is this going to be?

Ms. Teague stated the same as Lizzy Lou's which are about 7 or 8 feet off the ground with walking clearance underneath it.

Mr. Gillie stated the guidelines say a minimum of 7 feet of clearance.

Mr. Lackey made a motion to approve option two. Mrs. Chaney seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

6. *A request has been filed for a Certificate of Appropriateness to replace the existing awnings at 310 and 312 Main Street with new 100% Sunbrella acrylic awnings and to paint existing green trim black.*

Mr. Davis opened the Public Hearing.

Ms. Teague stated I wanted to bring the actual fabric because sun erosion alters the actual color. So on 312 if you look at the awnings in it's given state they are pretty worn. We inherited them when we purchased the property. So on Vintages we are replacing the strip with the nice clean black awning that is plain with a little strip through it. Several months ago we had approval for the black paint on the front trim so we are going to extend that down since we have approval for that right about the awing there is a green slab of wood so we are going to make it consistent with the window trim and of course install this awning. Over at 310 where Lizzy Lou is located we are replacing the green there is one on the front, two on the side and one in the rear green curved awning we are replacing that with sky blue per our tenants selection. The same structure will stay in place it will be curved.

Mr. Lackey stated I do have a question though and I am all for the paint on the green but did we approve painting that or did we just approve what had been painted prior to our approval? I believe we had approved what had been painted prior to our approval.

Mr. Gillie stated I believe we had as well.

Mr. Lackey stated so they would need to come back for that approval. I'm all for it but I just want to make sure we follow protocol.

Ms. Teague stated sure.

Mr. Lackey stated but I think before they paint that this time they should ask for approval instead of forgiveness.

Ms. Teague stated I thought that we had approval for all of the trim on the front.

Mr. Gillie stated or you can add it to this motion if you so choose.

Mr. Ferrell stated just make sure we don't have a forgiveness issue.

Mrs. Nicholas stated so the only thing getting painted is over Vintages?

Ms. Teague stated correct its green which doesn't match anything else. It would be the same color black as the rest of the trim.

Mr. Davis closed the Public Hearing.

Mrs. Chaney made a motion to approve as requested with the addition of painting the green trim black. Mr. Ferrell seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The September 10, 2015 minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Keesee stated I have a question we talked about this month's ago about the gas meters being exposed now in Danville. Are we anywhere on that?

Mr. Ferrell exited at 4:28pm.

Mr. Gillie stated yes we are working on some additional streets and other things are they are supposed to bringing some designs back to us. We had a River District internal meeting last week and that was one of the questions that was brought up and Water and Gas is supposed to come back. We are talking about doing some vaults and others things for some of them. At this time I don't have anything to bring to you.

Mr. Keesee stated okay thank you.

Mr. Gillie stated I'm supposed to remind you conflict of interest statements are due. Did you all receive them? All Boards and Commissions are supposed to get them.

Mrs. Reynolds stated nope.

Mr. Whitfield stated I don't think it's a conflict of interest statement it's a financial disclosure.

Mrs. Nicholas stated hadn't got that either.

Mr. Gillie stated alright I find out what is going on with that.

Mr. Whitfield stated they need them by the 15th. This is part of the new Legislation that was in acted by the 2015 General Assembly as a result of the some of the things that occurred in the Governor's office and other offices.

Mr. Gillie stated I will make sure to get it to you then. It was just a reminder that it is do the 15th.

Mr. Whitfield stated It is due the 15th. If anyone needs any help with filling them out I will be glad to answer any questions that you may have.

Mrs. Nicholas stated will this be sent in email or snail mail?

Mr. Gillie stated email we have a PDF version that we send out. I have to do one myself and I have got mine that I can email to the whole board.

Mr. Whitfield stated I don't think it really matters because Sue has to print it out anyways and file it.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Approved By: