

**DESIGN REVIEW BOARD
MINUTES OF JUNE 3, 2020**

Held Remotely Via Zoom And Telephone Access

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Design Review Board ("DRB") held Wednesday, June 3, 2020. Chairman John Henke called the meeting to order at 7:43 p.m.

1) ROLL CALL

Present: Chairman John Henke; Vice-Chairman Keith Deyer; Board Members Gigi Debbrecht, Natalia Dukas (left at 8:00 p.m.), Patricia Lang, Joseph Mercurio, Michael Willoughby

Absent: Alternate Board Member Alexander Jerome

Administration: Nicholas Dupuis, City Planner
Laura Eichenhorn, Transcriptionist

Chairman Henke thanked everyone for joining the virtual meeting and reviewed protocol for virtual meetings.

06-36-20

2) Approval Of Minutes

Motion by Mr. Willoughby

Seconded by Ms. Lang to approve the DRB Minutes of April 15, 2020 and May 20, 2020 as submitted.

Motion carried, 7-0.

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: Willoughby, Lang, Mercurio, Debbrecht, Deyer, Dukas, Henke

Nays: None

06-37-20

3) Public Hearing

None.

06-38-20

4) Design Review

A. 470 N. Old Woodward – Facade Update

Chairman Henke said he would recommend postponement without penalty of the item since much of the information needed for the review was only supplied by the applicant on the day of the present meeting. He said the DRB needs more time to review the information that was provided and to do its due diligence.

The DRB assured the applicant that there would be no prejudice against the application stemming from the late submittal of some of the review materials. Chairman Henke and other DRB members emphasized that they were understanding of the challenges the applicant was likely encountering as a result of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic.

City Planner Dupuis reviewed the item.

Mr. Deyer shared concern about the long term maintenance of the proposed planter, and said he would prefer not to approve the proposed planter that would be hanging in the right-of-way.

Chairman Henke reiterated his preference that the majority of the review be postponed for two weeks to provide sufficient time for the DRB to look over the provided materials. He said that if the DRB members wanted to discuss some of the review now that would also be acceptable.

Roman Bonislowski, architect, said they had good luck at Town Tavern in Royal Oak, Michigan with a planter that was ten feet above the sidewalk. He said irrigation was provided and the potato vine that was there remained in excellent condition for its seven year lifetime on the building.

City Planner Dupuis confirmed for Mr. Willoughby that the DRB is empowered by ordinance to approve or deny projections into the right-of-way that are under two feet.

Mr. Willoughby said he would be fine with the projection but that he shared Mr. Deyer's concerns about the planter.

**Motion by Mr. Deyer
Seconded by Ms. Lang to postpone the Design Review for 470 N. Old Woodward to the June 17, 2020 DRB meeting.**

Motion carried, 6-0.

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: Deyer, Lang, Mercurio, Willoughby, Debbrecht, Henke

Nays: None

06-39-20

5) Sign Review

None.

06-40-20

6) Study Session

A. The Birmingham Plan (2040)

City Planner Dupuis told the DRB members to email him any additional comments they wanted forwarded to the master planning team. He also provided in the evening's agenda the memorandum sent to the master planning team summarizing the DRB's master planning comments thus far.

06-41-20

7) Miscellaneous Business And Communications

A. Staff Reports

1. Administrative Sign Approvals

2. Administrative Approvals

In reply to a question from Mr. Deyer, City Planner Dupuis explained that the administrative approval granted on May 26, 2020 for the property at 525 Merrill was for a carport and changes to the dumpster enclosure.

3. Action List - 2020

06-42-20

Adjournment

Motion by Ms. Debbrecht

Seconded by Mr. Mercurio to adjourn the DRB meeting of June 3, 2020 at 8:24 p.m.

Motion carried, 6-0.

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: Debbrecht, Mercurio, Willoughby, Deyer, Henke, Lang

Nays: None

Nicholas Dupuis
City Planner