

MINUTE RECORD OF THE CITY OF SAN ANGELO DESIGN AND HISTORIC REVIEW COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY, MAY 2, 2014 AT 10:00 A.M, MCNEASE CONVENTION CENTER, COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 500 RIO CONCHO DRIVE, SAN ANGELO, TEXAS.

PRESENT: William Carter, David Mazur, Margaret Mallard, Ashley Young-Turner and Eric Eggemeyer

ABSENT: Gary Donaldson (AE)

STAFF: Patrick Howard, Director of Development Services
Kevin Boyd, Planner
Jeff Fisher, Planner
Barbara Hesse, Historic Preservation Officer

I. Call to order and establish that a quorum is present.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am – a quorum of 5 was present.

II. Consent Agenda:

The Commission may request for a Consent Agenda item to be moved to the Regular Agenda for presentation and public comment. Otherwise, the consent agenda will be considered in one vote.

a. Consideration of approving the March 20, 2014 Design & Historic Review Commission Regular Meeting minutes.

b. RCC-14-07: Jalmar J. Luna

A request for design approval of three single-family residences to be located within the River Corridor in an RS-1 Zoning District on the following properties:

720, 716 and 712 Tarver Street, located approximately 150 feet northeast of the intersection of Tarver Street and South Emerson Street; more specifically occupying Spencer Addition Number 3, Block 1, Lots 13-15 in central San Angelo.

David Mazur motioned to approve the consent agenda (to include March minutes), seconded by William Carter. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

III. Regular Agenda:

a. CA 13-04: Art in Uncommon Places – Julie Raymond

A request for approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness (CA) to allow for exterior alterations of an existing structure, on the following property:

Located approximately 1,000 feet northwest of the intersection of Paint Rock Road and South Concho Park Drive, and running parallel to East Avenue L, in south central San Angelo.

Kevin Boyd, Planner, came forward to speak on the case. The case was seeking exterior alterations of the Lone Wolf Bridge which has a historic designation. Approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness by the board is necessary for exterior alterations to the bridge. Staff recommended denial of the request consistent of city plans and policies. Other reasons for denial were initially outlined by Mr. Boyd. He gave some history and background of the bridge, and showed area maps and photos of the site. Mr. Boyd spoke about the plan to install LED lighting along the iron truss of the south side of the bridge and provided details on the permanent heart installation. He stated that the plan was inconsistent with the River Corridor Master Plan in regards to excessive lighting in the district. The plan would be incompatible with existing features of the bridge and ruin the historical integrity of the bridge.

Julie Raymond, proponent, came forward to present her case. Ms. Raymond provided some background of the proposed request. Raymond read a letter from Craig Kinney, architect, who was in support of the request.

David Mazur questioned where the proposed lighting will be placed. He asked will lighting be installed on the north side of the bridge. Ms. Raymond stated no, the plan only sought to light the south side and provided a rationale.

David Mazur asked whether there will be continuous maintenance of the installation. Ms. Raymond mentioned that the plan will require very little maintenance. She mentions the current deterioration state of the bridge, the proposal will provide the necessary funding to make cosmetic enhancements to the bridge. The proposed lighting will be attached to the bridge with a silicon adhesive.

William Carter asked whether the proposed lighting will be visible on the bridge.

Mr. Eggemeyer asked more questions about the instillation of the lights, maintenance and lifespan of the proposed lighting.

Chairman Ashley Young-Turner asked who will maintain the bridge.

Ms. Raymond stated that there was someone committed to maintain the bridge. Further, Raymond mentioned there was great interest in the bridge – an event held in February this year on the bridge sold out in one week – also highlights support for the bridge.

Mr. Eggemeyer mentioned that the bridge site is largely underutilized.

Ms. Raymond believed that the request does something minimal to the bridge while maintaining its historic significance. She added that we need people to come there, the honor the site's architectural history.

The heart installation has gained interest (it represents many things to people), so many people have already purchased there locks to place on the piece.

Mr. Eggemeyer stated that he likes the idea of the LED lighting – he noted that RGBs in other places changes colors for various events.

Ms. Raymond mentioned that this request is a vision she wants to make a reality, the plan will highlight and accentuate the aesthetic features of the bridge.

Eric Eggemeyer hinted at setting a time frame for the proposed installation to ensure continuous maintenance of the bridge.

Chairman Ashley Young-Turner asked staff again on reasons to deny the request.

Barabara Hesse, the city's Historic Preservation Officer (HPO), stood up and spoke on the history of the bridge – she disagreed with the heart installation or any lighting to be attached to the bridge.

Chairman Ashley Young-Turner questioned whether the installation will be structurally mounted to the bridge. Ms. Raymond stated that no, the installation will not be permanently affixed to the bridge.

Ms. Raymond claimed that the plan will make the bridge a cool place to visit and an attraction in the area. She asserted that the footprint of the heart installation will be rather small.

William Carter had expressed concerns about alterations to the bridge and insisted that the bridge should not be fooled with.

David Mazur was in favor of the request. He did not have any problems with the proposed lighting – and claimed that it will bring elements of the bridge to the 21st century.

Eric Eggemeyer emphasized that approval will recognize and show the city's interest of a historic structure. Careful consideration should be directed to how the plan is executed – LED is a great lighting source. LEDs generally require little maintenance, low energy users, and usually have a lower intensity than other contemporary lighting.

David Mazur motioned to approve with the proposed request, including the placement of the heart installation on the bridge – with the condition that RGB lighting be used instead. Another condition prohibited the features from being permanently affixed to the bridge. The city will be responsible for continued maintenance of the installation. Mr. Eggemeyer seconded the request – 3 members were in favor of the request, 2 opposed, Margret Mallard and William Carter.

b. RCC14-05: Sam Lawson

A request for approval of a 30 foot freestanding sign and internally illuminated attached wall signs located within the River Corridor, on the following property:

109 North Koenighiem Street, located approximately 190 feet south of the intersection of North Koenigheim Street and West 3rd Street; more specifically occupying the Central Plaza Addition, Section 2, Block 3, in central San Angelo.

Kevin Boyd, Planner, came forward to recommend approval of the case consistent with city plans and policies. No notifications were required with this request. Any signs greater than 50 square feet and is internally illuminated in the sign area of the River Corridor requires approval for the Design and Historic Review Commission. This request was seeking approval of a 30' freestanding sign, on the subject property, along N Abe Street. Mr. Boyd foreshadowed existing conditions, compatibility and lack of visual obstructions as reasons to approve the request. Renderings of the proposed building (façade) and wall signs were shown to the members. An area map of nearby freestanding signs was also shown – he noted that many signs in area are non-conforming and predate provision the RCC Master Plan which limits freestanding signs to 30' in the district. Pictures of the planned freestanding sign were also included. Mr. Boyd read the 4 conditions of the report.

Eric Eggemeyer expressed concerns over the 20' difference in the height of the signs for the subject property [On April 28th the Planning Commission approved a variance for a second, 50' sign for the property along N Koenigheim Street]. Mr. Eggemeyer believed two signs at 50' will be more appropriate for the site.

Mr. Boyd stated that the RCC Master Plan limits signs to a maximum height of 30', a sign greater than 30' will require another variance request from the PC board.

Sam Lawson, proponent, came forward to speak on the matter, affirming that he was fine with the heights of the proposed signs. Mr. Lawson gave some background and information relating to the request. He talked about visual obstructions presented for the existing signs and mentioned that the proposed signs will be seen above surrounding buildings and vegetation. The proposed signs will also allow for wayfinding to the site from either direction.

Motion to approve with David Mazur, seconded by Mr. Eggemeyer – motion was unanimously approved by a 5-0 vote.

VII. Future meeting agenda and announcements.

The next regular meeting of the Design and Historic Review Commission is scheduled to begin on May 15, 2014, at 10:00am in Council Chambers (South Meeting Room) of the McNease Convention Center at 501 Rio Concho Drive.

VII. Adjournment.

David Mazur motioned the meeting be adjourned, William Carter seconded. The meeting adjourned at 11:13 am.

Ashley Young-Turner, Chairperson
Design & Historic Review Commission