ISSUE: Consideration of a request for a special use permit to operate a cosmetology, barbering and esthetics training school.

APPLICANT: Spectrum Beauty Academy, LLC by Patricia Green

STAFF: Nathan Randall
nathan.randall@alexandriava.gov

LOCATION: 25 South Quaker Lane, Suites 13 & 15

ZONE: CSL/Commercial Service Low

PLANNING COMMISSION ACTION, SEPTEMBER 4, 2008: By unanimous consent, the Planning Commission recommended approval of the request, subject to compliance with all applicable codes, ordinances and staff recommendations.

Reason: The Planning Commission agreed with the staff analysis.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval subject to compliance with all applicable codes and ordinances and the recommended permit conditions found in Section III of this report.
I. DISCUSSION

REQUEST

The applicant, Spectrum Beauty Academy, represented by Patricia Green, requests special use permit approval for the operation of a cosmetology school located at 25 S. Quaker Lane, Suites 13 & 15.

SITE DESCRIPTION

The subject property is one lot of record having 467 feet of frontage on South Quaker Lane, 200 feet in depth, and a total lot area of 2.1 acres. It is located just south of the intersection of South Quaker Lane and Duke Street. The property is occupied by the Stonewall Jackson Building, which was constructed in 1950 as the Stonewall Jackson School, and has since been converted into a multi-tenant commercial space. The building contains a total of 61,090 gross square feet of space. The applicant proposes to occupy a total of 1,840 square feet of space of the second floor of the building.

Current tenants in the building include the Rocklands Barbeque and Grilling Company restaurant and a variety of other commercial tenants, including other commercial schools. Alexandria City Public Schools also operates an Adult Learning Center in the building.

To the north of the property is a Wendy’s restaurant, to the south is the City of Alexandria Maintenance Facility, and to the west is Luckett Stadium. East of the site, across South Quaker Lane, are several one- and two-story office and commercial buildings. The Alexandria Transit Company (DASH) administrative offices and maintenance yard is located at 116 South Quaker Lane, just to the southeast of the subject site.

BACKGROUND

The subject building was previously used as a public school and has been converted to house several uses as noted previously. Site Plan #83-045 identified the parking requirements and other improvements at the site.

The applicant has been operating a beauty salon at this location for approximately three years. Although a beauty salon is a permitted use, a beauty school is a use that requires a SUP. On a routine inspection of the property, zoning enforcement staff noted that the use being conducted was both a salon and a school. The operator of the business was then instructed to apply for a SUP to operate the beauty school.
The applicant proposes to operate a cosmetology school of up to 12 students.

**Hours:** Monday-Friday, 10:00am-7:00pm

**Number of students:** 12

**Noise:** Minimal. Beauty academy entrance is located from within the 25 S. Quaker building.

**Odors:** Any odors from beauty treatments will be controlled via air-exchanging exhaust fan and air purifier.

**Trash/Litter:** Trash will be collected twice per week.

**PARKING**

According to Section 8-200 (A)(11.1) of the Zoning Ordinance, a private commercial school requires one (1) parking space for every two (2) students. A private commercial school with 12 students will be required to provide six (6) off-street parking spaces. A private commercial school with 14 students will be required to provide seven (7) off-street parking spaces. The applicant meets these parking requirements by providing 14 parking spaces.

**ZONING/MASTER PLAN DESIGNATION**

The subject property is located in the CSL (Commercial Service Low) zone. Section 4-303 (V) of the Zoning Ordinance allows a private commercial school only with a Special Use Permit.

The proposed use is consistent with the Seminary Hill/Strawberry Hill Small Area Plan which designates the property for commercial use.

**II. STAFF ANALYSIS**

Staff supports the proposed cosmetology school at 25 South Quaker Lane. The use is appropriate for the site and rather similar to the other private commercial schools located at the Stonewall Jackson Building.

Although a cosmetology school does use certain beauty products that could create odors from time to time, the applicant states that any odors are only detectable inside the classrooms. Odors will be controlled by both the air-exchanging exhaust fan and by an air purifier. Staff believes that these are reasonable controls for the size and nature of this cosmetology school.
The Stonewall Jackson Building offers a sufficient number of parking spaces for the building’s existing tenants. The applicant exceeds the number of spaces needed for the maximum number of students allowed on site. Since the applicant exceeds the parking requirement, staff has conditioned a greater maximum number of students than the applicant proposed initially. This will afford the applicant greater flexibility.

Staff recommends approval of the Special Use Permit request subject to the conditions listed in Section III below.

III. RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS

Staff recommends approval subject to compliance with all applicable codes and ordinances and the following conditions:

1. The special use permit shall be granted to the applicant only or to any corporation in which the applicant has a controlling interest. (P&Z)

2. The number of students attending classes at this school at any one time may not exceed 14. (P&Z)

3. The hours of operation of the private commercial school shall be limited to between Monday-Friday, 10:00am and 7:00pm. (P&Z)

4. The applicant shall require its employees who drive to use off-street parking and/or provide employees who use mass transit with subsidized bus and rail fare media. The applicant shall also post DASH and Metrobus schedules on-site for employees. (P&Z)(T&ES)

5. The applicant shall conduct employee training sessions on an ongoing basis, including as part of any employee orientation, to discuss all SUP provisions and requirements. (P&Z)

6. The Director of Planning and Zoning shall review the special use permit after it has been operational for one year, and shall docket the matter for consideration by the Planning Commission and City Council if (a) there have been documented violations of the permit conditions which were not corrected immediately, constitute repeat violations or which create a direct and immediate adverse zoning impact on the surrounding community; (b) the director has received a request from any person to docket the permit for review as the result of a complaint that rises to the level of a violation of the permit conditions, (c) the director has determined that there are problems with the operation of the use and that new or revised conditions are needed. (P&Z)
7. The applicant shall provide storage space for solid waste and recyclable materials containers as outlined in the City's "Solid Waste and Recyclable Materials Storage Space Guidelines", or to the satisfaction of the Director of Transportation & Environmental Services. The City's storage space guidelines and required Recycling Implementation Plan forms are available at: www.alexandriava.gov or contact the City's Solid Waste Division at 703-519-3486 ext. 132. (T&ES)

8. Litter on the site and on public rights-of-way and spaces adjacent to or within 75 feet of the premises shall be picked up at least twice a day and at the close of business, and more often if necessary, to prevent an unsightly or unsanitary accumulation, on each day that the business is open to the public. (T&ES)

9. Applicant shall contribute $500.00 to the Litter Control Fund for the installation of litter receptacles along the public right-of-ways. Monetary contribution to be submitted to the Department of T&ES, Engineering Division, Room 4130, 301 King Street within 60 days of City Council approval. (T&ES)

10. Existing landscaping on property shall be well maintained and be free of weeds, debris, and litter at all times. Replace dead or missing plants as needed. (Parks)

11. Property owner shall control weeds along public sidewalks, curb lines and within tree wells which are within 12 feet of the owner's front property line. (City Ord. No. 2698, 6/12/82, Sec. 2; Ord. No. 2878, 11/12/83, Sec. 1) (Parks)

12. The applicant is to contact the Community Relations Unit of the Alexandria Police Department at 703-838-4520 regarding a security survey for the Academy. (Police)

STAFF: Richard Josephson, Deputy Director, Department of Planning and Zoning; Nathan Randall, Urban Planner.

Staff Note: In accordance with section 11-506(c) of the zoning ordinance, construction or operation shall be commenced and diligently and substantially pursued within 18 months of the date of granting of a special use permit by City Council or the special use permit shall become void.
IV. CITY DEPARTMENT COMMENTS

Legend: C - code requirement  R - recommendation  S - suggestion  F - finding

Transportation & Environmental Services:

R-1 The applicant shall provide storage space for solid waste and recyclable materials containers as outlined in the City's "Solid Waste and Recyclable Materials Storage Space Guidelines", or to the satisfaction of the Director of Transportation & Environmental Services. The City's storage space guidelines and required Recycling Implementation Plan forms are available at: www.alexandriava.gov or contact the City's Solid Waste Division at 703-519-3486 ext. 132. (T&ES)

R-2 Litter on the site and on public rights-of-way and spaces adjacent to or within 75 feet of the premises shall be picked up at least twice a day and at the close of business, and more often if necessary, to prevent an unsightly or unsanitary accumulation, on each day that the business is open to the public. (T&ES)

R-3 Applicant shall contribute $500.00 to the Litter Control Fund for the installation of litter receptacles along the public right-of-ways. Monetary contribution to be submitted to the Department of T&ES, Engineering Division, Room 4130, 301 King Street within 60 days of City Council approval. (T&ES)

R-4 The applicant shall require its employees who drive to use off-street parking and/or provide employees who use mass transit with subsidized bus and rail fare media. The applicant shall also post DASH and Metrobus schedules on-site for employees. (T&ES)

C-1 The applicant shall comply with the City of Alexandria's Solid Waste Control, Title 5, Chapter 1, which sets forth the requirements for the recycling of materials (Sec. 5-1-99).

Code Enforcement:

C-1 Alterations to the existing structure must comply with the current edition of the Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC).

C-2 Alterations to the existing structure and/or installation and/or altering of equipment therein requires a building permit. Five sets of plans, bearing the signature and seal of a design professional registered in the Commonwealth of Virginia, must accompany the written application. The plans must include all dimensions, construction alterations details, kitchen equipment, electrical, plumbing, and mechanical layouts and schematics.
C-3 Toilet Rooms for Persons with Disabilities:
(a) Water closet heights must comply with USBC 1109.2.2
(b) Door hardware must comply with USBC 1109.13

C-4 Toilet Facilities for Persons with Disabilities: Larger, detailed, dimensioned drawings are required to clarify space layout and mounting heights of affected accessories. Information on door hardware for the toilet stall is required (USBC 1109.2.2).

C-5 Required exits, parking, and facilities shall be accessible for persons with disabilities.

C-6 A Certificate of Use of Occupancy is required prior to opening (USBC 116.1).

Health Department:

C-1 An Alexandria Health Department Permit is required for all regulated facilities.

C-2 Permits are non-refundable.

C-3 Five sets of plans are to be submitted to and approved by this department prior to construction. Plans must comply with the Alexandria City Code, Title 11, Chapter 7, Personal Grooming Establishments.

C-4 Permits must be obtained prior to operation.

Parks & Recreation:

R-1 Existing landscaping on property shall be well maintained and be free of weeds, debris, and litter at all times. Replace dead or missing plants as needed.

R-2 Property owner shall control weeds along public sidewalks, curb lines and within tree wells which are within 12 feet of the owners front property line. (City Ord. No. 2698, 6/12/82, Sec. 2; Ord. No. 2878, 11/12/83, Sec. 1)

Police Department:

R-1 The applicant is to contact the Community Relations Unit of the Alexandria Police Department at 703-838-4520 regarding a security survey for the Academy.
APPLICATION
SPECIAL USE PERMIT

SPECIAL USE PERMIT # 2008-0041

PROPERTY LOCATION: 25 S. Quaker Lane, suite 13-15

TAX MAP REFERENCE: D61.03 ZONE: CSL

APPLICANT:
Name: Spectrum Beauty Academy, LLC
Address: 25 S. Quaker Lane st. 15 Alexandria, VA 22314

PROPOSED USE: Operation of a Beauty School - training students for careers

and licensing in Cosmetology, Barbering & Esthetics as outlined by the State Board of Virginia.

I, THE UNDERSIGNED, hereby applies for a Special Use Permit in accordance with the provisions of Article XI, Section 4-11-500 of the 1992 Zoning Ordinance of the City of Alexandria, Virginia.

I, THE UNDERSIGNED, having obtained permission from the property owner, hereby grants permission to the City of Alexandria staff and Commission Members to visit, inspect, and photograph the building premises, land etc., connected with the application.

I, THE UNDERSIGNED, having obtained permission from the property owner, hereby grants permission to the City of Alexandria to post placard notice on the property for which this application is requested, pursuant to Article IV, Section 4-1404(D)(7) of the 1992 Zoning Ordinance of the City of Alexandria, Virginia.

I, THE UNDERSIGNED, hereby attests that all of the information herein provided and specifically including all surveys, drawings, etc., required to be furnished by the applicant are true, correct and accurate to the best of their knowledge and belief. The applicant is hereby notified that any written materials, drawings or illustrations submitted in support of this application and any specific oral representations made to the Director of Planning and Zoning on this application will be binding on the applicant unless those materials or representations are clearly stated to be non-binding or illustrative of general plans and intentions, subject to substantial revision, pursuant to Article XI, Section 11-207(A)(10), of the 1992 Zoning Ordinance of the City of Alexandria, Virginia.

Patricia Green 4/7/08
Print Name of Applicant or Agent Signature Date
240-304-1024 info@learnatspectrum.com
Mailing/Street Address Telephone # Email Address
Alexandria, VA 22314 Fax #
City and State Zip Code

ACTION-PLANNING COMMISSION: DATE:

ACTION-CITY COUNCIL: DATE:
PROPERTY OWNER'S AUTHORIZATION

As the property owner of 255 Quaker Lane, I hereby grant the applicant authorization to apply for the Beauty School use as described in this application.

Name: Mehrdad Yavari
Phone: 703-569-9596
Address: 1347 Rolling Road, Springfield, VA
Email: 
Signature: ____________________________
Date: 4/17/20

1. Floor Plan and Plot Plan. As a part of this application, the applicant is required to submit a floor plan and plot or site plan with the parking layout of the proposed use. The SUP application checklist lists the requirements of the floor and site plans. The Planning Director may waive requirements for plan submission upon receipt of a written request which adequately justifies a waiver.

   [ ] Required floor plan and plot/site plan attached.
   [ ] Requesting a waiver. See attached written request.

2. The applicant is the (check one):
   [ ] Owner
   [ ] Contract Purchaser
   [ ] Lessee or
   [ ] Other: ____________________________ of the subject property.

State the name, address and percent of ownership of any person or entity owning an interest in the applicant or owner, unless the entity is a corporation or partnership, in which case identify each owner of more than ten percent.

Patricia Green, sole owner.
If property owner or applicant is being represented by an authorized agent such as an attorney, realtor, or other person for which there is some form of compensation, does this agent or the business in which the agent is employed have a business license to operate in the City of Alexandria, Virginia?

☑ Yes. Provide proof of current City business license

[ ] No. The agent shall obtain a business license prior to filing application, if required by the City Code.

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

3. The applicant shall describe below the nature of the request in detail so that the Planning Commission and City Council can understand the nature of the operation and the use. The description should fully discuss the nature of the activity. (Attach additional sheets if necessary.)

Request to operate a beauty school for training students in careers in cosmetology, barbering, and esthetics in preparation for the Virginia State Board Licensing exam. Also to provide such services to the public to enhance the students practical experience and skills.

Morning and afternoon sessions will be offered to accommodate FT & PT student schedules.

School curriculum is outlined and mandated by the Virginia State Board.
USE CHARACTERISTICS

4. The proposed special use permit request is for (check one):
   [ ] a new use requiring a special use permit,
   [X] an expansion or change to an existing use without a special use permit,
   [ ] an expansion or change to an existing use with a special use permit,
   [ ] other. Please describe: ________________________________

5. Please describe the capacity of the proposed use:

   A. How many patrons, clients, pupils and other such users do you expect?
      Specify time period (i.e., day, hour, or shift).
      AM (morning class) Monday - Friday 10am - 2pm 12 students; 1 - 3 clients
      PM (afternoon class) Monday - Wednesday 4pm - 7pm 12 students; 1 - 3 clients

   B. How many employees, staff and other personnel do you expect?
      Specify time period (i.e., day, hour, or shift).
      Monday - Friday 10am - 2pm; 3 staff members
      Mon - Wednesday 4pm - 7pm; 3 staff members

6. Please describe the proposed hours and days of operation of the proposed use:

   Day: Monday - Friday
   Hours: 10am - 2pm
   Monday - Wednesday
   ________________________________
   ________________________________
   ________________________________
   ________________________________

7. Please describe any potential noise emanating from the proposed use.

   A. Describe the noise levels anticipated from all mechanical equipment and patrons.
      The only mechanical equipment with a noise level is the blow-dryer which cannot be heard outside of the space.

   B. How will the noise be controlled?
      Doors are closed during operation and noise cannot be heard.
8. Describe any potential odors emanating from the proposed use and plans to control them:

Permanent waving solutions: Odor is controlled by air-exchanging exhaust fan. Odor is smelled only inside of classrooms. Additional air purifiers are used in each suite.

9. Please provide information regarding trash and litter generated by the use.

A. What type of trash and garbage will be generated by the use? (i.e. office paper, food wrappers)

Office paper, cups, napkins, cardboard boxes, plastic shipping wrap, hair

B. How much trash and garbage will be generated by the use? (i.e. # of bags or pounds per day or per week)

2 - 45 gallon bags per week.

2 - 3 gallon bags per week.

C. How often will trash be collected?

Twice weekly.

D. How will you prevent littering on the property, streets and nearby properties?

Trash cans are placed inside of classrooms and in common areas. School conduct policy prevents littering on school property or streets.

10. Will any hazardous materials, as defined by the state or federal government, be handled, stored, or generated on the property?

[ ] Yes. [ ] No.

If yes, provide the name, monthly quantity, and specific disposal method below:

Chemical hair straighteners, curly perms, nail products.

Hair products are water soluble and can be flushed or rinsed down the sink. Nail products are disposed of once containers are empty. Containers are disposed of without lids for ventilation and double bagged in trash cans. All products are stored in ventilated supply closet away from heat.
11. Will any organic compounds, for example paint, ink, lacquer thinner, or cleaning or degreasing solvent, be handled, stored, or generated on the property?

[ ] Yes.     [ ] No.

If yes, provide the name, monthly quantity, and specific disposal method below.

Liquid Plummer used bi-weekly for drains.

Disposal of empty containers in trash cans are:

double bagged with no top on the bottles.

Product is stored in ventilated area under sink away from heat.

12. What methods are proposed to ensure the safety of nearby residents, employees and patrons?

All materials are used and disposed of properly. Students and staff are educated on the procedures for disposal using a MSDS. Patrons are protected by sanitation and disinfection guidelines set by the State Board of VA and practiced at the academy.

ALCOHOL SALES

13. A. Will the proposed use include the sale of beer, wine, or mixed drinks?

[ ] Yes     [X] No

If yes, describe existing (if applicable) and proposed alcohol sales below, including if the ABC license will include on-premises and/or off-premises sales.

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
PARKING AND ACCESS REQUIREMENTS

14. A. How many parking spaces of each type are provided for the proposed use:
   
   14
   Standard spaces assigned to Spectrum.
   
   2
   Compact spaces
   
   0-10
   Handicapped accessible spaces.
   
   0
   Other. On-street parking

   Planning and Zoning Staff Only
   
   Required number of spaces for use per Zoning Ordinance Section 8-200A_________
   Does the application meet the requirement?
   [ ] Yes  [ ] No

   B. Where is required parking located? (check one)
   [ ] on-site
   [ ] off-site

   If the required parking will be located off-site, where will it be located?
   ________

   PLEASE NOTE: Pursuant to Section 8-200 (C) of the Zoning Ordinance, commercial and industrial uses may provide off-site parking within 500 feet of the proposed use, provided that the off-site parking is located on land zoned for commercial or industrial uses. All other uses must provide parking on-site, except that off-street parking may be provided within 300 feet of the use with a special use permit.

   C. If a reduction in the required parking is requested, pursuant to Section 8-100 (A) (4) or (5) of the Zoning Ordinance, complete the PARKING REDUCTION SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION.

   [ ] Parking reduction requested; see attached supplemental form

15. Please provide information regarding loading and unloading facilities for the use:

   A. How many loading spaces are available for the use? 2

   Planning and Zoning Staff Only
   
   Required number of loading spaces for use per Zoning Ordinance Section 8-200 _________
   Does the application meet the requirement?
   [ ] Yes  [ ] No
B. Where are off-street loading facilities located? **on the curb**
of S. Quaker Lane in front of the building.

C. During what hours of the day do you expect loading/unloading operations to occur?
Between 10am and 1pm.

D. How frequently are loading/unloading operations expected to occur, per day or per week, as appropriate?

once or twice weekly.

once per day.

16. Is street access to the subject property adequate or are any street improvements, such as a new turning lane, necessary to minimize impacts on traffic flow?

**No. (N/A)**

**SITE CHARACTERISTICS**

17. Will the proposed uses be located in an existing building? **Di** Yes [ ] No

Do you propose to construct an addition to the building? [ ] Yes [x] No

How large will the addition be? N/A square feet.

18. What will the total area occupied by the proposed use be?

\[ 1840 \text{ sq. ft. (existing)} + \frac{N/A}{\text{sq. ft. (addition if any)}} = 1840 \text{ sq. ft. (total)} \]

19. The proposed use is located in: (check one)

[ ] a stand alone building
[ ] a house located in a residential zone
[ ] a warehouse
[ ] a shopping center. Please provide name of the center: ______________________________________
[ ] an office building. Please provide name of the building: **Stone Wall Jackson Building**
[ ] other. Please describe: ________________________________________________________________

End of Application

16
Bathrooms are located 10-20 feet from the front door of the business in the main hallway.
Custodial sink is located 10-20 feet from the front door of the business in the main hallway in side the janitor's closet.
Floors will be furnished with industrial tile flooring; Walls will be furnished with dry wall and painted.
Florescent lighting 6 lights in the salon area, 6 lights in the esthetics clinic.
Ventilation systems are installed. There is a return duct in the salon area and esthetics clinic.
Bathrooms are located 10-20 feet from the front door of the business in the main hallway.

Custodial sink is located 10-20 feet from the front door of the business in the main hallway in side the janitor’s closet.

Floors will be furnished with industrial tile flooring; Walls will be furnished with dry wall and painted.

Fluorescent lighting 6 lights in the salon area, 6 lights in the esthetics clinic.

Ventilation systems are installed. There is a return duct in the salon area and esthetics clinic.
APPLICATION
SPECIAL USE PERMIT

SPECIAL USE PERMIT # 2008-0041

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TAX MAP REFERENCE: 061.03 ZONE: CSL

APPLICANT: Spectrum Beauty Academy, LLC

Address: 25 S. Quaker Lane ste.15 Alexandria, VA 22314

PROPOSED USE: Operation of a Beauty School: training students for careers and licensing in Cosmetology, Barbering & Esthetics as outlined by the State Board of Virginia.

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[ ]

Print Name of Applicant or Agent
25 S. Quaker Lane ste.15
Alexandria, VA 22314
City and State Zip Code

Signature Date
246-374-1024 703-370-9773 Telephone # Fax #
info@learnspecrum.com Email address

By unanimous consent recommended approval 9-4-08
ACTION-PLANNING COMMISSION: DATE: 
ACTION-CITY COUNCIL: CC approved PC recommendations DATE: 9-13-08
7-0