

Docket Item# 5
BAR CASE# 2005-00115

BAR Meeting
June 1, 2005

ISSUE: Sign

APPLICANT: Red Mei, Inc.

LOCATION: 602 King Street

ZONE: CD/Commercial

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the application with Staff to approve the final design of the menu board.

I. ISSUE:

The applicant is requesting approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness for a sign for the Red Mei restaurant at 602 King Street. The proposed sign, located on the existing recessed signboard will have a black aluminum background and slightly raised aluminum letters and logo. The sign reads “Red Mei” in white lettering with the business logo in red, yellow and white. The lettering will be 12" in height and 8' in length. The sign will be illuminated by two existing gooseneck lamps.

The applicant is also proposing to install a small menu box at the west end of the building. The box will be approximately 11" in width and 22" in height.

II. HISTORY:

The three story brick commercial building at 602 King Street was built in 1908 in a somewhat free interpretation of the Beaux Arts style. The building was designed as a store with apartments above by prolific Alexandria architect William Leon Clarke (fl. 1885-1925).

III. ANALYSIS:

The subject property at 602 King Street has 18' of frontage. Therefore, the maximum signage allowed is 18'. The proposed sign complies with zoning ordinance requirements.

Staff notes that the applicant has revised his original proposal from an awning to the currently proposed wall sign at the request of Staff.

The proposed sign meets the recommendations of the *Design Guidelines* for signs. The sign is similar in design to previously approved signs at this location.

Staff has no objections to the installation of a menu box for the restaurant. Staff prefers to see an actual menu box rather than menus taped to the windows. Since the design of the box has not yet been finalized, Staff recommends that the applicant submit the final design to Staff for approval prior to installation.

IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Therefore, Staff recommends approval of the application with Staff to approve the final design of the menu board.

CITY DEPARTMENT COMMENTS

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

Code Enforcement:

C-1 A construction permit is required for the proposed project.

Historic Alexandria:

“No comment.”