Docket Item #4 BAR CASE #2005-0226

BAR Meeting October 19, 2005

ISSUE: Signs

APPLICANT: Meldi Corporation

LOCATION: 828 North Washington Street

ZONE: CD-X Commercial

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the modifications to the existing signs.

I. ISSUE:

The applicant is requesting approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness to modify the rooftop sign and the free standing sign by replacing the letter "J" with the letter "M", thereby changing the name of the business from "Jerrys" to "Merrys".

II. HISTORY:

This example in Alexandria was constructed in 1940 (Building Permit #2542, 5/22/1940) as a brick building. It was resurfaced with the characteristic green and white porcelain enamel panels of the Little Tavern chain in 1959 (Building Permit #15009, 5/27/1959). The green awnings were approved by the Board in 1982 (Building Permit #38358, 12/14/1982). In 1993, the Board approved the resurfacing of the historic signs from the original Little Tavern logo to the name of the new restaurant, Friendly Tavern (BAR Case #93-8, 1/6/1993). The following year the Board again approved the refacing of the historic signs and restoration of the neon tubing on the freestanding and roof mounted sign with the name Hogs on the Hill (BAR Case #94-104, 10/5/1994). The signs for Jerry's Subs were approved by the Board in 1995 (BAR Case #95-189, 12/20/95). The Board approved outdoor seating and a dumpster enclosure in 2000 (BAR Case #2000-037, 6/21/00).

III. ANALYSIS:

The proposed replacement letter in the existing "noncomplying" free standing sign and roof sign complies with zoning ordinance requirements.

The vinyl replacement letters will be the same size and type style as the existing letters on the signs. Staff has no objections to the replacement of one letter with another letter on the existing rooftop sign and freestanding sign.

IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the modifications to the existing signs.

CITY DEPARTMENT COMMENTS

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

Code Enforcement:

C-1 Construction permits are required for the proposed project.

Historic Alexandria:

"No comment."