

Docket Item # 5
BAR CASE #2005-0269

BAR Meeting
December 7, 2005

ISSUE: Sign
APPLICANT: Huy Nguyen
LOCATION: 817-A King Street
ZONE: CD/Commercial

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval.

I. ISSUE:

The applicant is requesting approval of a sign at 817-A King Street.

II. HISTORY:

The 2½-story, brick-faced concrete block, commercial building at 817 King Street was constructed in 1967. At the May 3, 2000 hearing the Board approved an interior sign for a dot-com engineering company (BAR2000-0077). At the July 15, 1998 hearing the Board approved a hanging sign for Bazzak Day Spa (BAR98-0105), which occupied much of the second floor of the building. The sign for the Sylla Custom Tailor was also approved by the Board in 1998 (BAR Case #98-00133 8/19/98).

III. ANALYSIS:

The proposed hanging sign complies with zoning ordinance requirement.

The applicant is proposing a sign at 817-A King Street. The frontage of the building is 35 feet. Currently, there are already three signs at this location, which include the Gourmet Center and Deli Sign which measures 3' x 8', the Old Town Photo sign which measures 20" x24", and KI Services which measures 6"x12". An internal ATM sign measures 6"x12".

The proposed double-sided sign will be 16" tall and 22" wide, and will be made of MDO. The sign will hang from the existing bracket located at the bottom corner of the Gourmet Center sign as shown in the submitted photographs. The applicant worked with Staff to change the design of the sign to eliminate a proposed photographic image. As revised, the proposed sign will incorporate a yellow star with the text "School of Fame: redefining fame. No lighting is proposed for the hanging sign.

IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval.

CITY DEPARTMENT COMMENTS

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

Code Enforcement:

- F-1 There was insufficient information provided with the application to determine the scope of the sign project. The following comments apply to most sign projects. Specific requirements will be determined at the time of building permit application.
- C-1 A construction permit is required.
- C-2 Wall letters/signs must comply with USBC [H103-H111] Please indicate the method to be used for anchoring the letters to the wall.
- C-3 Projecting, hanging signs must comply with USBC [H103-H107, H112] for type of materials, maximum projection, vertical clearance below all parts of the sign, and additional loads.

Zoning Administration

Recommend that building owner organize and display the existing and new sign in a better pattern/presentation. As now depicted, the front building wall projects "sign clutter."

Historic Alexandria

"No comment on the size, but my concern is with the use of photographic reproduction. I am not sure this is responsive to the guidelines for signs."