

Docket Item # 3
BAR CASE # 2009-0119

BAR Meeting
July 29, 2009

ISSUE: Signage / Awning Installation

APPLICANT: Knit-a-GoGo Inc.

LOCATION: 102 North Fayette Street

ZONE: CD / Commercial

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of the Certificate of Appropriateness as submitted.

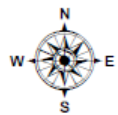
****EXPIRATION OF APPROVALS NOTE:** In accordance with Sections 10-106(B) and 10-206(B) of the Zoning Ordinance, any official Board of Architectural Review approval will expire 12 months from the date of issuance if the work is not commenced and diligently and substantially pursued by the end of that 12-month period.

****BUILDING PERMIT NOTE:** Most projects approved by the Board of Architectural Review require the issuance of one or more construction permits by Building and Fire Code Administration (including signs). The applicant is responsible for obtaining all necessary construction permits after receiving Board of Architectural Review approval. Contact Code Administration, Room 4200, City Hall, 703-838-4360 for further information.



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Update:

At the July 8, 2009 hearing, the Board deferred this item for further study. During the discussion, the Board noted that the proposed awning was too large and specified that it should not extend the entire width between the two show windows. The Board directed that the awning width be reduced by at least 8 inches on both ends. The Board also commented that the applicant consider removing “a knit and crochet universe” from the awning. The Board agreed with Staff that the proposed window lettering should be removed. Although the Board did not support the window lettering as proposed, they did indicate that some type of window signage could be appropriate. It was suggested that the tag line on the awning “a knit and crochet universe” could be used as window lettering in both show windows, in the lower portion of the window.

The applicant has submitted a revised scheme that eliminates any type of window lettering or decal and shows a reduction in the width of the awning by 12 inches on each side.

I. ISSUE:

The applicant is requesting approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness to install a new shed-style awning on the commercial building located at 102 North Fayette Street. The revised proposed awning will measure 28 inches in height by 12 feet in width and will project approximately two feet (in line with the projecting show windows). The awning will be located above the entrance and between two show windows. The revised awning will no longer extend completely between the width of two show windows. The awning will be made of Sunbrella Awning Fabric and will be attached to an aluminum square stock tig-welded frame. The proposed color scheme for the awning is blue-green lettering “fibre space” with white lettering “a knit and crochet universe” and a white and orange yarn logo on a brown background. The awning will be attached with anchors through the mortar joints.

The applicant no longer proposes any window lettering.

II. HISTORY:

102 North Fayette Street is a two-story brick building with show windows at the first story that first appears in its current configuration on the Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from 1921, where it is described as a furniture store. It is possible that portions of the building date from at least 1891 when the Sanborn Fire Insurance Map describes the building as a three-story boardinghouse with a similar footprint.

In 1987 the Board approved an application for signage and an awning on this building (BAR Case # 87-129).

III. ANALYSIS:

The proposed projecting awning complies with zoning ordinance requirements.

The *Design Guidelines* state that “awnings should be appropriate and sympathetic to the historical

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style of the building to which they are attached.” Furthermore, “shed or sloped awnings are more appropriate” and “awnings should be made of a canvas type fabric.” The proposed design of the awning is generally consistent with the *Design Guidelines* and is appropriate for this building. In addition, the framing will be mounted to the building by anchors the mortar joints, to prevent damage to historic fabric. Staff continues to support the text on the awning as proposed.

IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the Certificate of Appropriateness as submitted.

V. CITY DEPARTMENT COMMENTS

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

Code Administration:

F-1 The applicant shall obtain a sign permit for the proposed sign and/ or wall lettering.

C-1 Awnings must comply with all applicable requirements of USBC 3105.3 and 3202.3.1
Retractable and fixed awnings must have a minimum 7 foot clearance form a sidewalk to the lowest part of the framework or any fixed portion of any retractable awning is required. Retractable awnings must be securely fastened to the building and can not extend closer than 24 inches in from the curb line (USBC 3202.3.1).

Historic Alexandria:

No comments received.

VI. IMAGES

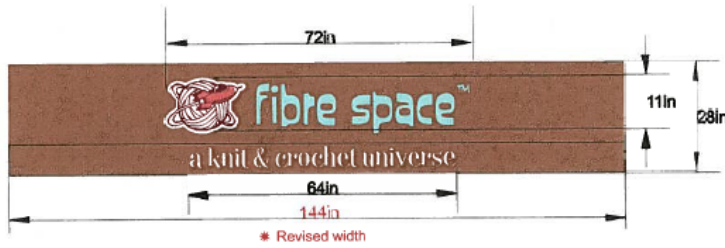


Figure 1. Existing conditions, 102 North Fayette Street.

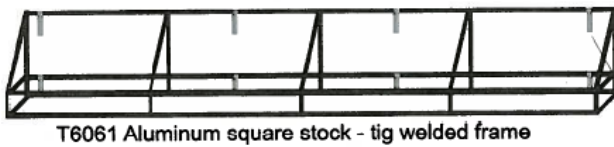
102 N. Fayette St.



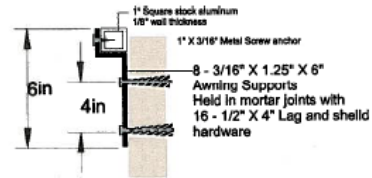
- Linear Frontage: 59.8 feet
- Custom Awning 28"H X 168"W
T6061 - Aluminum frame
- Painted Lettering and logo
Fibre Space Logo 11" X 72"
a knit & crochet universe 3.5" X 64"
- Sunbrella Awning Fabric / True Brown
Hemmed and grommated
- Bottom rail of awning 8' above grade



Side View - Notched for trim / wood molding



T6061 Aluminum square stock - tig welded frame



Indicates location of mounts

* WINDOW LETTERING ELIMINATED

OLD TOWN SIGN
C O M P A N Y

Serving the Port City for 30 Years
2395 S. Dove Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314
PH. 703.548.7446 Fax 703.548.2056

Figure 2. Specifications of proposed signage.