

\*\*\*\*\***APPROVED MINUTES**\*\*\*\*\*

Alexandria Board of Architectural Review  
Old & Historic Alexandria District

**Wednesday, February 17, 2010**  
7:30pm, City Council Chambers, City Hall  
301 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Members Present: Tom Hulfish, Chairman  
Oscar Fitzgerald  
Wayne Neale  
John von Senden  
James Spencer

Staff Present: Planning & Zoning  
Michele Oaks, Historic Preservation Planner  
Al Cox, Architect, Historic Preservation Manager

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m. by Chairman Hulfish.

1. Consideration of the minutes of the public hearing of January 20, 2010.  
**BOARD ACTION: Approved as submitted, 5-0.**

On a motion by Mr. Neale, seconded by Mr. Spencer, the Board voted to approve the minutes as submitted, with a vote of 5-0.

2. Consideration of a Consent Calendar of items to be approved without discussion. A list of these items will be read at the beginning of the meeting.  
**BOARD ACTION: Approved docket item #3 and #4 on the Consent Calendar, 5-0.**

On a motion by Mr. von Senden, seconded by Mr. Spencer, the Board voted to approve docket items #3 and #4 on the Consent Calendar as submitted, with a vote of 5-0.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

3. **CASE BAR2009-0241**

Request for approval of signage at **118 King St**, zoned KR King Street Retail.  
**APPLICANT:** Clamenzah, LLC D/B/A Pizzeria Paradiso By: M. Catherine Puskar  
**BOARD ACTION: Approved as submitted on the Consent Calendar, 5-0.**

4. **CASE BAR2010-0008**

Request for approval of alterations at **118 King St**, zoned KR King Street Retail.  
**APPLICANT:** Paradise OT, LLC by Ruth Gresser  
**BOARD ACTION: Approved as submitted on the Consent Calendar, 5-0.**

**END CONSENT CALENDAR**

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

### 5. CASE BAR2010-0006

Request for approval of demolition at **717 Queen St**, zoned RC Residential.

APPLICANT: City of Alexandria

BOARD ACTION: **Approved by Unanimous Role Call Vote.**

On a motion by Mr. Fitzgerald, seconded by Mr. von Senden, the Board voted to approve the Permit to Demolish and Certificate of Appropriateness with the conditions that:

1. That the garden wall brick be carefully removed by hand down to one course above grade and that there be no ground disturbing activity; and
2. That the garden wall brick be salvaged for future repair of other portions of the garden wall on this site.

The vote on the motion was 5-0.

**REASON:** The Board agreed with the Staff analysis that this section of the wall was not historic.

#### **SPEAKERS:**

Patrice McAuliffe presented the application for the Department of General Services.

Mr. John Hynan, representing the Historic Alexandria Foundation, confirmed that the applicant agreed to comply with Staff recommendations.

### 6. CASE BAR2010-0007

Request for approval of alterations at **717 Queen St**, zoned RC Residential.

APPLICANT: City of Alexandria

BOARD ACTION: **Approved by Unanimous Role Call Vote.**

Discussion for this case was combined with Docket item # 5.

### 7. CASE BAR2008-0235

Request for approval of alterations and signage at **134 N. Royal St**, zoned CD Commercial.

APPLICANT: City of Alexandria

BOARD ACTION: **Deferred to refine the design of the interpretive signage.**

On a motion by Mr. Fitzgerald, seconded by Mr. Spencer, the Board voted to defer the Certificate of Appropriateness alterations and signage.

Mr. von Senden believed that the quantity of signs was still too great. He liked the signs engraved in stone but not the use of high pressure laminate (HPL) on the interpretive sign and donor plaque. He recommend using something other than the HPL material this close to Gadsby's and simplifying the graphics on those two signs. Mr. Spencer and Dr. Fitzgerald both agreed.

Dr. Fitzgerald confirmed with the applicant that the signs on the guardrail had all been removed and stated that the hinges on the glass observation windows at the ice well seemed unnecessary.

Mr. Malamo explained that these windows were hinged at the base primarily to facilitate cleaning the inside of the glass.

Mr. Neale asked whether an alternative was available to HPL. Mr. Malamo offered that they could be made of metal, brass or bronze. Mr. Neale stated that he had no problem with the quantity of text but believed the HPL signs should be changed to metal.

**REASON:** The Board was concerned that the unusual snow event the week previous may have prevented adequate delivery of notices by the Post Office or visibility of the placard on site and was still concerned about the quantity and choice of material for some of the signs.

**SPEAKERS:**

Patrice McAuliffe presented the application for the Department of General Services.

Mr. Kester, 313 N. St. Asaph Street voiced opposition to every aspect of the project and believed that notice was not posted on site at all times.

Ms. Schaeffer, 327 N. St. Asaph Street, did not see notification placards at this site and stated her belief that this project was opposed by the Accessibility Committee of the Alexandria Commission on Persons with Disabilities because of steps on a public sidewalk. She further believed that the viewing area presented too much information and overshadowed the ice well, which then overshadowed Gadsby's.

Mr. Hynan, representing the Historic Alexandria Foundation, was pleased that the illuminated glass signs had been removed. He stated that the City should only repair and maintain the existing facility. He pointed out that Mount Vernon has an ice well but doesn't even know where it is, so ice walls are evidently not important historic features.

Chairman Hulfish read an e-mail into the record from Marianne Anderson (1224 Michigan Ct) in opposition and voiced concern that there was no representative from the Old Town Civic Association present, as they had previously attended hearings on this item.

Mr. Williams, 327 N. St. Asaph Street, suggested that the interpretive signs at the ice well need only hook the public and get them inside the building for further interpretation.

**END DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**DEFERRED ITEMS**

**8. CASE BAR2009-0301**

Request for approval of alterations at **626 S Lee St**, zoned RM Residential.  
APPLICANT: Warren L. Almquist for S. Lee Parker and Debra Parker

This item was deferred pending restudy/submission of additional materials.

**9. OTHER BUSINESS**

Staff reminded the Board that there will be a joint work session on Wayfinding Signs with the Parker Gray BAR in the CC work room at 6:00 pm, immediately preceding the regular OHAD hearing on March 17, 2010.

**10. ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVALS**

**The following items have been administratively approved by BAR Staff:**

**CASE BAR2010-0003**

Approval of signage at **205 S Union St**  
APPLICANT: Old Town Editions

**CASE BAR2010-0009**

Approval of cell antenna at **312 S Washington St**  
APPLICANT: Clearwire by Adam Knubel

**CASE BAR2010-0014**

Approval of signage at **618 N Washington St**  
APPLICANT: Great Beginnings Early Childhood Center

**CASE BAR2010-0017**

Approval of signage at **105 N Alfred St**  
APPLICANT: Saba Alene

**CASE BAR2010-0019**

Approval of railings at **207 N Payne St**  
APPLICANT: Michael and Susan Sabatino

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:28 pm.

Minutes submitted by,

Al Cox, Architect, Historic Preservation Manager  
Boards of Architectural Review