

\*\*\*\*\*DRAFT MINUTES\*\*\*\*\*

Alexandria Board of Architectural Review  
Old & Historic Alexandria District

**Wednesday, January 19, 2011**

7:30pm, City Council Chambers, City Hall  
301 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Members Present: Tom Hulfish, Chairman  
Chip Carlin  
Oscar Fitzgerald  
Arthur Keleher  
John von Senden  
Peter Smeallie  
Wayne Neale

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Hulfish.

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## **I. MINUTES**

Consideration of the minutes of the public hearing of January 5, 2011.

**Approved as submitted, 7-0**

On a motion by Mr. Keleher, seconded by Mr. Smeallie, the minutes were unanimously approved, as submitted.

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## **II. CONSENT CALENDAR**

Items on the Consent Calendar are those where the applicant has agreed to all conditions of approval shown in the staff reports. Without objection, the staff recommendation for these cases will be approved as a group by unanimous consent of the Board at the beginning of the meeting. When announced by the Chairman, any member of the Board or of the public may ask that one of these cases be removed for full discussion.

### **1. CASE BAR2010-0325**

Request for signage at **1 Cameron St**, zoned CD Commercial.

APPLICANT: CHLN, Inc. (Chart House Restaurant)

BOARD ACTION: **Approved on the Consent Calendar, 7-0, as amended**

On a motion by Mr. Fitzgerald, seconded by Mr. Smeallie, the Consent Calendar, consisting of item #1, was unanimously approved, as amended.

### **CONDITION OF APPROVAL**

Subject to Staff approval of the intensity of the LED illumination in the field.

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### **III. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### **2. CASE BAR2010-0293**

Request for signage at **500 S. Washington St**, zoned CD Commercial.

APPLICANT: Capital One Bank

BOARD ACTION: **Deferred, 7-0**

#### **SPEAKERS**

Mr. Gary Brent, American Sign Mfg., represented the applicant

#### **BOARD DISCUSSION**

Mr. Fitzgerald asked why the existing signs were installed without BAR approval.

Mr. Brown responded that his company did not fabricate or install the existing signs. However, he understood that the signs had already been made, so the bank installed them pending Board review of appropriate signs.

Mr. Fitzgerald made a motion to defer the application until a representative of the bank was present.

Mr. Smeallie seconded the motion. He then stated that the entire approach to these signs is wrong and that the signs approved for the previous bank were excessive. He said they looked like Las Vegas billboards, drew entirely too much attention, and were not compliant with the memorial character of the GW Parkway which the Board is charged with maintaining. For instance, he did not believe that the box signs above the ATMs needed to be internally illuminated, though he acknowledged that there needed to be sufficient ambient illumination for customer safety, and did not need a logo.

Mr. von Senden appreciated that the present proposal removed the existing bank logos on the directional signs but that the signs themselves should now be reduced in size. He agreed that the ATM signs were all too bright.

Mr. Carlin stated that there were simply too many signs. He pointed out that this was a freestanding building with its own limited access parking lot which did not require customer parking only signs at each space or bank logos throughout the site. He suggested that a consolidated sign at each parking entrance would be sufficient. He agreed with the other Board members that the application needed to reduce both the size and number of signs.

The application was deferred for restudy, 7-0.

#### **REASON**

The Board felt that the quantity and illumination of the bank signs was not necessary and in conflict with the memorial character of the GW parkway.

**3. CASE BAR2010-0366**

Request for Permit to Demolish/Encapsulation for porch enclosure at **325 S. Lee St**, zoned RM Residential.

**BOARD ACTION: Approved, as submitted, by a roll call vote, 7-0**

This item was combined with item #4 for discussion purposes.

**4. CASE BAR2010-0367**

Request for porch enclosure at **325 S. Lee St**, zoned RM Residential.

**APPLICANT: Mitchell Bober by Lewis & Associates LTD**

**BOARD ACTION: Approved, as submitted, by a roll call vote, 7-0**

**SPEAKERS**

Mr. Ray Lewis, architect, presented the application and said that he agreed with the Staff report and agreed to provide a preservation easement for the encapsulated historic wall and roof material.

Mr. John Hynan, representing the HAF, said the first application was good and this one is even better. He supported the reversibility of the enclosure, particularly with the railing now being independent of the wall.

**BOARD DISCUSSION**

Mr. von Senden stated that the application was much improved but cautioned the architect to select a wall color that was not too dark on this south facing elevation. He moved approval of the application, as submitted. Mr. Keleher seconded the motion which was approved by unanimous roll call vote, 7-0.

**REASON**

The Board noted that no original framing material was being demolished, that the original wall fabric was being protected by easement and that the enclosure was easily reversible in the future.

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**IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

1. Staff informed the Board that no appeals were received from the January 5, 2011 OHAD hearing.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Hulfish adjourned the meeting at approximately 10:00 pm.

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**IV. ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVALS**

**CASE BAR2010-0363**

Request for window replacement and alterations at **406 South Royal St**, zoned RM Residential.

APPLICANT: Paul Darlington

**CASE BAR2010-0377**

Request for roof replacement at **415 South Columbus St**, zoned RB Residential.

APPLICANT: Judith Hollomon by Dominion Roofing

**CASE BAR2010-0379**

Request for window replacement at **720 Gibbon St**, zoned CL Commercial.

APPLICANT: Elizabeth Sandbeck

**CASE BAR2011-0008**

Request for roof replacement at **1108 West Abingdon Dr**, zoned RM Residential.

APPLICANT: H. Claire Whitney

**CASE BAR2011-0009**

Request for exterior stair replacement and lighting at **1212 King St**, zoned KR King Street Retail.

APPLICANT: Leona Lemeszewsky

**CASE BAR2011-0010**

Request for window and door replacement at **918 S. St. Asaph St**, zoned RM Residential.

APPLICANT: James and Heather Bobotek

**CASE BAR2011-0013**

Request for door replacement at **419 Franklin St**, zoned RM Residential.

APPLICANT: Bob Ritsh and Patricia Levy

**CASE BAR2011-0014**

Request for window replacement at **203 S. West St**, zoned RM Residential.

APPLICANT: Robert Notaro

**CASE BAR2011-0015**

Request for window replacement at **418 Pitt Mews**, zoned RM Residential.

APPLICANT: Jane and Mike Collins

Minutes submitted by,

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