
LANDMARKS COMMISSION

May 29, 2007

Minutes

Members Present: Robert Calk
Michael McClellan
Bill Minter
Phil Miller
Pebbles Lee
Laura Wardroup, Alternate
Steve Butman

Members Absent: Rick Weatherl
Tina Cargile, Alternate

Staff Present: Larry Abrigg, Planner III, Historic Preservation Officer
Dan Santee, Acting City Attorney

Guests: Sidney Levesque, Sue McKeon, Dan Carpenter, John Hill,
Grady Cozby, Brad Pursley

Mr. Butman called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM, declared a quorum present, and read the opening statement.

Minutes of the April 24, 2007 meeting were submitted for approval. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote. Mr. Miller made the motion and Mr. McClellan seconded the motion.

Agenda Item 3: CA-0707, Public hearing and possible vote to consider a Certificate of Appropriateness request from the National Center for Children's Illustrated Literature (NCCIL), agent, Abilene Cultural Affairs Council, to place public art (Dinosaur Bob) on the roof of the NCCIL building at 102 Cedar Street.

Mr. Butman read the above case description and asked Mr. Abrigg to give the staff report.

Mr. Abrigg highlighted the staff report and showed pictures of the properties (1158 N.1st Street and 102 Cedar Street). Details of moving "Bob" were reviewed and a letter from Clint Rosenbaum, P.E. was handed out to the Commission. The history of "Bob" was discussed.

Mr. Butman opened the public hearing.

Ms. McKeon explained that they would like to move "Dino Bob" to their building and that "Bob" fits in better with their mission. She said that "Bob" would actually help identify their location.

Mr. Carpenter from the Grace Museum came forward and said that "Bob" no longer fit their mission and that they wanted him to be moved and restored.

Mr. Butman asked if someone from Abilene Cultural Affairs Council would like to speak. Mr. Hill said it was their desire to find "Bob" a permanent home, but they still had to work with the artist/owner. Mr. Hill also said the local Volkswagen dealer has volunteered to paint and restore the orange VW "bug" car.

A question was asked about the location of "Bob" on the roof and Ms. McKeon said he would be placed along the N.1st Street side approximately in the middle of the building.

Mr. Butman closed the public hearing and there was a discussion among the members.

A motion was made by Ms. Lee and seconded by Mr. Minter to remove “Bob” from 1158 N.1st Street and move him to the NCCIL building at 102 Cedar Street. The vote was unanimous to move “Bob”.

Agenda Item 4: CA-0607, Public hearing and possible vote to consider a Certificate of Appropriateness request from Billy Olson to a construct a sign at 2775 S. Treadaway Blvd. (Rock House).

Mr. Butman read the case description and asked for the staff report.

Mr. Abrigg explained that the applicant had met with the Commission last month and the Commission approved 2 monument style signs. The applicant after the vote and hearing on April 24, 2007 asked staff if a pole sign would be acceptable. A subcommittee met on May 11 and they recommended the single pole sign be approximately 20 feet tall from the bottom of the sign to grade, that it be on a brown pole and it can be 2 sided, but not a triangle with a third sign face. The size is 8 feet x 12 feet. The background is to be a muted or off white with blue and red letters and logo. A light would be permitted. It is to be placed about 10 to 15 feet toward the street from the existing 3 foot poles and come out diagonally from the corner of the house toward the intersection of S. Treadaway and S. 27th Streets.

Mr. Butman opened the public hearing.

Mr. Pursley said they needed to know what was acceptable to the committee and felt a pole sign would advertise their business better and not block the view of the historic building. He said the recommendation of the committee as outlined above was generally acceptable, but wanted to know if the sign could be back lit, be less than 20 feet high at the base, and have a different dimension or size.

There was considerable discussion among the members including that monument signs are better options for historic properties. Another point of discussion was the consideration for the sign to be lower than 20 feet. After the discussion, Mr. Butman asked for a motion. Mr. McClellan made a motion that the single sign be no shorter than 20 feet to grade, allowed to be 100 square feet in size per side, be back lit and two sided. Mr. Butman seconded the motion. The motion carried with 5 votes. Ms. Lee and Mr. Calk voted against the motion.

Agenda Item 5: Presentation by Lauren Engineers and Constructors Inc. and discussion (no vote) concerning the new addition to the historic office building at 901 S. 1st Street.

Mr. Butman read the agenda item description. Mr. Abrigg showed current pictures of the construction.

Mr. Cozby from Lauren Engineers and Constructors Inc. briefed the Commission on the appearance of the new addition. He stated it would be more in line with the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards*. He passed out sketches of the front elevation. The Commission members were generally pleased with the owners' decision to change the design and thanked Mr. Cozby for keeping the Commission informed.

Agenda Item 6: Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Mr. Butman at approximately 5:30 PM.

Approved: _____, Chairman
Date: _____