

KING COUNTY LANDMARKS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES*

*March 24, 2022
Zoom (Call-in) Conference
Seattle, Washington
(Approved XX/XX/2022)*

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Cristy Lake, Chair; Dean Kralios, Adam Alsobrook, Amy Blue, Candace Tucker, Tanya Woo, Amber Earley

COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED: Caroline Lemay

STAFF PRESENT: Sarah Steen, Jennifer Meisner

GUESTS: Julie Krueger, Sarah Burk, May Bower, Amber French, Tom Heuser, Julie Seitz

CALL TO ORDER: Acting Chair Kralios called the meeting to order at 4:29pm. Introductions of commissioners and staff were made, and the Chair outlined the structure of the hearing.

Convene AUBURN LANDMARKS COMMISSION

SPECIAL COMMISSIONER: Greg Watson (*absent*)

CITY STAFF PRESENT: Julie Krueger

GUESTS: Sarah Burk

CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS #22.03: Auburn Post Office, 20 Auburn Ave. – proposal to replace arched canvas awning with flat steel entryway canopy, and install raised metal lettering signage

Steen gave a brief staff report detailing the City of Auburn’s ongoing adaptive reuse project involving the post office and surrounding site. She described the work already completed and described the details of the project under consideration. She also reviewed the standards criteria used in the Commission’s evaluation.

Kralios asked if the applicant wished to speak on the project. Julie Kreuger, Arts & Events Manager for the City of Auburn, discussed the intent behind remodeling the post office into the city’s Arts & Culture Center. She said protection of the historic elements is a key feature of the project, noting that before the city owned the building it was owned by King County and served as a public health department building. Many incompatible alterations were made during that period that the city is reversing. She said the raised lettering signage for the Arts & Culture Center will mimic the historic post office letter in style and arrangement. A less visually impactful metal awning is proposed in place of the existing canvas awning, to make historic features on the façade visible and more prominent. Krueger said that going through the DRC was valuable, to capture and define details such as anchors and mortar.

*May include minutes for cities who have interlocal historic preservation agreements with King County.

Kralios asked for the DRC report. Commissioner Tucker reported on the DRC discussion, reviewing questions regarding how the awning would be attached to the building and clarifications on the final dimensions of the awning. Inset lighting, conduit placement and coverage comparison were also discussed.

Kralios opened the public comment period. Hearing no requests to speak, he asked if the Commissioners had any questions for applicants or staff. Hearing none, Kralios closed the public comment portion of the hearing and invited Commissioner deliberation.

Commissioner Woo asked if the metal awning was going to be painted. Steen said the canopy itself would be white to match the trim, and the black connectors were intended to fade into the background. Woo also asked about water runoff and maintenance. Sarah Burk, architect, noted that the city will be responsible for maintenance and water management. Kralios asked about reusing existing anchor points. Burk said the contractor mapped the existing anchor points to design the canopy to reuse as many as possible. When the existing canopy is removed, they will have a good idea of how many will be reused. Their intent is to create as few new penetrations as possible. Kralios also noted that lime-based mortar was called out to use for masonry repair.

Tucker asked for clarification on how the conduit for the lighting will be handled. Steen and Krueger pointed to where the information was in the application materials. Krueger reiterated how valuable the DRC meeting was to iron out details. Blue noted that the project clearly met Standard #10 and Standard #9. Tucker and Kralios agreed. Hearing no other comment, Kralios asked for a motion.

Blue/Tucker moved to approve CoA #22.03 to replace the façade canopy and install lettering as proposed and recommended by the DRC. The motion passed 6-0 with Commissioner Lake abstaining.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ADJOURN: The ALC adjourned at 4:51 p.m.

Convene KING COUNTY LANDMARKS COMMISSION

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Acting Chair Kralios asked for any changes/corrections to the January 27 and February 24, 2022 meeting minutes. Hearing none, Lake called for a motion on each.

Lake/Woo moved to approve the January 27, 2022 meeting minutes of the King County Landmarks Commission. The motion passed 6-0, with Commissioner Blue abstaining.

Blue/Lake moved to approve the February 24, 2022 meeting minutes of the King County Landmarks Commission. The motion passed 6-0, with Commissioner Earley abstaining.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER'S REPORT: Meisner reported that HPP staff held a regional preservation training earlier in the month, which featured Eugenia Woo of Historic Seattle and DOCOMOMO/WeWa offering an overview of mid-century modern neighborhoods in King County. Steen presented on multiple property documents as well, to help promote the county's mid-century modern residential MPD which will be completed this year. Staff participated in a historic downtown walking tour of Issaquah hosted by the Downtown Issaquah Association. Meisner said she was hoping these in-person events will be starting again soon. She then noted that a number of landmark nominations will be coming before the Commission in the coming months, including Seattle Pet Cemetery, the Barth House in Kirkland, Camp Kilworth in Federal Way and the Enumclaw Municipal Hall.

OTHER BUSINESS: Parliamentary Motions Template & Overview Training

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

ADJOURN: The KCLC adjourned at 5:13 p.m.