

DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE
MINUTES

January 19, 2012

PRESENT: Terry Smith-Lamothe, Vice-Chair
William Hyde
Anne Sinclair
Sue Sirrs
Cesar Saleh
Jeff Pinhey
Suzanne Saul
Roy McBride
Nick Pyrce
Ramzi Kawar

STAFF: Kurt Pyle, Supervisor, Planning Applications
Paul Sampson, Planner
Richard Harvey, Senior Planner
Sherrill Murphy, Deputy Clerk

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1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Smith-Lamothe, Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m. in Halifax Hall, City Hall. He went on to advise that a newly appointed member had resigned due to time pressures. Mr. Smith-Lamothe then introduced Sherryll Murphy of the Clerk's Office advising that she would be providing support to the Committee for 2012.

Ms. Murphy provided an update on membership noting that it was anticipated that appointments to the Committee would be before Council on January 31, 2012. She further indicated that additional applications for the position of Landscape Architect had been received by the Clerk's Office and would be considered in this appointment process.

Mr. Smith-Lamothe turned the conduct of the meeting to Ms. Murphy for the election of the Chair.

1.1 Election of the Chair

Ms. Murphy called for nominations for Chair of the Design Review Committee.

MOVED by Mr. Pinhey, seconded by Ms. Saul that Mr. Terry Smith-Lamothe be nominated to serve as Chair of the Committee.

Mr. Smith-Lamothe accepted the nomination.

Ms. Murphy called a second time for nominations.

MOVED by Mr. Kavar, seconded by Ms. Sirrs that Mr. Bill Hyde be nominated to serve as Chair for 2012.

Mr. Hyde declined the nomination citing travel commitments.

Ms. Murphy called a third time and final time for nominations and, hearing no further nominations, called for the vote on Mr. Smith-Lamothe's nomination.

The **MOTION WAS PUT AND PASSED.**

Ms. Murphy turned the conduct of the meeting to Mr. Smith-Lamothe, Chair.

Mr. Smith-Lamothe called for nominations for Vice-Chair.

MOVED by Mr. Saleh, seconded by Ms. Sirrs that Anne Sinclair be nominated to serve as Vice-Chair for 2012.

Ms. Sinclair declined the nomination.

MOVED by Anne Sinclair, seconded by Mr. Kavar that Mr. Bill Hyde be nominated to serve as Vice-Chair for 2012.

Mr. Hyde accepted the nomination.

Mr. Terry-Smith Lamothe called a third and final time for nominations, hearing no further nominations, he called for the vote on Mr. Hyde's nomination.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 9, 2011

MOVED by Ms. Sinclair, seconded by Mr. McBride that the minutes of November 9, 2011, as circulated, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

MOVED by Mr. Pryce, seconded by Ms. Saul that the agenda, as circulated, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - None

5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – None

6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS - None

7. REPORTS

7.1 Case 17422 – Redevelopment of Citadel Hotel Site, Brunswick and Cogswell Streets

A staff report dated December 20, 2011 was before the Committee. Also before the Committee was a colour copy of the RWDI Consulting Engineers and Scientists, Citadel Hotel Redevelopment Pedestrian Wind Study dated October 29, 2011. Additionally, 11X17 colour renderings, drawings and site plans, as contained in the staff report, were before the Committee.

Mr. Paul Sampson, Planner, gave a brief presentation outlining Case 17442, Substantive Site Plan Approval – 1960 Brunswick Street, Citadel Hotel site which included:

- images of the lack of street wall in the area and how the proposal will improve on the situation
- various images of the site as it exists and under the proposed development

Mr. Sampson indicated that staff was recommending that the Committee approve the qualitative elements of the application and the requested variance.

Staff responded to questions from members regarding the report and staff's rankings within the Design Manual Checklist. The Committee then reviewed in detail the Design Manual Checklist included as Attachment D to the staff report. After a lengthy discussion and further questions to staff, the following motions were put:

MOVED by Mr. Kawar, seconded by Mr. Pryce that the Design Review Committee approves the qualitative elements of the substantive site plan approval application for the mixed use redevelopment of the Citadel Hotel site at 1960 Brunswick Street as shown on Attachment A of the December 20, 2011 staff report with the following conditions:

- **the transformer wall be as shown on drawing D-3 and the landscaping contained within the property boundaries be as shown in the submitted plans where possible; and**
- **relative to 3.2.3 f, the retaining wall at grade and the material used as barrier be transparent.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

MOVED by Mr. Saleh, seconded by Ms. Saul that the Design Review Committee approve the requested streetwall height variance along Brunswick and Cogswell Streets as shown and described on Attachments A and B of the December 20, 2011 staff report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

MOVED by Mr. Pryce, seconded by Mr. McBride that the Design Review Committee accepts the pedestrian wind study as presented in the document entitled Citadel Hotel Redevelopment, Final Report, Pedestrian Wind Study, RWDI #1102163, October 28, 2011. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Members noted that the scale of the drawings provided on this application were very readable and suggested that they be the standard for future applications.

The Committee further requested that:

1. Signage matters only be placed before the Committee when there is sufficient enough information for them to discuss and make a judgement on the appropriateness of the signage. Signage will require the approval of the Development Officer
2. Future applications include more information on landscaping and preferably a landscaping plan which would include where landscaping is to be placed and what is being considered for the landscaping material/plants.

7.2 Meeting Schedule 2012

A proposed meeting schedule for 2012 was before the Committee.

The proposed meeting scheduled was accepted unanimously. Upcoming meetings can be viewed at <http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/drc/Agendas.html>

7.3 Discussion re Presentation to Committee on Design Review Guidelines

Members of the Committee have suggested it would useful for staff provide a second presentation on the Design Review Guidelines and the Committee's role. It was agreed that Mr. Andy Fillmore present to the Committee at the February 9, 2012 meeting.

8. ADDED ITEMS

9. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting of the Design Review Committee will be held on February 9, 2012.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Sherrill Murphy
Deputy Clerk