



DESIGN COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OCTOBER 8, 2014

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Richard Erwin called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM in the Council Chambers, 9611 SE 36th Street, Mercer Island, Washington.

ROLL CALL:

Chair Richard Erwin, Vice-Chair Colin Brandt, Commissioners Susanne Foster, Daniel Hubbell, Tami Szerlip, and Hui Tian, were present. Commissioners Sanderson and Tian were absent.

STAFF PRESENT:

George Steirer, Principal Planner, was present.

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:

The Design Commission reviewed the minutes from the September 10, 2014 meeting. Commissioner Hubbell motioned to approve the minutes. Commissioner Szerlip seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

REGULAR BUSINESS:

Agenda Item #1: DSR14-018/DSR14-006 - Final Approval – Mercer Island Elementary School 4 – 4030 86th Ave SE

The Design Commission conducted the public hearing and final design review on a new elementary school.

JoAnn Wilcox, of Mahlum, provided a presentation on behalf of the applicant regarding preliminary approval condition #3.

Chair Erwin opened public hearing comments portion of the agenda item. No one requested to speak. Chair Erwin closed the public meeting portion of the agenda item.

Vice-Chair Brandt moved to grant final design review approval for a the new elementary school, as depicted in the exhibits to the October 8, 2014 staff report to the Design Commission, along with the staff recommended conditions of approval. Commissioner Hubbell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #2: DSR14-020 Preliminary Review – Mercer Island Middle School – 8225 SE 72nd Street

The Design Commission conducted public meeting and preliminary review of the proposed middle school design.

George Steirer, Principal Planner, provided a brief presentation.

David Van Galen of Integrus Architecture, and Jennifer Munde of Cascade Design Collaborative provided a presentation on behalf of the applicant. Mr. Van Galen submitted a revised building material palette that was slightly different from the one provided with the application. Specifically, the “horizontal metal panel” and the “phenolic accent panel” shown within Exhibit 7 to the October 8th Design Commission packet were different. Ms. Munde provided additional details to the landscape plan. Dean Mack, of the Mercer Island School District provided answers regarding questions of the interior courtyard, from an operational standpoint.

The Design Commission asked questions of the applicant. The Commission provided the following comments:

1. Consider not planting Cottonwoods due to code requirements, potential change in hydrology, and high allergic reaction from children.

2. Illustrate how the parking lot will be lit. To proposed condition of approval #5, add the following sentence "Provide lighting details for the parking lot that accesses 84th Avenue SE." The prevention of light pollution on neighboring properties shall be respected.
3. Reassess the use of maroon as an accent color for the facility, in particular for the 2nd story window mullions.
4. Reinforce the proposed modulation with the different colored bricks previously reviewed by the Design Commission at the October 8, 2014 meeting.
5. Highlight the entrance to the new building. Consider day light and the location of the brick piers to add invitation to the building.
6. Redesign the proposed canopy to ensure that the entrance is inviting and visually distinct to comply with MICC 9.12.020(B)(2)(c) and 19.12.030(B)(5).
7. Remove staff recommended conditions of approval #4 and #10 (upper setback on western wall).
8. The applicant shall demonstrate that the LED lighting is as good, or better than, the lighting examples provided in MICC 19.12.070(B)(6).

Chair Erwin opened the public meeting for comments. No one requested to speak. Chair Erwin then closed the public meeting.

Commissioner Tian moved to grant preliminary design review approval as shown in Exhibits 2, 3, 4, and 5 as conditioned by the October 8, 2014 staff report to the Design Commission, and with the eight additional conditions as agreed by the Design Commission during the meeting. Vice-Chair Brandt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Staff had no additional comments.

There will likely be no meeting on October 22, 2014.

On November 12th, Commissioner Szerlip and Commissioner Foster may be gone.

ADJOURNMENT: Commissioner Szerlip moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Hubble seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:44 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
George Steirer, Planner