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APPROVED MINUTES

DESIGN REVIEW BOARD
 CITY OF SEBASTOPOL
 MINUTES OF May 17, 2017

SEBASTOPOL CITY HALL
 CONFERENCE ROOM
 7120 BODEGA AVENUE
 4:00 P.M.

DESIGN REVIEW BOARD:

The notice of the meeting was posted on May 11, 2017.

1. CALL TO ORDER: Chair Luthin called the meeting to order at 4:01 P.M.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present:	Ted Luthin, Chair Cary Bush, Vice Chair Lynn Deedler, Board Member Lars Langberg, Board Member Christine Level, Board Member Gregory Beale, Board Member (arrived at 4:04 p.m.)
Absent:	None
Staff:	Dana Morrison, Assistant Planner Rebecca Mansour, Planning Technician

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: April 19, 2017

Vice Chair Bush amended the minutes.

Board Member Langberg made a motion to approve the minutes as amended.

Board Member Deedler seconded the motion.

AYES: Chair Luthin and Board Members Deedler, Beale and Langberg
 NOES: None
 ABSTAIN: Vice Chair Bush and Board Member Level

In picking up on the Portable Sign Policy discussion that was on the last DRB agenda, Vice Chair Bush commented:

- Has never been a fan of portable signs.
- Considers portable signs to be unsightly and unsafe.
- Expressed being in agreement with several members of the Board who have noted that portable signs bring a sense of clutter, that they should be discouraged, and that a special permit should be required in order to have one.

- Would like portable signs disallowed entirely, or only allowed through a special permit.

4. PLANNING DEPARTMENT UPDATES:

Assistant Planner Morrison updated the Board on the following:

- At the last City Council meeting, the Council confirmed Board Member Deedler as the Board’s liaison to the Public Arts Committee.
- Housing Subcommittee meetings are underway. Encouraged anyone interested to go onto the City’s website and complete a survey which relates to matters that the Subcommittee is discussing.

The Board asked questions of staff.

5. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON ITEMS NOT ON AGENDA: There were none.

6. STATEMENTS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST: There were none.

7. CONSENT CALENDER: There were none.

8. REGULAR AGENDA:

A. MINOR SIGN REVIEW: This is an application submitted by Johnston Sign Co., on behalf of ‘Slice of Life’, requesting approval to remove one internally illuminated channel letter sign and replace it with a new internally illuminated channel letter sign. The sign is proposed to replace the existing “RESTAURANT” sign for Slice of Life located at 6970 McKinley Street. The existing restaurant sign is internally illuminated and the replacement sign is looking to maintain the allowance for internal illumination.

Assistant Planner Morrison presented the staff report.

The Board asked questions of Assistant Planner Morrison.

Chair Luthin asked if the applicant wished to make a presentation.

The applicant gave a brief presentation and was available for questions.

The Board asked questions of the applicant.

Chair Luthin asked if members of the public wished to speak on this item.

Hearing none, Chair Luthin closed the public comment period.

Board Member Langberg commented:

- This is a good business that has been in town for a long time.
- The statement in the staff report regarding grandfathering in the illumination makes sense.
- The overall building needs to be addressed, but that is not part of this application.
- Would prefer to have single letters than the proposed white background.
- Understands the practicality of what is being proposed.
- Expressed being fine with the lighting of the letters.

Board Member Deedler commented:

- Expressed being fine with the application as submitted.
- Generally, external illumination is the way to go.
- Internal illumination works for this building.
- External illumination should be encouraged for more significant projects.

Vice Chair Bush commented:

- Expressed being in agreement with Board Member Deedler.
- Expressed being comfortable with the sign as submitted.

Board Member Level commented:

- The Board has been consistent about allowing grandfathering of internal illumination for existing businesses.
- This is clearly a situation where grandfathering in the allowance for internal illumination makes sense.
- Likes the sign.
- The contrast between the background and building makes the border.
- Would vote to approve the application as submitted.

Assistant Planner Morrison interjected with a point of clarification.

Board Member Beale expressed being in agreement with Board Member Level's comments.

Chair Luthin commented:

- Expressed being in agreement with the comments of the Board.
- The grandfathering makes sense.
- Questioned compatibility between internal illumination and the brand.
- Would rather see a nice clean panel over the corrugated metal that is behind it.

Board Member Level made a motion to approve the application as submitted.

Vice Chair Bush seconded the motion.

AYES: Chair Luthin, Vice Chair Bush, and Board Members Langberg, Level, Deedler and Beale

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS: There were none.

10. REPORTS FROM THE BOARD/STAFF:

The Board discussed the issue of mistletoe in trees and requested that formal discussion of the matter be placed on the next Design Review Board meeting agenda.

11. ADJOURNMENT: Chair Luthin adjourned the meeting of the Design Review Board at 5:30 p.m. to the next Design Review Board meeting to be held June 07, 2017 at 4:00 p.m., at the Sebastopol City Hall, 7120 Bodega Avenue, Sebastopol, CA.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Dana Morrison
Assistant Planner