

MELROSE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Meeting and Public Hearing
Tuesday, August 27, 2019
6:15 PM
Cassidy Conference Room, City Hall, 562 Main Street

PRESENT: Brad Hutchinson, Justine Sterling, Robin Peevey, Michael Coleman, and Kevin Erb

ABSENT: Charlene Marinelli and Judith Sullivan

Denise Gaffey, Director & City Planner, and Emma Schnur, Senior Planner, were present.

The meeting was called to order at 6:16 PM by Mr. Hutchinson.

In accordance with the Open Meeting Law, Mr. Hutchinson inquired whether anyone would be making a video or audio recording of the meeting. No one in attendance indicated that they would be making such a recording.

I. MINUTES

Mr. Coleman MADE a MOTION to approve the minutes from June 24, 2019. Mr. Erb SECONDED the MOTION. All members voted in favor. None were opposed.

II. APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATES OF APPROPRIATENESS

Application for Certificate of Appropriateness: Ana Donohue, 523 Main Street (public hearing)

Business owner Ana Donohue was present to describe the signage proposed for Ana Donohue Interiors at 523 Main Street. The Applicant explained that she will be taking over the storefront where Madison Avenue used to be located. Retail sales will go in the front and her studio will be located in the back. There is a contractor who is renting some space in her studio and will likely be applying to the HDC in the near future for a small sign on the side of the building along Field Court.

The Applicant recently rebranded and the sign for Ana Donohue Interiors is meant to reflect the watercolor design in her new logo. Since she is unable to directly replicate the logo on the sign, she will hand paint the v-carved letters with a color splash consistent with the logo. She decided to use recessed letters because they show the color more vibrantly and they have more of a classic look. The sign will be made out of 1.5" thick sign foam that is back primed and painted white. It will also have a 22k gold leaf inline decorative border.

At 108 inches wide and 22 inches high, the sign will be just slightly longer than the former Madison Avenue sign. It will be affixed to the same façade location between the gooseneck lighting and the awning, both of which will be remaining, with mechanical fasteners, 3/8" lag bolts, and 1.5" aluminum angle brackets. According to the Applicant, the building owner will also be replacing the black wood board behind the sign and freshening up the gold trim which is painted on the decorative columns on both sides of the storefront.

Ms. Sterling MADE a MOTION to issue the Certificate of Appropriateness for the sign proposed for 523 Main Street as described in the application. Mr. Coleman SECONDED the MOTION. All members voted in favor. None were opposed.

III. OTHER

Jim Bennett and Ward Hamilton from the Melrose Historical Commission were in attendance. They inquired about the Historic District Commission process as they will be attending the public hearing on September 10, 2019 related to the proposed 12-16 Essex Street project.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM.