Design Review Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday February 23, 2021
Council Chambers @ 3pm
1700 N. Grand Avenue, Las Vegas, New Mexico

Call to Order

- Chairperson Rubio Meeting Called to Order: 3:10 pm.
- Pledge of Allegiance.
- Mr. Rubio then asked for a Roll call.

Roll Call

Members Present	Members Absent
Ray Tafoya	
Jose Gallegos	
Rick Rubio	
Roland Medrano	
Harold Garcia (Came in at 3:25pm) -Absent for Roll Call	
Isaac Sandoval (Came in at 3:10pm)-Absent for Roll Call	

Quorum Established-4 Present

City Staff Present

Maria Perea, Planning & Zoning Coordinator
Councilman Michael Montoya

Introduction of New Members

Introduction of new members All Members Introduced during meeting

Election of Officers

Election of Officers

Approval of Agenda

Chairperson Rubio asked all members present if they had any changes on the agenda besides the Introduction of New Members and Election of Officers, being completed later during the meeting. No additions or changes. Motion made by Member Medrano to approve the agenda as amended, motion 2nd by Member Gallegos. Motion passed

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Rubio asked for any changes to the Minutes of May 19, 2020. No Changes made

Chairperson Rubio asked for a motion to approve the minutes. of May 19, 2020, Member Medrano made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted, motion was 2nd by Mr. Tafoya. No opposition. Motion passed

New Business

Item #1: Application for Certificate of Approval for the placement of signs for CareNet on property located at 106 Bridge Street, Las Vegas, NM 87701. Application was submitted by Vicki Rae Snider for CareNet LV (Applicant) and Carolyn Chavez (Owner).

Chairperson Rubio asked everyone that was going to present on this project to stand up and be sworn in. All were sworn in. Mr. Rubio asked applicants to come forward and present to the board. Mr. Wolcott and Ms. Snider came up and presented what they want to do on the signs. Ms. Snider advised that there will be a sign at the front of the window and showed the Board which sign it was. They also want to paint a large sign on the side of the building facing Valencia Street. Ms. Snider stated that they want to paint the wall a solid color, as it is currently several shades. Color has yet to be decided.

Member Medrano asked these are (2) two sign requests the sign in front and the sign on the wall"

Ms. Snider yes.

Chairperson Rubio stated, With their being no further discussion requested a motion to approve or disapprove Item # 1. Motion was made by Member. Medrano motion to approve the Application for Certificate of Approval for the signs as submitted by Ms. Snider and Ms. Chavez. Motion was 2nd by Member Gallegos Chairperson Rubio asked for a vote by all members to approve the Certificate of Approval for the signs as submitted. All members voted by stating "Aye". Chairperson Rubio any opposed Motion passed.

Item #2: Application for Certificate of Approval for a fence and pergola/carport & other work on property located at 123 Bridge Street as submitted by Roger & Katherine Walter (Owners).

Mr. & Mrs. Walter still under oath Chairman. Rubio asked Mr. & Mrs. Walter to do their presentation. Mrs. Walter spoke about the fence they want to put up in the back of the building. The fence is going to be out of bamboo, it will be six (6) feet in height.

As for the pergola/carport, they have a common wall agreement with the neighbors, but the structure will be angled so that the water drains into the property at 123 Bridge Street, not the neighbors. They will have gutters on it. The third thing they are going to do is in the front, they do not like the yellow paint on the top of the windows. They will be replacing it with sheets of stamped copper siding. Ms. Walter passed around a copy of what this will look like. Ms. Walter stated that the siding would have a nice patina as it aged. They want to take the front of the building to its original state if they can. The brick, which is currently painted, will be exposed after all the paint is removed.

Chairperson Rubio asked for comments or discussion. There was none. Chairperson Rubio then asked for a motion to approve or disapprove Item #2. Motion was made by Member Medrano to approve the Application for Certificate of Approval for the fence, carport and changes to the facade as presented by Mr. & Mrs. Walter, motion was 2nd by Mr. Gallegos. Chairperson Rubio asked for a vote by all members to approve the Certificate of Approval for the fence, carport and facade improvements as submitted. All members voted by stating "Aye". Chairperson Rubio asked, all opposed. No opposition. Motion passed

Request was made by Member Medrano to go back to the Election of Officers as all members were present at the meeting.

Nominations were open for Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson Member Medrano nominated Mr. Harold Garcia and Member Gallegos nominated Mr. Rick Rubio. Each candidate was given time to talk about themselves and their intentions for becoming Chairperson.

Vote: Ray Tafoya – voted for Mr. Garcia
Roland Medrano – voted for Mr. Garcia
Rick Rubio – voted for himself
Joe Gallegos – voted for Mr. Rubio
Harold Garcia – voted for himself
Isaac Sandoval – voted for Mr. Garcia,

Final vote – four (4) votes for Mr. Garcia, two (2) votes for Mr. Rubio. Mr. Garcia accepted the position as Chairperson.

For Vice-Chairperson, Member Tafoya nominated Member Medrano. Chairman Rubio also nominated Mr. Medrano Member Medrano was asked if he accepted the position of Vice Chairperson. Mr. Medrano accepted the position of Vice Chairperson

At this point, Mr. Harold Garcia (Chairperson) took over the meeting.

Item #3: Application for Certificate of Approval for the expansion of the Plaza Hotel patio over the sidewalk, the road and one of the islands, as shown on the design provided.

Chairperson Garcia asked that all who were going to present on this project to come up and be sworn in. All were sworn in.

Conor Reichert (Architect for the project) and Sara Mathews, (proprietor of the Prairie Hill Cafe) came up to the front to do their presentation. Ms. Matthews stated that she will be opening the Prairie Hill Cafe at the Plaza Hotel as soon as she can. She will be working with local ranchers to provide beef to the Cafe, and she will be working with local farmers for the produce. She wants the Cafe to be a farm to table operation. She also stated that with COVID-19, outdoor dining is a must. They will be employing approximately 50 people when they are finally done. Ms. Mathews talked about Byron T's Saloon and Ballroom, but with no clear indication of what was going to happen there.

Member Rubio asked about the fire hydrant. Mr. Reichert has been in contact with the Fire Chief on this and the plans have been completed to include the fire hydrant.

Member Sandoval Member Sandoval asked Ms. Matthews why Mr. Affeldt was not at the meeting today.

Ms. Mathews stated that Mr. Affeldt was not available for this meeting.

In continuing, Chairperson Garcia stated that it was premature for the presentation to be done to the Design Review Board.

Member Rubio stated that the first two times the patio expansion had been denied, was because they did not have a traffic study done and that emergency vehicles would have a difficult time in accessing the area.

Mr. Reichert responded that they had spoken to the Fire Chief, and the Fire Department was okay with the plan submitted. He stated that this type of thing had been done in other cities like Taos and Silver City.

Mr. Rubio stated historic district is also in the National registry Mr. Reichert stated the State Historic Preservation Department had been contacted and they approved the concept.

Chairperson Garcia continued that the traffic would impact Bridge Street, West National Avenue, and New Mexico Avenue when traffic was redirected. He also stated that North Gonzales Street and Mills Avenue already had high accident rates.

Ms. Mathews at this point stated that the 90° right-hand turn was illegal per statutes.

Ms. Mathews again stated that without the patio expansion, she would probably not be able to open the cafe.

Member Sandoval stated that some businesses chose to close

Ms. Mathews stated that if the patio expansion were not approved, there would be no yoga classes, no free dance, etc. which is something that she will be offering there. She also stated that any new business that opened, if there was no patio space it would be difficult to survive, they would close.

City Staff Ms. Perea asked Mr. Garcia, so what you are asking for is a traffic study, for the City to vacate the road and the island?

Chairperson Garcia stated, follow the proper procedures to vacate the road and the island.

Chairperson Garcia stated that he felt that the project should be tabled until the road issue is resolved.

Member Rubio stated that the project should be brought up for a vote to approve or disapprove the project and if it is denied, they have the option to appeal it to City Council.

Chairperson Garcia stated very strongly that he was not going to take it to a vote that he felt the project should be tabled until a later date.

Chairman Garcia asked for a motion to table the project. Motion made by Member Medrano to table the project as stated on Item #3, motion 2nd by Member Tafoya. Chairperson Garcia asked for a vote by all members to approve to table Item #3 to another date. All members voted by stating "Aye". Chairman Garcia asked, all opposed. No opposition. Motion passed

No date was set for the presentation of Item #3 again.

Other Business

Item #1: Review and approval of the new By-Laws and Rules of Procedure for the Design Review Board.

Staff person Ms. Perea brought up the new By-Laws and Rules of Procedure for the Design Review Board. Chairperson Garcia stated that the issue could not be discussed or voted on as the item was not on the Agenda.

Staff person Ms. Perea pointed out that it was on the Agenda under other business.

Chairperson Garcia stated that he had some questions on the By-Laws and Rules of Procedure. He wants to know if he will have a vote on the projects as it is not stated either way on the rules.

Staff person Ms. Perea stated that she will find out from the City Attorney on this and bring it to the next meeting.

There was no more discussion and no approval of the By-Laws and Rules of Procedure for the Design Review Board until a later date. No date was set of when this would be heard.

Adjournment

Chairperson Garcia asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was made by Member Rubio to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Member Gallegos. Chairperson Garcia asked for a vote on the motion to adjourn, all members voted by stating "Aye". Meeting adjourned at 4:17 pm .

Harold Garcia, Chairperson

4/30/21
Date