

Architectural Review Board
March 4, 2004

Jeffrey Plank, chair, called the meeting to order in Council Chamber, Victory Hall, at 7 p.m. In attendance were members Larry Barnett, Lillian Copeland, Ruth Klippstein, and Fred Schneider; as well as Barry Clark and Kevin Quick. We reviewed the agenda; minutes of the February meeting were not yet available.

Summary of Actions: We approve Kevin Quick's request for vinyl siding, white, on 215-217 Valley Street. We authorize Fred Schneider to act in our behalf in the matter of the Insurpro Services sign when he can review pictures of the full sign and mounting.

New business: Kevin Quick explained his renovation project at 215-217 Valley St., showing a sample of the Crane Board vinyl siding he wants to use; he said he would probably chose white coloring. He might move one window facing the alley, and leave all windows the size they are now.

Fred read to us about the building from our maintenance survey, which found the condition to be generally excellent. Kevin reported that the current surface is aluminum siding and Masonite. At this point, we temporarily adjourned to allow for gathering more information about the building. Kevin brought photographs and when we resumed the meeting, Jeffrey expressed the ARB's enthusiasm for making the building look more uniform with the new vinyl siding; the question was moved and seconded, and passed unanimously. Kevin agreed to work with Fred on choosing windows before a final decision; he thought he could move those on the east side, facing Canal Basin Square, to make a more regular pattern. We discussed the type of window that would be satisfactory to us, using munnions on the exterior faces of the windowpanes, not sandwiched between, as well as using insulated windows to eliminate storm windows. Fred will contact the suggested window vendor to discuss their designs, and will consult with Kevin.

Old business: Larry Barnett displayed original blueprints for Bruce's Drug Store for our discussion of renovating windows at the rear of the building. We considered placement, size, and style of windows. Fred will look into this further with the vendor, and no decision was reached.

Barry reported that the Insurpro Services freestanding sign is now conceived with a metal port. Fred requested a picture of the brackets to hold the sign. In the interests of expediting this application, we agree to deputize Fred to review the material, when available, and make a decision in the board's behalf.

Repair and maintenance: Jeffrey related the history of ARB's interest in the Caffè Bocce building, and we read owner Chris Long's recent letter in reference to repairs. Jeffrey noted that several pressing concerns about the repair of the building were not addressed in the letter. He and Fred will draft a response to Chris for Barry to send, and we agree to set a term of one year from when restoration work began, July 2003, for completion of the work.

Jeffrey reported that Barry has talked to Julian Calvert about work we approved for him in 2002. While the plan agreed upon has not been followed, we will take no further action.

Lillian requested clarity on the Council sending out a letter about repair and maintenance to all property owners. We agreed that as we have been in communication with the owners of the three properties most in need of repair, we do not need to pursue the plan of sending letters.

With no further business, we adjourned at 8:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Klippstein, secretary