APPROVED
MINUTES OF THE MEETING

February 16, 2012
Convened 8:30am
Adjourned 4:00pm

Projects Reviewed
Swedish Medical Center Cherry Hill Skybridge
Alaskan Way Viaduct – North End and Portal Trail to Treasure
FS 20 West Queen Anne Interbay
SR 520 I-5 to Medina

Commissioners Present
Julie Bassuk, Chair
Shannon Loew
Tom Nelson
Julie Parrett (excused from 8:30-9:00 and 2:15-4:00)
Osama Quotah (excused from 2:15-4:00)
Norie Sato
Debbie Wick-Harris (excused from 8:30-9:00)

Commissioners Excused
Laurel Kunkler
Mary Fialko
Don Vehige

Staff Present
Tom Iurino

Department of Planning and Development
700 5th Avenue, Suite 2000
PO Box 34019
Seattle, WA 98124-4019
TEL 206-615-1349
FAX 206-233-7883
Summary of Project Presentation

The design team presented its design development for Fire Station 20. The first floor of the station contained the building entry, station and officer’s office, bunk rooms as well as the apparatus support spaces which encircle the drive through apparatus bay. The second floor contained the beanery, physical training room, dayroom, mechanical and communications rooms.

Since the last review, the team further integrated the building and the site. It made refinements to the building, the sustainability elements, and the site design, as well more fully studied the materials. For example, the team: raised the alley wall and made it green to discourage climbing on the building’s roof; deemed the rooftop PV array as feasible and expanded it to a possible 40KW; placed the dynamic, abstract artwork in a prominent corner location at the entry; developed the bio-retention planters and cistern systems; and added aspens to the front entry to complement the art. The team noted it would pursue LEED Gold certification at a minimum. The team showcased the materials under consideration, including spandrel glass, cmu and concrete as well as a mix of natives and ornamentals and an edible garden in the landscape.

ACTION (by Sato)

The Design Commission thanked the design team for its presentation of Fire Station 20 West Queen Anne / Interbay. The commission was excited that the original concept of walls and structure extruding to and from the site was executed. The commission also appreciated the use of multiple strategies to integrate sustainability, the advancement of the landscape design, and the artist’s work was integrated. By a vote of 7-0, the commission approved the design development and made the following comments:

- Explore other opportunities to resolve the design of the back, blank wall on the east elevation. It disrupts the established wall language, deadens the alley, and is the lone element that doesn’t fit with the design concept, a pure glass box over a base.
- Study the use of aspen grove behind the sculpture. While the vertical plant material is fine to use in this location, the dynamic nature of the aspen may not be the best complement to the artwork. Also, the aspen's leaves may get trapped in the artwork.

- Study the front edge of planter. Explore making it more continuous and integrated with the building.

- Allow the artist more freedom to develop and place his work. While the siting is appropriate, consider allowing the artist to expand his work beyond its current boundaries and engage or engulf the building or wall. It is a dynamic work and may need more room.