



The City of Seattle

Ballard Avenue Landmark District Board

Mailing Address: PO Box 94649, Seattle WA 98124-4649
Street Address: 600 4th Avenue, 4th Floor

BLD 57/23

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 6, 2023 MEETING

TIME: 9:00 A.M.
PLACE: Ballard Customer Service Center-Conference Room
5604 22nd Ave NW
REMOTE ACCESS: Access online and by phone as provided in the meeting agenda.

BOARD MEMBERS

Kaia Wahmanholm, Acting Chair
Joe Herrin
Miriam Hinden
Anthony Salazar
Richard Hiner
Tommy Patrick

STAFF

Minh Chau Le
Melinda Bloom

Absent:

As a quorum was present, the meeting was called to order at 9:15 a.m. by Acting Chair, Kaia Wahmanholm.

040623.1 PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments were taken during their corresponding portions of the agenda.

040623.2 APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL

040623.21 Voyager
5333 Ballard Ave NW
Mary Byrne, Business Owner

Proposal to install storefront door decal signage.

Staff report: The staff provided photos of the storefront and proposed signage details. The staff cited the following relevant guidelines: Signs (13) a. Sign Materials and Signs (13) b. Storefront Signs.

Applicant statement: The applicant was not present. The board agreed to review the proposal without the applicant's input.

Joe Herrin made a motion to approve the application as presented. Richard Hiner seconded the motion.

5 in favor; 0 opposed; 1 abstained (Tommy Patrick abstained). The motion carried.

040623.22 Public Right of Way
Intersection of Ballard Ave NW and 20th Ave NW
Aditi Kambuj, SDOT

Proposal to revise existing temporary curb bulb, add additional interim curb bulb, re-align planters and signage, add crosswalk markings.

Staff report: The staff provided the following: project location, site plan and photos of existing conditions, site plan showing proposed features, planter and signage details, and crosswalk and curb bulb striping examples. The staff cited relevant guidelines: Purpose/Goals (2); Vehicular and Pedestrian Access (9); Secretary of the Interior Standards (2).

Applicant statement:

Ian Macek, SDOT and Aditi Kambuj, SDOT, said the proposal was a continuation on recent right of way safety enhancements and was in response to ongoing community feedback and site testing. They said there are two different options being presented. Option A includes a striped crosswalk and Option B does not. Both options address pedestrian safety at the intersection and create usable public space.

The board expressed concern over excessive striping on the brick road surface and that both proposals were potentially confusing to pedestrians. The board said that the proposal supports District Guideline 9: Vehicular and Pedestrian Access.

Public comment:

Mike Mora said there did not appear to be a compelling reason to make the proposed changes to the intersection.

Ragan Peck said the intersection should not be planned around pergola structures that may or may not be long term.

Joe Herrin made a motion to deny the application and cited guideline 2 (e). Anothony Salazar seconded the motion.

4 in favor; 2 opposed. The motion carried.

040623.3 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The board reviewed the meeting minutes of January 19, 2023.

Joe Herrin made a motion to approve the minutes as presents. Anthony Salazar seconded the motion.

6 in favor; 0 opposed. The motion carried.

040623.4 REPORT OF THE CHAIR

No report.

040623.5 REPORT OF THE STAFF

The staff provided draft revisions to the board election procedure. There was unanimous agreement among the board to continue planning for a mail in election process starting in 2023.

040623.6 REPORT OF THE COMMITTEES

Design Review Committee: The committee summarized its March 23, 2023 meeting in which it discussed the importance of building owner support, pergolas not overlapping adjacent storefronts, and maintaining space between them for pedestrian flow and egress. The committee shared the draft written guidance it had developed at the meeting.

040623.7 BOARD BUSINESS

The topics were re-ordered by the chair.

Review changes to election procedures: see Report of the Staff.

Design guidance for structures in the right of way:

Public comment:

Doug Farr of the Ballard Farmer's Market expressed appreciation for the board considering farmer's market operations in its discussions. He spoke in support of allowing a 12 foot depth from the curb rather than the 10 foot depth that the board's draft guidance outlined.

Brian Regan said he's invested significantly in building renovations in compliance with historic district standards and the pergolas detract from it. He spoke of concern about enforcement on non-compliant pergolas, private use of public space, and the role of political influences.

The board discussed whether and how to accommodate business' furniture storage needs while keeping the pergolas at an appropriate scale. The board was in favor of supporting the market's operational needs and allowing for a 12-foot depth in the farmer's market area only.

Joe Herrin made a motion to approve the board design guidance dated April 6 with the following amendments: recommended depth from curb is 12 feet in farmer's market zone only; additional guidance on power or electrical connections addressing safety and aesthetics. Tommy Patrick seconded the motion.

6 in favor; 0 opposed. The motion carried.

Election of Board officers:

The election had been postponed in July 2022 and again in January 2023.

Miriam Hinden made a motion for Kaia Wahmanholm to serve as chair and for herself to serve as vice chair until the next officer election, scheduled for July 2023. Richard Hiner seconded the motion.

6 in favor; 0 opposed. The motion carried.

Kaia Wahmanholm made a motion to adjourn. Anthony Salazar seconded the motion.

11:35 a.m. The meeting was adjourned by acclamation.

Submitted by Minh Chau Le, Board Coordinator