



## APPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING

**Mike McGinn**  
Mayor

**Diane Sugimura**  
Director, DPD

**Marshall Foster**  
Planning Director, DPD

**Julie Bassuk**  
Chair

**Graham Black**

**Malika Kirkling**

**Laurel Kunkler**

**Tom Nelson**

**Julie Parrett**

**Osama Quotah**

**Norie Sato**

**Donald Vehige**

**Valerie Kinast**  
Coordinator

**Tom Iurino**  
Senior Staff

**April 21, 2011**

Convened 10:00 am  
Adjourned 4:00 pm

### Projects Reviewed

Yesler Terrace Redevelopment  
Unico  
Active Voice Building  
DPD Planning Division Update

### Commissioners Present

Julie Bassuk, Chair  
Graham Black (excused from 3:00pm-4:00pm)  
Malika Kirkling  
Tom Nelson  
Osama Quotah (excused from 1:00pm-4:00pm)  
Norie Sato  
Donald Vehige (excused from 10:00am-12:00pm)

### Commissioners Excused

Julie Parrett  
Laurel Kunkler

### Incoming Commissioners Present

Debbie Wick-Harris

### Staff Present

Valerie Kinast  
Tom Iurino



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<b>April 21, 2011</b>	<b>Project:</b>	<b>Active Voice Building</b>
	<b>Phase:</b>	Skybridge
	<b>Last Reviewed:</b>	Mar 17, 2011
	<b>Presenters:</b>	Ben Barron, Clise Properties Jay Reeves, Sclater Partners Architects PC
	<b>Attendees:</b>	Beverly Barnett, SDOT Angela Steele, SDOT

**Time:** 2:30pm – 3:30pm

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## **PRESENTATION**

Clise, Inc. proposed removing an alley skybridge and replacing it with a new one extending across the alley diagonally so that it could meet ADA requirements. The proposed skybridge provided a connection between the parking garage on 5th Avenue and the office building on 6th Avenue. Clise offered a public benefit package that consisted of a little plaza and landscaping at the north end of the alley where Jazz Alley has its entrance.

At the last review, the Commission approved the schematic design, but asked the design of the skybridge be refined and the plaza elements be improved and extended.

Clise responded to the commission's review. The skybridge was simplified, the awnings and canopies were redesigned, the lighting extended down the alley, the paving proposal changed, two parking stalls removed, and the plaza elements adjusted.

## **ACTION**

**The Commission thanked the design team for its presentation of the Active Voice Building Skybridge and its response to the commissioners' previous comments. The commission appreciated the changes to the skybridge that made it appear less bulky than before. The commission also appreciated the deletion of the parking spaces and the planter/plinth at the entrance to the alley and the more public and pedestrian focused space that brings.**

**With a vote of 6-0, the Design Commission approved the skybridge proposal and public benefit package on the condition that street trees or an acceptable substitute will be placed along Lenora to enhance the streetscape and improve the pedestrian experience. The commission made the following recommendations:**

- **Refine the design to the Lenora Street side to add more character and panache. The Lenora streetscape is the most public part of the public benefit package since the improvements to the alley, while public facing, can also be perceived as more of a tenant amenity on private property. Also, with the new project across the street, the Lenora streetscape will be even more important and will help create interest and energy around the Active Voice Building.**
- **Work with SDOT to plant street trees along Lenora. If SDOT will not allow them, find alternatives to enhance the pedestrian experience along Lenora, such as landscaping, sculpture, art or other design elements. Send the design options to the commission for administrative review.**
- **Rethink the design, color, shape and material of the canopy. There is a clutter of language and elements in the canopy and awning; simplify them. Consider a lighter color to prevent heat gain underneath during the summer. Play with colored lighting, perhaps, under the canopy. Choose**

**another material if possible; fabric may not be the right language for awning, especially given the architectural language of the building.**

- **Choose sustainable materials for the lighting and the concrete, both composition of the mix and the color.**

**Commissioner Wick-Harris did not vote because she is not yet confirmed.**

**Commissioner Quotah was not present for the review and did not vote.**