April 14, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 3:03 p.m. with the following members and staff present:
· Mr. Greg Fountain, Chairman
· Mr. Gaius Bruce, Co-Chairman
· Ms. Sharon Bryant, Committee Member
· Ms. Joanne Connor, Committee Member
· Mr. Kenneth Walter, Committee Member (via teleconference)
· Ms. Leslie Statler, Planner I, Staff to the Committee

Absent:
· Mr. Shirley Brown, Committee Member
· Ms. Sarah Hernandez, Committee Advisor

Mr. Greg Fountain opened the meeting by asking if there was discussion of the minutes from the March 10, 2009 meeting. There was none and Ms. Joanne Connor moved to approve the minutes. Mr. Gaius Bruce seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously for approval.

The Board then moved on to consider the first item on the agenda.

The first case was tamteck Pools & Spa (2009-NAARB-008). Ms. Joy Blackmon, tamteck Pools & Spa, presented the project. She explained that her company wants to comply with the regulations as they reconstruct their sign. She told the Board that tamteck had received approval for a sign in 2007 and had not constructed the sign as it was approved. They would like to bring the sign into compliance and add the vinyl sign which had been on the site for years prior to the installation of the existing sign in 2007.

The Board discussed the existing posts and possible ways to cover the base of the sign. Ms. Sharon Bryant suggested painting the posts a flat black and adding landscaping along the base. Ms. Connor suggested pole covers. Ms. Bryant stated that if the landscaping was substantial enough, preferably evergreen shrubs with a mature height between 3 and 4 feet, it would hide the posts. Ms. Bryant suggested Indian Hawthorne and ligustrum. Ms. Connor asked staff about the animation on the reader board. Ms. Statler advised that the reader board was previously approved by NAARB. Ms. Connor asked about the dual sign face and whether signage would be attached to both elevations. Ms. Blackmon stated that they could place signage on both sides.

Mr. Fountain asked if the Board had further questions. They did not. Ms. Bryant moved to approve the freestanding sign as presented at the meeting with the conditions that the posts are cut to 12 feet in height and painted flat black, the sign is backed with plywood (4′ x 8′) painted flat black, and landscaping such as ligustrum is added at the base. Ms. Connor added that the new sign would include 2 vinyl sides – one on each sign face – and seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Ms. Statler then began the discussion of the Planning Department matters. She gave the Board updates on the compliance issues previously brought up by the Board. She stated that the tamteck sign was the last of the compliance cases in which the County had been successful in making contact with the property owner. She stated that the property owner for the other case (the former "Accent Interiors" location) has not responded to the County. Ms. Statler introduced the Board to Ms. Wendy Wadsworth, explained the creation of the Development Services Center, and Ms. Wadsworth's role in the Planning Department. She then told the Board that County staff would be reviewing the membership applications this week. Ms. Statler advised the Board of future cases, informing them of a new project on Laredo Street with Cracker-style cottages.

Ms. Susan Haddock asked the Board about the renovations occurring at Starr Automotive. She explained that they appear to be adding creosote poles around the eastern section of the property to form a retaining wall. She asked if that type of improvement was something to be considered by the Board. Ms. Statler said that she was not certain as to this Board's authority with respect to retaining walls but offered to seek a determination.

Mr. Fountain asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Bruce made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Bryant seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 3:31 p.m.

Minutes approved by the Board on May 12, 2009