



The City of Seattle

Pioneer Square Preservation Board

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

PSB 53/24

MINUTES for Wednesday, February 21, 2024

Board Members Present

Maureen Elenga
Sage Kim
Karl Mueller
Jose Lorenzo-Torres
Lindsay Pflugrath
Steven Sparks

Staff Present

Genna Nashem
Melinda Bloom

Board Members Absent

Kianoush Curran
Tyler Hall
Henry Watson

Chair Maureen Elenga called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Roll Call

022124.1 Public Comment
There was no public comment.

022124.2 Meeting Minutes
January 3, 2024
MM/SC/LP/JLT
Minutes approved. Mr. Sparks abstained

January 17, 2024
MM/SC/KM/SS
Minutes approved.

022124.3 Certificates of Approval

022124.31 Occidental Park Pavilion

117 S Washington St

Applicant: Seth Geiser, Downtown Seattle Association

Proposed: installation of a lighted art feature as part of the Winter 2024 Light Art Festival

Michael Johnson, Downtown Seattle Association proposed a lighted art feature and noted there would be no drilling into historic materials and no permanent installation or damage. He provided installation details and attachment parts. He said PVC chains will be strung down and will catch lighting from different angles. He said there would be no pulsating or strobe lighting just a smooth transition of colors to mimic the Northern Lights. The chains will not tangle together in the wind and will be strung high enough so there will be no impacts to or by pedestrians. He showed proposed placement of the 10' long x 7' wide structure.

Responding to clarifying questions Mr. Johnson said the lighting colors will be pink, purple, blue.

Mr. Sparks asked about possible vandalism issues.

Mr. Johnson said a similar installation was done in 2021 and there were no incidents of vandalism. He said that a couple other recent installations at the park had no issues of vandalism despite being up for a month. He said there is security in the park during the day but not at night.

Ms. Nashem reported that the Board saw a briefing on the project at the December 5, 2023, meeting. This installation will be on the pavilion in Occidental Park. There will be other displays inside ground floor spaces in Pioneer Square that staff can issue Administrative Certificates of Approval for temporary use. This will be like the Seattle Restored program in that some locations will activate vacant storefront spaces. While in the past the Board has not approved permanent colored lighting of building features as compatible with the District, they have approved colored lighting as part of a temporary art display.

Action: I move to recommend granting a Certificate of Approval for installation of a lighted art feature on the Occidental Pavilion as part of the Winter 2024 Light Art Festival, all per the applicant's submittal.

The Board directs staff to prepare a written recommendation of approval based on considering the application submittal and Board discussion at the February 21, 2024, public meeting and forward this written recommendation to the Department of Neighborhoods Director.

Code Citations:

Seattle Municipal Code

23.66.030 Certificates of Approval required

Certificate of approval required. No person shall alter, demolish, construct, reconstruct, restore, remodel, make any visible change to the exterior appearance of any structure, or to the public rights-of-way or other public spaces in a special review district, and no one shall remove or substantially alter any existing sign or erect or place any new sign or change the principal use of any building, or any portion of a building, structure or lot in a special review district, and no permit for such activity shall be issued unless a certificate of approval has been issued by the Department of Neighborhoods Director.

Rules for the Pioneer Square Preservation District

III. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR REHABILITATION AND NEW CONSTRUCTION

In addition to the Pioneer Square Preservation District Ordinance and Rules, The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation with Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings, and the complete series of Historic Buildings Preservation Briefs developed by the National Park Service shall serve as guidelines for proposed exterior alterations and treatments, rehabilitation projects, and new construction. (7/99)

Rehabilitation is defined as the act or process of making possible a compatible use for a property through repair, alterations, and additions while preserving those portions or features which convey its historical, cultural, or architectural values. (7/99) In considering rehabilitation projects, what is critical is the stabilization of significant historical detailing, respect for the original architectural style, and compatibility of scale and materials. New construction must be visually compatible with the predominant architectural styles, building materials and inherent historic character of the District. (7/99) Although new projects need not attempt to duplicate original facades, the design process ought to involve serious consideration of the typical historic building character and detail within the District.

Secretary of Interior's Standards

10. New additions and adjacent or related new construction will be taken in such a manner that, if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

MM/SC/KM/SC

7:0:0

Motion carried.

022124.32 **Pioneer Park**

100 Yesler

Applicant: Emily Hanson Seattle Parks and Recreation

Proposed: Replacement planting of trees

Postponed.

022124.4 **Board Business**

022124.5 **Report of the Chair**

022124.6 **Staff Report:** Genna Nashem

Ms. Nashem reported there were no administrative approvals since the last board meeting.

Genna Nashem

Pioneer Square Preservation Board Coordinator