



**MINUTES
OF
THE REGULAR MEETING OF
SIGN BOARD OF APPEALS
OF
CITY OF ANN ARBOR**

July 10, 2001

The regular meeting of the Sign Board of Appeals was held on Tuesday, July 10, 2001 at 3:00 p.m. in the Fourth Floor Conference Room of City Hall, 100 N. Fifth Avenue, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

- I. The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. by Chairman Steve Schweer.
- II. Roll Call:

Members Present: (5) S. Schweer, R. Lilienfeld, S. Knight, C. Brummer
G. Barnett, Jr.

Members Absent: (2) S. Olsen, B. Brown

Staff Present: (3) P. Hastings, R. Heemstra, L. Bowen
- III. Approval of minutes

S. Knight moved, supported by R. Lilienfeld to approve the minutes of June 12, 2001 The minutes were approved unanimously.
- IV. APPEALS & ACTION - UNFINISHED

None.
- V. APPEALS & ACTION - NEW

1. 2001-S-2, 106 N. Fourth Avenue

Variance from the non-conforming section of the code to allow a change of copy to a projecting sign that exceeds the maximum allowable projection of 4 ft. from the place of attachment by 4 ft. for a total projection of 8 ft. from the wall.
(Chapter 61, Section 5:516) Zone C2A.

Ivars Upatnieks was there to speak on behalf of this appeal

Staff Report

This structure clears the sidewalk grade by a minimum of 9 ft. 8 in. from the bottom of the sign. The site is entitled to 44 sq. ft. of signage. The existing sign is approximately 60 sq. ft.

History

File records indicate this has been a commercial building since 1933.

Discussion

I. Upatnieks explained the request.

S. Schweer stated the history of the building was read.

Mark Newton stated this sign has been up a very long time.

S. Schweer stated this sign is not the original sign.

C. Brummer asked when this building was designated as a historical building?

I. Upatnieks stated he did not know when this was designated as a historical building.

C. Brummer stated the Board would need to hear this is part of the historic fabric to preserve this sign.

Joan Bloss stated she does not agree with the request, the request seems excessive.

G. Barnett, Jr. suggested the telephone communications received regarding this appeal be noted in the record.

After further discussion;

R. Lilienfeld moved to vote on the issue, **G Brummer** supported.

R. Lilienfeld moved, supported by C. Brummer to grant a variance from the non-conforming section of the code to allow a change of copy to a projecting sign that exceeds the maximum allowable projection of 4 ft. from the place of attachment by 4 ft. for a total projection of 8 ft. from the wall

The vote to grant the variance was as follows:

Ayes: (0) None

Nays: (4) S. Schweer, R. Lilienfeld, C. Brummer, G. Barnett, Jr.

Absent : (2) S. Olsen, B. Brown

S Knight did not vote on behalf of this request due to an emotional attachment.

Motion carried. Variance denied as stated.

2. 2001-S-3, 603 E. Liberty

Variance from the prohibited signs section of the code to allow the chase (or follow) lights on the theater marquee to blink creating the illusion of movement. (Chapter 61, Section 5:508) Zone C2A.

Gayle Steiner was present to speak on behalf of this appeal.

Staff Report

Staff is not opposed to this request based on the fact that the chase lights are an integral part of the original marquee.

History

File records reveal that the Michigan Theater was built in 1928. The City of Ann Arbor purchased the building in 1979.

Discussion

G. Steiner explained request

S. Schweer stated the marquee has been changed, the beauty of the building is being preserved, not that the building requires the flashing lights.

G. Barnett stated the flashing lights add to the feeling of the theater.

R. Lilienfeld asked if the theater only show historical films.

Members on the Board agreed the theater also shows modern films.

S. Knight gave the example regarding the music at the horse races giving same effect as the chasing lights at the theater.

S. Schweer suggested it is stated in the variance that the lights only chase 30 min. to 45 min before the show.

After further discussion, the Board decided.

R. Lilienfeld moved, supported by C. Brummer to grant a variance from the prohibited signs section of the code to allow the chase (or follow) lights on the theater marquee to blink creating the illusion of movement was granted with the following contingencies:

- 1. To allow the chase (or follow) lights on the theater marquee to blink creating the illusion of movement for a period of 15 minutes for each feature presentation per day.**

The vote to grant the variance was as follows:

Ayes: (5) S. Schweer, R. Lilienfeld, S. Knight, C. Brummer, G. Barnett, Jr.

Nays: (0) None

Absent: (2) S. Olsen, B. Brown

Motion carried. Variance granted as stated.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2309 Packard, discussion regarding the sign being changed to what the variance allows.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

S Schweer expressed he was pleased with the amendments to the sign ordinance.

VIII. REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS

None.

IX. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION - GENERAL

None.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, R Lilienfeld moved that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 3:56 p.m. by Chairman Steve Schweer.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynn Bowen
Lynn Bowen Secretary
Sign Board of Appeals

Steve Schweer, Chairman

Dated

7-10-01.SBA Minutes