

Bay State Road/Back Bay West Architectural Conservation District Commission
Public Hearing Minutes
Boston City Hall, Room 709
Boston, Massachusetts, 02201
March 27, 2018

Commissioners Present: Pamela Beale, Ruel Longfellow, Terri North, Victor Themo, and Richard Yeager

Commissioners Not Present: Thomas Hotaling

Staff Present: Joseph Cornish, Director of Design Review

5:10 PM Commissioner Themo called the public hearing to order.

Review and Ratification of 8/8/2017 Public Hearing Minutes

Commissioner Longfellow initiated the motion to approve the minutes and Commissioner Beale seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Design Review

18.929 BSR

610 Beacon Street: Installation of a freestanding sign at the plaza located at the intersection of Beacon Street and Bay State Road.

Representative: Judy Kohn, Paul Rinaldi, Ken Ryan and James Loftus

The applicant presented current condition photographs and plans for the proposed project. Commission members discussed the previous wall sign at this address, the location of the proposed sign, adding additional signage explaining that the plaza is a public park, and concerns about Bay State Road being mistaken for the university's campus.

In conclusion the Commission voted to approve the application with the provisos citing that the proposed black wrought iron sign posts are compatible with the surrounding landscape features and street furnishings, and that the sign's colors and design are consistent with similar signage on the campus of Boston University; however, it stipulated that a second sign be installed that identifies that the plaza is owned by the City of Boston but maintained by Boston University. Approval of the second sign was remanded to staff. Commissioner Beale initiated the motion and Commissioner North seconded the motion. The vote was 4-1.

18.1016 BSR

Bay State Road/Charlesgate West: Installation of a cement sidewalk expansion at the intersection of Bay State Road, Beacon Street and

Charlesgate West to accommodate safety and pedestrian improvements at this location.

Representative: Judy Kohn and William Conroy

The applicant presented current condition photographs and plans for the proposed project. Commission members discussed the increased safety that this project will provide for pedestrians crossing the street, and will help reduce traffic speeds on Bay State Road.

In conclusion the Commission voted to approve the application as presented citing that while the Standards and Criteria for the district prefer the use of granite and brick for sidewalks, the proposed concrete paving is consistent with the existing concrete paving at this area of the district. Commissioner Longfellow initiated the motion and Commissioner Beale seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0.

Administrative Review/Approval

Work that staff reviewed (conforms to standards and criteria) for administrative approval:

- | | |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 18.911 BSR | <u>589 Beacon Street</u> : At front façade and rear elevation repoint masonry and repair deteriorated brown stone elements, and replace copper downspout in-kind. |
| 18.910 BSR | <u>587 Beacon Street</u> : At front façade and rear elevation repoint masonry and repair deteriorated brown stone elements, and replace copper downspout in-kind. |

Commissioner Themo read the above item into the record to approve. Commissioner Longfellow initiated the motion and Commissioner Beale seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously 5-0.

5:50 PM Commissioner Themo adjourned the public hearing.