



**FORT POINT CHANNEL LANDMARK DISTRICT COMMISSION  
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES**

*Held virtually via Zoom*

**SEPTEMBER 10, 2020**

**Commissioners Present:** David Berarducci, John Karoff, Lynn Smiledge

**Commissioners Absent:** Susan Goganian, Thomas Rodde

**Staff Present:** Joseph Cornish, Director of Design Review

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**6:00 PM** D. Berarducci called the public hearing to order.

**I. DESIGN REVIEW**

**APP # 21.0141 FPC**

**44 FARNSWORTH STREET**

Applicant: T-C Fort Point Creative Exchange LLC

Proposed work: At the Farnsworth Street façade main entrance, construct new entrance portal with new stone, storefront doors, and signage; and replace granite pavers with brick.

The project representatives were Bruce Clifford, Robina Shepperd, Olivia Gulotti, and other members of the Fusion architectural team. They began the presentation by showing photographs of similar entryways around the neighborhood and the existing conditions of the ground floor storefront. They also provided explanation for the design changes based on Commissioner feedback during Advisory Review.

The granite will have a flamed, uniform finish throughout. The project team also noted that the ceiling of the entry will not be granite but painted. L. Smiledge noted that the change in font between the blade sign, the rug, and the above door signage seems disjointed. She suggested that the fonts be consistent (contain serifs). J. Karoff agreed but thought the sans serif font is more appropriate. D. Berarducci thought the sans serif “44” blade sign reflected a more contemporary feel and suggested it be replicated over the door.

The Commissioners next discussed the blade sign but noted that internal illumination is not typically approvable. The project team argued that the internal illumination enhanced the building and the streetscape. They also suggested it is warranted due to Farnsworth Street being closed off from Seaport Boulevard. D. Berarducci suggested that the illumination should be as possible and a warm glow rather than blue-white LED. The project team agreed to a dimmer for the blade sign.

The Commissioners and the project team briefly discussed incorporating a granite curb below each sidelight, but ultimately determined that the curbing would detract from the clean lines of the opening.



During public comment Sara McCammond wondered why the proposed design looks very different from the rest of the street. D. Berarducci explained that the Commission felt that the building (showing postmodern details) was a rather standalone example lacking historic context (built in the 1980s). The Commission determined that the building did not need to echo design details from other buildings along the street.

J. Karoff asked about the removal of the granite. The sidewalk will be infilled with brick with a running bond to match the rest of the sidewalk.

**L. Smiledge motioned to approve the application as presented with the proviso that the applicant submit revised drawings to staff showing revisions at the transom signage relative to the blade signage; and that the blade sign lighting will be on a dimmer and the output of light be a warm tone rather than cool tone. J. Karoff seconded the motion. The vote was 3-0 (Y: DB, JK, LS) (N: None) (Absent: SG, TR).**

## II. ADVISORY REVIEW

### 22 BOSTON WHARF ROAD

Proposed work: Construct a head house and roof deck.

The Advisory Review item was postponed.

## III. ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW/ APPROVAL

**APP # 20.797 FPC 300 A STREET:** Install new HVAC mechanicals at the roof (modify Certificate of Design Approval). **Moved from Design Review.**

**APP # 21.0136 FPC 332 CONGRESS STREET:** At the Congress Street façade above the main entrance, replace rotted wood and caulking in kind and paint to match existing.

**D. Berarducci motioned to approve the Administrative Review applications as submitted. L. Smiledge seconded the motion. The vote was 3-0 (Y: DB, JK, LS) (N: None) (Absent: SG, TR).**

## IV. RATIFICATION OF 8/13/2020 FPCLDC PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

Ratification of meeting minutes was postponed.

## V. ADJOURNMENT: 6:38 PM



City of Boston  
Environment



City of Boston  
Mayor Martin J. Walsh

**L. Smiledge motioned to adjourn the meeting. J. Karoff seconded the motion. The vote was 3-0 (Y: DB, JK, LS) (N: None) (Absent: SG, TR).**