

Design Review Commission Meeting

12.11.2025

The Design Review Commission meeting on December 11, 2025, approved the minutes from the previous meeting and discussed a signage change application from Rosenberg Candies. The proposed signage meets Historic District guidelines and includes future gooseneck lighting. The Commission agreed to preliminarily approve the lighting to avoid future meetings. Rob Kairis discussed proposed changes to the application process, including shortening the review period to 30 days and two meetings. The Commission decided to review these changes at their January 8, 2026, meeting, with the possibility of postponing the Council's decision until February. Larry Silenius commended the Commission for their speedy approval of Rosenberg's signage.

Outline

Roll Call and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- Lou Dudek calls the December 11, 2025, Design Review Commission meeting to order and asks for the roll call for the Commission members and who is present at the meeting.
- Julie Ring, Secretary, calls on the presence of Lou Dudek, Mr. Manfrass, Ms. Reedy, Mr. Madanio, Mr. Hummel, Ms. Kane, and Mr. Soudil.
- Lou Dudek motions to excuse the absences of Ms. Reedy, Mr. Soudil, and Mr. Manfrass, which is proposed by Eric Hummel and seconded by Patrick Madonio. It was approved by the members that were present.
- Lou Dudek asks for any changes or corrections to the minutes of the last meeting, which are approved after a motion by Patrick Madonio and seconded by Diana Kane. It was approved by the members that were present.

New Business: Rosenberg Candies Signage Change

- Lou Dudek introduced a new business item regarding an application from Rosenberg Candies for a signage change.
- Julie Ring reads a statement from Cliff, supporting the signage change and praising Rosenberg Candies for their contributions to the downtown Historic Business District.
- Cliff Soudil stated that the period-correct gooseneck lighting that Rosenberg's want to place above the sign in the future, will be tasteful, bright, and within the guidelines for the Historic District.
- The Commission approves the signage change and lighting plan, with a preliminary okay to be finalized by Mr. Finney during the final inspection.

Discussion on Signage and Lighting Details

- Eric Hummel and others couldn't read what Mr. Finney had stated on the application with the measurements and wording from his review.
- Eric Hummel also expressed his concerns about the feasibility of installing gooseneck lighting under the awning.
- Lou Dudek suggests letting Bob Finney handle the lighting approval to avoid the need for a future meeting.

Old Business: Review of 1434 Application Process Changes

- Lou Dudek asks if there is any old business to discuss, and Rob Kairis mentions the need to review changes to the 1434 application process.
- Rob Kairis explains that the Committee of the Whole will approve the changes, which include shortening the time for decision-making and removing an automatic approval provision after three meetings.
- Rob Kairis suggests that the Design Review Commission provide input on these changes before they are finalized by the Council.
- Eric Hummel asks about the process for making changes to the 1434 code, and Rob Kairis explains that the Council has sole responsibility for code changes but should consider input from the Commission.

Concerns and Recommendations on 1434 Changes

- Patrick Madonio expresses concerns about the 30-day timeframe for decision-making, especially if the first meeting requires additional information.
- Rob Kairis clarifies that the changes aim to expedite the process but acknowledges the need for sufficient time for thorough review.
- Lou Dudek suggests setting up a meeting to review the changes and provide input.
- Rob Kairis recommends delaying the council's decision on the changes until the next meeting in February, allowing the Commission more time to review and provide input.

Scheduling of Future Meetings and Final Adjournment

- Lou Dudek agrees to delay the decision until the January 8th meeting, with the possibility of adjusting the schedule if necessary.
- Julie Ring confirms the availability of the January 8th meeting date for the discussion on the 1434 changes.
- Larry Silenius, a member of the public, thanks the commission for their speedy approval of Rosenberg's signage change.
- Eric Hummel motions to adjourn the meeting, which is seconded by Patrick Madonio and approved by all members.

Prepared by Julianne Ring. Meeting adjourned at 10:28 a.m.