

City of Alamo Heights
ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD
MINUTES
August 20, 2024

The Architectural Review Board held a regular meeting at the Council Chambers of the City of Alamo Heights, located at 6116 Broadway St, San Antonio, Texas, and via Zoom with teleconference on Tuesday, August 20, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.

Members present and composing a quorum of the Board:

John Gaines, Chairman
Adam Kiehne
Grant McFarland
Clay Hagendorf, Alternate

Members absent:

Ashley Armes
Larry Gottsman
Phil Solomon
Lyndsay Thorn
Mac White, Alternate

Staff members present:

Buddy Kuhn, City Manager
Lety Hernandez, Director of Community Development Services

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gaines at 5:35 p.m.

Mr. Kiehne made a motion to approve the May 21, 2024, June 18, 2024, and July 16, 2024 meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Hagendorf seconded the motion.

The motion was approved with the following vote:

FOR: Gaines, Kiehne, McFarland, Hagendorf
AGAINST: None

Case No. 945F

Request of Marcello Martinez of 1718 Architecture, applicant, representing Michael Smolka, owner, for the compatibility review of the proposed design located at 254 Retama Pl in order to construct a new two-story detached accessory structure under Demolition Review Ordinance No. 1860 (April 12, 2010).

Ms. Hernandez presented the case. Mr. and Mrs. Smolka, owners, were present and addressed the board.

Open discussion followed about the rationale for demolishing the existing garage. Key points included the damage caused by a heritage tree growing into the structure and the garage's insufficient size to accommodate two vehicles. The board commended the applicant for the significant community support received and agreed that the proposed structure was compatible with the neighborhood.

Chairman Gaines opened the public hearing at 5:45 p.m. No one requested to speak regarding the case so the public hearing was closed.

Mr. McFarland moved to recommend approval of the proposed design as compatible. Mr. Kiehne seconded the motion.

The motion was approved with the following vote:
FOR: Gaines, Kiehne, McFarland, Hagendorf
AGAINST: None

Case No. 944F

Request of Laurie Saunders of The Bark Park of Alamo Heights, Inc., represented by the City of Alamo Heights, for the final design review of the proposed free-standing gazebo on the properties located at 103-105 Alamo Heights Blvd, also known as the Bark Park, under Chapter 2 Administration for Architectural Review.

Mr. Kuhn presented the case and addressed the board.

Open discussion followed regarding the need for shade in the area and the beauty of the structure.

Those present and speaking regarding the case were as follows:

- Bruce Selcraig, 825 W Mistletoe Ave
- Lynne Brewer, 86 Haverwell Way
- Eleanor Seiferth, 12 Laurel Pl
- Beatrice McFadden, 503 Alamo Heights Blvd
- Christopher Frayer, Address not provided

Comments from those speaking on the case sought clarification on several aspects, including the placement of the structure, the open design that would allow dogs to pass through, and the materials proposed for the pathway.

Chairman Gaines closed the public hearing at 6:05p.m as there was no one else who wished to speak regarding the case.

Mr. McFarland moved to recommend approval as presented with condition that due consideration be given to requirements of the Federal Government in form of the American Disabilities Act and to environmental impact of selection of pathway materials in the City Manager's discretion and judgement.

The motion was approved with the following vote:
FOR: Gaines, Kiehne, McFarland, Hagendorf
AGAINST: None


There being no further business, Mr. Hagendorf moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Kiehne seconded the motion followed by unanimous consent from the board. The meeting was adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING ARE ALSO DIGITALLY RECORDED, AND THESE MINUTES ARE ONLY A SUMMARY OF THE MEETING. THESE MINUTES ARE NOT A VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT OF THE PROCEEDINGS AND DO NOT PURPORT TO INCLUDE ALL IMPORTANT EVIDENCE PRESENTED OR STATEMENTS MADE.



John Gaines, Chairman
(Board Approval)

9/24/24
Date Signed & Filed



Dakotah Procell, Planner,
Community Development Services