

**Montpelier Design Review Committee Meeting
October 1, 2018**

This public meeting was recorded, and the video will be available for viewing at:
<http://www.montpelier-vt.org/416/City-Meeting-Videos>

Present: Steve Everett, Eric Gilbertson, Hannah Smith, Seth Mitchell, Ben Cheney (alternate), Meredith Crandall - staff. (Seth Mitchell arrived during the Wayfinding review)

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Steve Everett.

Approval of the agenda: Eric made a motion to approve the agenda, Ben seconded. The motion passed on a 4-0 vote.

Comments from the Chair: There were no comments from the Chair.

28 School Street

**Owner: John Russell Applicant: Maria Stouffer
Replace signage.**

This was tabled. Staff will reschedule with Applicant.

50 State Street

**Owner: Steve Everett Applicant: Salaam Boutique/Andrea Miksic
Review new sign.**

The applicant was not present, tabled until Staff reschedules with Applicant.

**Downtown light poles
Montpelier Alive!**

These banners will be in the same location as the film festival signs that are up for a month. They are 2 feet by 1.5 feet. These Banners are linked to the Wayfinding Master Plan, but are expected to be ordered and installed in the near term. The Committee had no substantive recommendations on these banners.

**Wayfinding Master Plan
Montpelier Alive!**

This was the first application to be reviewed. Dan Groberg, from Montpelier Alive! was present and called John Seeley, the consultant on a conference call.

Meredith mentioned that these two Montpelier Alive! projects didn't need DRC approval, it's just a courtesy review for feedback.

Project has already received approval from the State for the project, including the vehicular signage, and approval from the City Council. DPW is coordinating on signage that is within

their jurisdiction. Applicant is looking for feedback from the DRC. The project will go out to bid in October and Applicant aims to have the signage up by end of 2019.

The idea is to provide consistent sign language within the downtown area for pedestrian and vehicular traffic and make sure they are compliant with any rules. The kiosks haven't been fleshed out yet as to what information will be on them, but the concept includes maps and public art. The fonts on the signage and Monument were chosen with the purpose of looking to the future of the City.

Public comments came from Steve Whitaker, who noted that he doesn't want the signage to make downtown Montpelier look like a mall.

The Committee Members commented:

- That the colors as represented in the presentation appeared to conflict with historic buildings;
- That the purpose and location of the ID monument at the intersection of Memorial Drive and Main Street was unclear, and expressed some concerns with the overall design features – such as fonts chosen;
- That certain “district” names represented would need to be changed to reflect common usage; and
- That the Committee would appreciate the chance to review actual color choices (e.g., paint chips), sign placement and content when the next stage of development is available.

100 State Street

Owner: Capitol Plaza Corporation Applicant: City of Montpelier
Review new proposal for parking garage.

Greg Rabideau from Rabideau Architects was present. The garage lot will be subdivided from the Hampton Inn portion and the Heney lot on which the city has a long term lease. Mr. Rabideau provided a general design overview, though concentrating mostly on the southern elevation and viewsheds.

Messrs. Mitchell and Gilbertson had several questions regarding the arch below the artwork on the southern elevation, and recommended that other shapes be explored, and that if the arch remained – that it be designed to look like a functioning arch.

The Committee ran out of time and continued the hearing on 100 State Street until October 15, 2018.

Review minutes from September 17, 2018: The minutes will be reviewed at the next meeting since they ran out of time.

Other business: The next meeting will be Monday, October 15, 2018.

Adjournment: Eric made a motion to adjourn, Hannah seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

Tami Furry
Recording Secretary