

**AGENDA
KNOXVILLE DOWNTOWN DESIGN REVIEW BOARD
MEETING OF APRIL 21, 2010 - SMALL ASSEMBLY ROOM, 4:00 P.M.**

- ♦Call to Order
- ♦Introduction of Ex Officio Members and Visitors
- ♦[Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting](#)
- ♦Certificates of Appropriateness
- ♦Staff Report
- ♦Other Business

Certificates of Appropriateness:

[Certificate No. 2-C-10-DT](#)

415 S Gay St - 415 S Gay Street (revision) (David Randle)
Pre-development meeting: N/A

Description of Work

This is a revision to Certificate 9-B-09-DT for the façade renovation at 415 S Gay Street. This request is to modify the second floor window openings because the floor height is above the bottom of the existing window opening. The approved second floor windows require that the existing window openings remain without infilling any portion of the window opening. This requirement is not practical with building code requirements. The applicant is proposing to infill 1 foot 6 inches of the bottom of the window opening with a wood panel, as shown in the attached drawing. The panel will be constructed out of plywood with the trim made out of 1x4 to create the panel look. This will bring the bottom of the window opening even with the existing second story floor level.

Staff Comments

Staff finds that the proposal meets the intent of the guidelines and the direction from the board.

Staff Recommendation

Approve Certificate 2-C-10-DT without conditions.

[Certificate No. 4-A-10-DT](#)

428 S Gay St - Sapphire (Phire Knoxville, LLC)
Pre-development meeting: N/A

Description of Work

This proposal is for a projecting sign that is 2 feet wide by 8 feet tall, or 16 square feet. The sign will be attached to the building vertically by two brackets above the existing awning, between the second floor windows, as seen in the attached images.

The body of the sign is made of metal and the letters will be made of acrylic. There are two layers to the sign which can be seen in the side view in the attached drawings. There will be blue neon between the inner and outer layer to give a halo effect. There will be white neon behind the white acrylic letters, which are on the outer layer.

Staff Comments

This property is located within the National Register Gay Street Commercial Historic District, which means it must meet the sign requirements of Section 1.C.7 Historic Resources (Recommended Signs) and Section 2.B.1 Traditional Grid District (Recommended Signs), of the guidelines. Both sections recommend that projecting signs be no larger than 9 square feet, unless the board feels it is appropriate in context to the surrounding development. There is a projecting sign on the neighboring building that is of similar size and location on the building, as proposed.

The historic resources section also states that signs should not have internal illumination and that signs should be proportional to the building where the sign is located. This sign does have internal illumination but it is done in a fashion that has been acceptable to the board in previous requests (Gridiron Burger and DIA), which is to only allow light to penetrate the sign face to illuminate the letters only. A sign larger than the required 9 square feet should, in general, be located higher on a building to be in scale with the intention of being pedestrian oriented. This sign will be at approximately the same height as a neighboring sign of similar size which appears to staff to be at an appropriate height.

Staff Recommendation

APPROVE Certificate 4-A-10-DT as the Board determines appropriate for the sign size.

Staff Report:

Other Business: