Village Planning Committee Meeting Summary Z-47-20-7

Date of VPC Meeting November 9, 2020

Request From DTC-Warehouse HP

Request To DTC-Warehouse

Proposed Use Removal of the Historic Preservation overlay

Location Northeast corner of 5th Avenue and Jackson Street

VPC Recommendation Approval, per the staff recommendation

VPC Vote 14-0

VPC DISCUSSION & RECOMMENDED STIPULATIONS:

Kevin Weight, with the Historic Preservation Office, presented an overview of the request and history of the site, displayed historic and current photographs, and reviewed the historic eligibility requirements and staff's recommendation.

Chair Rachel Frazier Johnson asked for clarification on the address. **Mr. Weight** confirmed it was 219 South 5th Avenue and the staff report will be changed to reflect the correct address.

Vice Chair Janey Pearl Starks asked how often historic property owners apply for economic hardship. **Mr. Weight** stated that they are rare instances, in the 23 years he has worked in the Historic Preservation Office he has seen around 6 or 7 applications be approved. Mr. Weight continued that they work with many property owners to get grant money for improvements but after the storm damaged the site in 2018, the Historic Preservation Office was out of grant money to help.

Public Comment:

None.

Motion:

Dana Johnson motioned to recommend approval of Z-47-20, per the staff recommendation. **Chris Colyer** seconded the motion.

Discussion:

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Zach Burns expressed concern about this request and instances where property owners could potentially work around the system and demolish historic buildings and asked if there are any mechanisms to prevent demolition of historic buildings. **Mr. Weight** responded that in the past they used grant money to help historic properties, which has now been exhausted, and they are hopeful to create more mechanisms to prevent demolition of historic properties.

Vote

14-0, Motion to approve passed, with Committee Members R. Johnson, Starks, Burns, Colyer, Dubasik, Johnson, Langley, Lockhart, Olivas, Panetta, Rainey, Sonoskey, Stark and Uss in favor.

STAFF COMMENTS REGARDING VPC RECOMMENDATION & STIPULATIONS:

None.