



**ACCESS APPEALS COMMISSION
MINUTES
Regular Meeting Wednesday, December 22, 2010**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by President Ellsworth at 1:20 P.M.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. William Scott Ellsworth, President
Mr. Ronald Vernali, Vice-President
Mr. Walter Park
Ms. Alyce G. Brown
Mr. Arnie Lerner

CITY REPRESENTATIVES:

Mr. Tom Fessler, Secretary
Ms. Teresita Sulit, Recording Secretary

2. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes for the December 8, 2010 meeting were approved unanimously, with amendments requested by Commissioner Brown.

3. REVIEW OF COMMUNICATIONS ITEMS:

Secretary Fessler reported that Commissioners Ellsworth and Lerner were reappointed to the Access Appeals Commission, with terms expiring on November 1, 2014.

Appeal #10-09 555 California Street was withdrawn by the applicant. An email was received by the secretary stating the building owners were going to provide two permanent van parking spaces. Because the spaces will be fully code compliant, no appeal is need.

4. NEW APPEAL: APPEAL #10-10

300 JEFFERSON STREET

Architect Ahmad Mohazab representing Lou's Fish Shack at 300 Jefferson Street described the proposed project as exterior face lift, interior customer area improvements, renovated bathrooms, new interior stairway, accessibility upgrades to all public areas and an article 15 lift to the second floor. The Port of San Francisco denied the use of an article 15 lift for vertical access to the second floor. This denial facilitated the appeal to the commission. The applicant is requesting the

commission grant an unreasonable hardship for the use of a lift for vertical access to the second floor.

Mr. Mohazab went on to describe the practical difficulties of providing a fully compliant elevator including the interior layout, locating an elevator machine room, the need to upgrade the electrical supply and excavation of an elevator pit which may involve contaminated soil. He also revised the appeal by proposing the use of a LuLa elevator instead of an article 15 lift.

The commission heard testimony for and against granting the hardship. Because the change to a different lift much of the information in the review packet was no longer relevant. Other questions surrounded the need to install a new electrical transformer and its related cost. The commissioners felt more information and time was required.

Commissioner Park motioned to continue the appeal to January 5, 2011. The motion passed.

President Ellsworth-Yes

Vice-President Vernali- Yes

Commissioner Park-Yes

Commissioner Brown-Yes

Commissioner Lerner-Yes

5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER

There was no discussion.

6. COMMISSIONER'S AND STAFF'S QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

The commissioners were pleased to receive news that the ownership of 555 California was withdrawing its appeal and two fully compliant van parking stalls would be provided. The commission asked the secretary to report on the progress and completion of permits addressing disabled access issues at this address. The secretary assured the commission he would keep them informed. Commissioners Ellsworth and Lerner were congratulated on their reappointment to the commission.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

Thomas Fessler, Building Inspector
Department of Building Inspection
Secretary to the Access Appeals Commission