



ACCESS APPEALS COMMISSION
MINUTES
Regular Meeting Wednesday, August 13, 2008

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting of the Access Appeals Commission was called to order by President Baltimore at 1:07 P.M.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Roslyn Baltimore, President
Mr. Walter Park, Vice-President
Mr. Arnie Lerner

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. Jurgen Dostert
Ms. Alyce G. Brown

CITY REPRESENTATIVES: Ms. Elaine Warren, Deputy City Attorney
Mr. Rick Halloran, Acting Secretary
Ms. Nancy Curvino, Acting Recording Secretary
Ms. Doris M. Levine, Reporter

2. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

(This item was postponed by President Baltimore until after item 4.)

President Baltimore made a motion to adopt the minutes of January 9, 2008. The minutes of June 11, 2008 were adopted as submitted.

3. REVIEW OF COMMUNICATION ITEMS

(This item was postponed by President Baltimore until after item 4.)

The Secretary reported that the appellant for 71 Stevenson asked for a continuance until September 10, 2008.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR: Appeal No. 08-06 (Old Appeal No. 93-23,24,25,26) Embarcadero Center 1-4

Mr. Skip Soskin, A.I.A. representing Boston Properties (appellant) stated that the Plan Review Services of the Building Department will no longer accept the prior decision of the Access Appeals Commission from 1993 due to the fact that the decision has no expiration date. Mr. Soskin stated that his intention for this consent calendar item is to receive a new letter with an expiration date.

Commissioner Park asked Mr. Soskin if the owners had any plans to replace the revolving doors and if there were any unreasonable hardships associated with the possible replacement of these doors. Mr. Soskin replied that the owners had no plans to alter the doors and that he believed there were no physical barriers preventing their replacement.

President Baltimore suggested that the appellant propose a plan to improve the existing signage and present a phased program for replacing the doors. Further discussion was held by Commissioners Park and Lerner regarding signage, path of travel, what facilities are located on the floors in question, location and visibility of the adjacent accessible doors, and hours and availability of guards when the doors are locked. President Baltimore stressed the importance of improving the signage at the doors.

Commissioner Park recommended that the appellant return in two weeks with more definitive floor plans and suggestions on how to address the Commission's concerns.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR: Appeal No. 08-07 (Old Appeal No. 98-03)**71 Stevenson Street**

At the request of the appellant, this matter was postponed until September 10, 2008 by unanimous vote of the commission.

6. COMMISSIONERS' AND STAFFS' QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

The commissioners held a discussion on Rule 4 (g) Agenda Packets and rule 5 (b) Method of Appeal in the RULES OF THE ACCESS APPEALS COMMISSION CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO. Issues of electronic documents submittals and copyright protection were discussed. Deputy City Attorney Elaine Warren outlined changes made to Rule 4, subsections (f) and (g); and Rule 5, subsection (b). Discussion was held regarding rule 5 and the reduction of paper by means of electronic submittals. Ms. Warren clarified the Health And Safety Code laws regarding public inspection and disclosure of official plans. Commissioner Park stated that he would like to come back to this issue with a proposal that certain sections of the packets be required to be submitted in electronic form.

President Baltimore requested that staff check the dates for the upcoming meeting regarding destination based elevators and make sure that the persons who had represented the sight impaired community at past AAC meetings be contacted to make sure they can attend.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no further public comment.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

Upon determination that there was no further public comment, Commissioner Baltimore moved for adjournment. Meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Neil Friedman, Senior Building Inspector
Department of Building Inspection
Secretary to the Access Appeals Commission