

**DESIGN REVIEW BOARD**  
**City of Miami Beach, Florida**

MEETING DATE: September 6, 2016

FILE NO: DRB0716-0042

PROPERTY: **7310 Harding Avenue**

APPLICANT: Harding Hotel LLC.

LEGAL: Lots 5 and 6 of Block 8 of 'TOWNSITE OF HARDING', according to the plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 34 Page 4, of the Public Records of Miami-Dade County, Florida.

IN RE: The applicant, Harding Hotel LLC., is requesting Design Review Approval for the installation of a sign on an existing two-story structure, including variances to relocate a flat sign above the ground floor and to exceed the maximum allowable sign area.

**ORDER**

The applicant filed an application with the City of Miami Beach Planning Department for Design Review Approval and for one or more variances.

The City of Miami Beach Design Review Board makes the following FINDINGS OF FACT, based upon the evidence, information, testimony and materials presented at the public hearing and which are part of the record for this matter:

**I. Design Review**

- A. The Board has jurisdiction pursuant to Section 118-252(a) of the Miami Beach Code. The property is not located within a designated local historic district and is not a individually designated historic site.
- B. Based on the plans and documents submitted with the application, testimony and information provided by the applicant, and the reasons set forth in the Planning Department Staff Report, the project as submitted is inconsistent with Design Review Criteria 2, 3, 5, 6, and 9 in Section 118-251 of the Miami Beach Code.
- C. The project would be consistent with the criteria and requirements of section 118-251 if the following conditions are met:
  1. Revised elevation, site plan and floor plan drawings shall be submitted to and reviewed by staff, at a minimum, such drawings shall incorporate the following:
    - a. The proposed signage shall be composed of individual pin-mounted lettering and all electrical conduits and exterior lighting elements shall be hidden from view. No exterior raceways shall be permitted. The final details of the signage shall be submitted in a manner to be reviewed and approved by staff

consistent with the Design Review Criteria and/or the directions from the Board.

- b. Any fence or gate at the front of the property and within the required front yard shall be designed in a manner consistent with the architecture of the existing building, be highly transparent in nature, shall be submitted in a manner to be reviewed and approved by staff consistent with the Design Review Criteria and/or the directions from the Board.
  - c. An exterior lighting plan shall be designed and demonstrate that all site lighting shall be contained within the subject property and that none shall shine into the neighboring properties, in a manner to be reviewed and approved by staff consistent with the Design Review Criteria and/or the directions from the Board.
  - d. All exterior handrails and support posts shall incorporate a flat profile. The final design details, dimensions material and color of all exterior handrails shall be made part of the building permit plans and shall be subject to the review and approval of staff consistent with the Design Review Criteria and/or the directions from the Board.
  - e. A copy of all pages of the recorded Final Order shall be scanned into the plans submitted for building permit, and shall be located immediately after the front cover page of the permit plans.
  - f. Prior to the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy, the project Architect shall verify, in writing, that the subject project has been constructed in accordance with the plans approved by the Planning Department for Building Permit.
2. A revised landscape plan, prepared by a Professional Landscape Architect, registered in the State of Florida, and corresponding site plan, shall be submitted to and approved by staff. The species type, quantity, dimensions, spacing, location and overall height of all plant material shall be clearly delineated and subject to the review and approval of staff. At a minimum, such plan shall incorporate the following:
- a. Prior to the issuance of a building permit, the applicant shall submit a tree protection plan for all trees to be retained on site. Such plan shall be subject to ~~the review and approval of staff, and shall include, but not be limited to a~~ sturdy tree protection fence installed at the dripline of the trees prior to any construction.
  - b. In order to identify, protect and preserve mature trees on site, which are suitable for retention and relocation, a Tree Report prepared by a Certified Tree Arborist shall be submitted for the mature trees on site.
  - c. Any tree identified to be in good overall condition shall be retained, and protected in their current location if they are not in conflict with the proposed home, or they shall be relocated on site, if determined feasible, subject to the review and approval of staff. A tree care and watering plan also prepared by a Certified Arborist shall be submitted prior to the issuance of a Building Permit

or Tree Removal/Relocation Permit. Subsequent to any approved relocation, a monthly report prepared by a Certified Arborist shall be provided to staff describing the overall tree performance and adjustments to the maintenance plan in order to ensure survivability, such report shall continue for a period of 18 months unless determined otherwise by staff.

- d. Street trees shall be required within the swale at the front of the property if not in conflict with existing utilities, or in conflict with ADA requirements, in a manner to be reviewed and approved by the Public Works Department.
- e. A fully automatic irrigation system with 100% coverage and an automatic rain sensor in order to render the system inoperative in the event of rain. Right-of-way areas shall also be incorporated as part of the irrigation system.
- f. The utilization of Silva Cells shall be used along both street frontages for all plantings and clearly delineated on a revised landscape plan.
- g. The applicant shall install street trees on all sides of the project consistent with the City's Street Tree Master Plan, in a manner to be reviewed and approved by staff consistent with the Design Review Criteria and/or the directions from the Board, and root barriers shall be installed along the sidewalk in conjunction with structural soils.
- h. The applicant shall verify, prior to the issuance of a Building Permit, the exact location of all backflow preventors and all other related devices and fixtures. The location of backflow preventors, siamese pipes or other related devices and fixtures, if any, and how they are screened with landscape material from the right-of-way, shall be clearly indicated on the site and landscape plans and shall be subject to the review and approval of staff.
- i. The applicant shall verify, prior to the issuance of a Building Permit, the exact location of all applicable FPL transformers or vault rooms. The location of any exterior transformers, and how they are screened with landscape material from the right-of-way, shall be clearly indicated on the site and landscape plans and shall be subject to the review and approval of staff.
- j. Prior to the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy, the Landscape Architect or the project architect shall verify, in writing, that the project is consistent with the site and landscape plans approved by the Planning Department for Building Permit.

In accordance with Section 118-262, the applicant, or the city manager on behalf of the City Administration, or an affected person, Miami Design Preservation League or Dade Heritage Trust may seek review of any order of the Design Review Board by the City Commission, except that orders granting or denying a request for rehearing shall not be reviewed by the Commission.

## II. Variance(s)

- A. The applicant filed an application with the Planning Department for the following variance(s), which were either approved by the Board with modifications, or denied

(Underlying denotes new language and ~~strike through~~ denotes stricken language):

1. A variance to exceed by up to 39.2 SF the maximum allowed sign area of 30 SF for flat signs in order to construct two signs with a total aggregate area of 40.6 up to 69.2 SF.
  2. A variance to relocate an allowable wall sign from the ground floor to the 2<sup>nd</sup> level of a two-story building, facing Harding Avenue.
- B. The applicants have submitted plans and documents with the application that satisfies Article 1, Section 2 of the Related Special Acts, allowing the granting of a variance if the Board finds that practical difficulties exist with respect to implementing the proposed project at the subject property.

Additionally, staff has concluded that the plans and documents submitted with the application comply with the following hardship criteria, as they relate to the requirements of Section 118-353(d), Miami Beach City Code:

That special conditions and circumstances exist which are peculiar to the land, structure, or building involved and which are not applicable to other lands, structures, or buildings in the same zoning district;

That the special conditions and circumstances do not result from the action of the applicant;

That granting the variance requested will not confer on the applicant any special privilege that is denied by this Ordinance to other lands, buildings, or structures in the same zoning district;

That literal interpretation of the provisions of this Ordinance would deprive the applicant of rights commonly enjoyed by other properties in the same zoning district under the terms of this Ordinance and would work unnecessary and undue hardship on the applicant;

That the variance granted is the minimum variance that will make possible the reasonable use of the land, building or structure;

That the granting of the variance will be in harmony with the general intent and purpose of this Ordinance and ~~that such variance will not be injurious to the area involved or otherwise detrimental to the public welfare; and~~

That the granting of this request is consistent with the comprehensive plan and does not reduce the levels of service as set forth in the plan.

- C. The Board hereby **Approves** the Variance request(s), and imposes the following conditions based on its authority in Section 118-354 of the Miami Beach City Code:
1. Substantial modifications to the plans submitted and approved as part of the application, as determined by the Planning Director or designee, may require the applicant to return to the Board for approval of the modified plans, even if the modifications do not affect variances approved by the Board.

2. Revised drawings of the signs shall be submitted to and approved by staff; at a minimum, such drawings shall incorporate the following:
  - a. The face plates of the proposed signage shall not exceed 42" in diameter.
  - b. The final exterior surface color scheme of the proposed signage, including color samples, shall be subject to the review and approval of staff.
  - c. Elevation drawings and section details of the sign including finish material of the planter and supporting structure for the letters located at the highest elevation.
  - d. The existing fence at the front of the property shall be removed.

The decision of the Board regarding variances shall be final and there shall be no further review thereof except by resort to a court of competent jurisdiction by petition for writ of certiorari.

III. General Terms and Conditions applying to both 'I. Design Review Approval' and 'II. Variances' noted above.

- A. Where one or more parcels are unified for a single development, the property owner shall execute and record a unity of title or a covenant in lieu of unity of title, as may be applicable, in a form acceptable to the City Attorney. If there is a roadway or right-of-way between parcels, that parcel separated from the remaining development shall not be considered a unified development site and shall not be joined into the covenant in lieu of unity of title or unity of title for the actual unified development site.
- B. A Construction Parking and Traffic Management Plan (CPTMP) shall be approved by the Parking Director pursuant to Chapter 106, Article II, Division 3 of the City Code, prior to the issuance of a Building Permit.
- C. The final building plans shall meet all other requirements of the Land Development Regulations of the City Code.
- D. The Final Order shall be recorded in the Public Records of Miami-Dade County, prior to the issuance of a Building Permit.
- E. Satisfaction of all conditions is required for the Planning Department to give its approval on a Certificate of Occupancy; a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy or Partial Certificate of Occupancy may also be conditionally granted Planning Departmental approval.
- F. The Final Order is not severable, and if any provision or condition hereof is held void or unconstitutional in a final decision by a court of competent jurisdiction, the order shall be returned to the Board for reconsideration as to whether the order meets the criteria for approval absent the stricken provision or condition, and/or it is appropriate to modify the remaining conditions or impose new conditions.

- G. The conditions of approval herein are binding on the applicant, the property's owners, operators, and all successors in interest and assigns.
- H. Nothing in this order authorizes a violation of the City Code or other applicable law, nor allows a relaxation of any requirement or standard set forth in the City Code.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, based upon the foregoing findings of fact, the evidence, information, testimony and materials presented at the public hearing, which are part of the record for this matter, and the staff report and analysis, which are adopted herein, including the staff recommendations which were adopted by the Board, that the Application for Design Review approval is GRANTED for the above-referenced project subject to those certain conditions specified in Paragraph I, II, III of the Findings of Fact, to which the applicant has agreed.

PROVIDED, the applicant shall build substantially in accordance with the plans, entitled "HARDING HOTEL" as prepared by **jd ENGINEERING & Construction Corp.** dated, July 15, 2016, and as approved by the Design Review Board, as determined by staff.

When requesting a building permit, the plans submitted to the Building Department for permit shall be consistent with the plans approved by the Board, modified in accordance with the conditions set forth in this Order. No building permit may be issued unless and until all conditions of approval that must be satisfied prior to permit issuance, as set forth in this Order, have been met.

The issuance of the approval does not relieve the applicant from obtaining all other required Municipal, County and/or State reviews and permits, including final zoning approval. If adequate handicapped access is not provided on the Board-approved plans, this approval does not mean that such handicapped access is not required. When requesting a building permit, the plans submitted to the Building Department for permit shall be consistent with the plans approved by the Board, modified in accordance with the conditions set forth in this Order.

If the Full Building Permit for the project is not issued within eighteen (18) months of the meeting date at which the original approval was granted, the application will expire and become null and void, unless the applicant makes an application to the Board for an extension of time, in accordance with the requirements and procedures of Chapter 118 of the City Code; the granting of any such extension of time shall be at the discretion of the Board. If the Full Building Permit for the project should expire for any reason (including but not limited to construction not commencing and continuing, with required inspections, in accordance with the applicable Building Code), the application will expire and become null and void.

In accordance with Chapter 118 of the City Code, the violation of any conditions and safeguards that are a part of this Order shall be deemed a violation of the land development regulations of the City Code. Failure to comply with this Order shall subject the application to Chapter 118 of the City Code, for revocation or modification of the application.

Dated this 6<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2016

DESIGN REVIEW BOARD  
THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA



BY: 

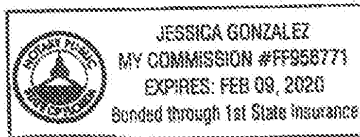
DEBORAH J. TACKETT  
DESIGN AND PRESERVATION MANAGER  
FOR THE CHAIR

STATE OF FLORIDA )

)SS


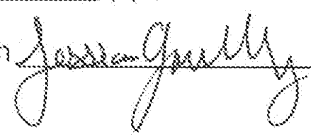
COUNTY OF MIAMI-DADE )

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 6<sup>th</sup> day of September 2016 by Deborah J. Tackett, Design and Preservation Manager, Planning Department, City of Miami Beach, Florida, a Florida Municipal Corporation, on behalf of the Corporation. He is personally known to me.



NOTARY PUBLIC

Miami-Dade County, Florida

My commission expires: 2-9-20Approved As To Form: City Attorney's Office: (9/6/16)Filed with the Clerk of the Design Review Board on (9-6-16)