



ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3C
GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

CATHEDRAL HEIGHTS • CLEVELAND PARK
MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE HEIGHTS
McLEAN GARDENS • WOODLEY PARK

Single Member District Commissioners

01-Lee Brian Reba; 02-Jason Fink; 03-Janell Pagats
04-Beau Finley; 05-Sauleh Siddiqui; 06-Adam Hoyt
07- Maureen Kinlan Boucher; 08-Jocelyn Dyer; 09-Nancy MacWood

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ANC3C Resolution 2022-015

Regarding Historic Preservation Review Board Application For Construction of an Aluminum, Motorized Pergola Structure at Medium Rare Restaurant at 3500 Connecticut Ave NW

Whereas, Medium Rare is a restaurant at 3500 Connecticut Ave NW at the northwest corner of Ordway St. NW and Connecticut Ave NW in the Cleveland Park Business District;

Whereas, 3500 Connecticut Ave NW is the end unit of a Georgian Revival styled coordinated row of ten buildings (3500-3518) that were originally constructed as rowhouses in 1921 by developer Harry Wardman;

Whereas, by the early 1940s, their ground floors had been converted to retail use, altered with projecting metal storefronts;

Whereas, a rehabilitation in the early 2000s resulted in restoration and recreation of the 1940s storefronts, as well as installation of several larger, two-story storefronts;

Whereas, the planned pergola is aluminum-framed, measuring 12' deep x 60' wide x 12' 9" Tall, supported by 6" x 6" square posts and extend across the front of the end pavilion and the second recessed pavilion to the first of the two-story bays;

Whereas, the structure would have ceiling fans, recessed LED lights, and a motorized louvered roof that would allow it to be open or closed;

Whereas, the plans were presented to the HPRB on July 28th, 2022 where "their strong recommendation is to go through the ANC review process before coming back before the Historic Preservation Review Board";

Whereas, initial plans for the pergola were presented at the Planning and Zoning Committee meeting for ANC 3C on September 6th, 2022;

Whereas, the applicant has since revised the plans by providing an updated plat with clearer demarcations, reducing the height of the pergola so it is just lower than the floor of the second floor balcony as well as replacing the 8"X8" posts with 6"X6" posts;

Whereas, the allowable temporary configuration of either a tent or cafe umbrellas over the permitted sidewalk cafe greatly obscures the view of the building and takes up sidewalk space allowing for only a 6' walkway that the community brought up at the ANC Planning and Zoning Committee meeting;

Whereas, the applicant took that feedback and is proposing to have a 9' walkway and an 8'4 pergola with slimmer profile 6"x6" posts that minimally obstructs the view of the building;

Whereas, the ANC received 63 letters in support of the plans and 4 letters against;

Whereas, Medium Rare has been a beloved neighborhood business as evidenced by the letters regarding this application;

Therefore, be it resolved that ANC 3C enthusiastically supports the updated application for the pergola.

Be It Further Resolved that ANC 3C ask this application be reviewed and approved by the HPRB at their October meeting.

Be It Further Resolved that the ANC authorizes the Chair and the Commissioner for 3C05 to represent the Commission on this matter.

Attested by

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Beau Finley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Beau Finley
Chair, on October 17, 2022

This resolution was approved by voice vote on October 17, 2022, at a scheduled and noticed public meeting of ANC 3C at which a quorum (a minimum of 5 of 9 commissioners) was present.