

D. NEW BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

1. 215 BLACKFIELD DRIVE CONGREGATION KOL SHOFAR, EXTERIOR COLORS AND MATERIALS

The applicant is requesting Design Review approval for the exterior colors and materials for a previously approved project (File # 707122) involving the construction of additions and renovations to an existing religious facility and day school (Congregation Kol Shofar). The project involved the construction of a new multi-purpose room addition and a new classroom building, along with renovation of interior spaces of existing buildings, installation of new skylights, reconfiguration and expansion of existing parking areas, improved pedestrian access around the site and improved on-site landscaping. The applicant is going through the building plan check process for this project and has now submitted a revised color and materials palette described as follows:

- The exterior walls of the multi-purpose building would utilize olive and light brown colored plaster, “Jerusalem Gold” limestone and olive stained cedar siding.
- The walls of the classroom addition would utilize light green and charcoal grey cement fiber panels for the exterior walls, with brick red upper vertical elements, doors and canopies.
- Charcoal grey and lighter grey trim would be used throughout, with the exception of red aluminum used for several building entries and canopies.
- The roof would utilize a medium brown composite roofing material.
- Hardscape elements would utilize earth tone colored pavers and concrete.

Susie Coliver, architect, noted the drawings indicate where the materials are to be placed. She said the colors on the drawings may not be accurate and the colors in the binder submitted with the application should be used to determine actual colors. She then reviewed the colors and materials used for the project. She said that they chose earth-tones that would be seen through the trees, and the colors are meant to mimic the colors of the California hills and blend in with the surroundings in order to break up the mass of that edge. She noted that the palette for the classroom addition was intended to be more playful with the red portions evoking the iconic chimney-like expression of a child’s drawing of a house. She said that after several neighbors commented that the color may be too brick red they surveyed the neighborhood and found 12-15 red brick chimneys and several red tile roofs within a quarter mile of the site.

Chair Doyle questioned the width of the red “chimneys,” and Ms. Coliver said they would be 8 feet wide. Boardmember Wilson questioned and confirmed that these structures would have a maximum height of 20 feet.

Boardmember Wilson asked if the proposed colors would match the colors of the existing building. Ms. Coliver said they would be in harmony with each other and there is a hope that some day the existing building will be painted to match the new additions.

There was no public comment.

Boardmember Tollini felt that the colors were very attractive. He said that the neighbors want the buildings to be as camouflaged as possible and he thought that the architect did a nice job balancing that with the need to make the school playful in appearance. He said the issue comes down to whether the “chimneys” would be too red but he believed that this portion of the classroom building would be a relatively small part of the project.

Boardmember Wilson said that the red “chimneys” would stand out more than expected. He also thought that the red front door would be too dramatic and thought that there might be a way to mute the color. However, he supported the overall color and materials scheme.

Chair Doyle said he also liked the proposed colors. He said that if the additions were closer to a street, he might suggest some changes, but the entry was not particularly visible given the distance from the parking lot and all of the trees on the site. He liked the classroom colors and thought that the red color was darker than he thought it would be originally and would fade quickly.

Planning Manager Watrous said the draft conditions of approval included a condition to make the color more subdued which should be deleted if the Board found the colors to be acceptable. The Boardmembers agreed that the color would fade rather quickly did not need to be changed.

ACTION: It was M/S (Wilson/Tollini) approved the project subject to the attached conditions of approval, with the deletion of condition #7. Vote: 3-0.

G. APPROVAL OF MINUTES #2 OF THE 2/5/09 DESIGN REVIEW BOARD MEETING

On page 2, fourth paragraph, “reigned” should be changed to “reined.”

ACTION: It was M/S (Wilson/Tollini) to approve the minutes of the February 5, 2009 meeting as amended. Vote: 3-0.

H. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.