

VIEUX CARRE ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

LaToya Cantrell
MAYOR

CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

Bryan Block
DIRECTOR

NOTE: The below minutes are a summary of actions taken. They are not a verbatim transcription of the meeting.

Minutes of the VCC Architectural Committee meeting of Tuesday, February 14, 2023 – 1:00 pm.

Committee Members Present: Stephen Bergeron, Rick Fifield

Committee Members Absent: Toni DiMaggio

Staff Present: Bryan Block, Director; Renee Bourgogne, Deputy Director; Erin Vogt, Senior Plans Examiner; Marguerite Roberts, Inspector

Staff Absent: Nicholas Albrecht, Senior Plans Examiner

Others Present: Steve Young, Juan Carlos Lara, John C. Williams, Kat King, L. Katherine Harmon, Nikki Szalwinski

MINUTES

Old Business

418 Bourbon St: 22-31968-VCGEN; John C Williams, applicant; Nuccio Family LLC, owner; Proposal to modify previously approved replacement millwork, per application & materials received 11/23/2022 & 01/21/2023, respectively.

<https://onestopapp.nola.gov/Documents.aspx?ObjLabel=Permit&ID=955050>

Due to technical difficulties, Mr. Bergeron read the report on staff's behalf with Messrs. Lara and Williams present on behalf of the application. Mr. Lara stated that they had been about to start shop drawings but requested Ms. Vogt visit the site first, where they agreed to make changes to keep more existing material. He explained that some exploratory demolition had been done and they had found windows they wanted to keep, but they wanted to present the revised proposal to the AC before moving forward. Mr. Williams stated that they still intended to address the violations.

There was no public comment. Mr. Bergeron stated that he found this to be an appropriate response to what was found on site. Mr. Williams responded that he appreciated staff's help with phasing the work so the business could open.

Mr. Bergeron moved to **approve** the millwork as proposed. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

New Business

915-17 St Ann St: 22-23537-VCGEN; Cangelosi, Jr Robert, applicant; Victor F III Trahan, owner; Proposal to perform exploratory demolition in conjunction with overall renovation and stucco replacement, per application & materials received 08/08/2022 & 01/25/2023, respectively.

Ms. Vogt read the staff report with Mr. Cangelosi present on behalf of the application. Mr. Cangelosi stated that the intent was to do an accurate restoration of previous conditions, and that the rear had been a split-level cabinet and cellar, with openings on two levels. He explained that they wanted to do exploratory demolition to resolve the size and exact location of the openings. He stated that the side openings on the dependencies were not original and that they wanted to brick them in, and noted that the roof pitches had been changed, with only one wythe of brick above. Mr. Fifield asked if the scope of work had been explained to staff; Mr. Cangelosi stated yes, and that they would be happy to facilitate a site visit with the AC if needed.

With no additional discussion needed and no public comment, Mr. Bergeron moved for **approval** with the

applicant to work with staff on the exploratory demolition. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Mr. Cangelosi added that the owner had acquired the original millwork, which had been stored somewhere offsite, and intended to reinstall it as part of the renovation.

1021 Orleans Ave: 22-34136-VCPNT; 1021 Orleans Ave: Bywater Woodworks Inc, applicant; Steven E Young, owner; Proposal to modify courtyard drainage and install new planter, per application & materials received 11/10/2022 & 01/16/2023, respectively.

<https://onestopapp.nola.gov/Documents.aspx?ObjLabel=Permit&ID=953764>

Ms. Vogt read the staff report with Mr. Young present on behalf of the application. Mr. Bergeron stated that he had no comments or questions, and there was no public comment. Ms. Vogt noted the HVAC platform on the opposite side of the drain, and stated that it might be difficult to access if the platform was not pulled away from the wall somewhat. Mr. Fifield agreed that this was reasonable.

Mr. Bergeron moved for **conceptual approval** with revisions to be made per the staff recommendation. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

619 Royal St: 22-34360-VCPNT; Krewe Eyewear, applicant; Jardin Royale LLC, owner; Proposal to install flagpoles, per application & materials received 11/14/2022 & 01/24/2023, respectively.

<https://onestopapp.nola.gov/Documents.aspx?ObjLabel=Permit&ID=954054>

Ms. Vogt read the staff report with Ms. King present on behalf of the application. Mr. Fifield asked what type of flags they intended to use; Ms. King responded that they understood that no Krewe flags could be displayed, but asked staff to explain more. Ms. Vogt responded that the Guidelines stated that they must be limited to country/city/state flags or seasonal decorations, such as Saints, Mardi Gras, or Pride flags, etc., but not in any way related to the business or its merchandise.

Mr. Bergeron stated that he was concerned with a tripping hazard. Ms. Bourgogne stated that since there were two rails, it was a bit more tucked in than it would be in other cases and more than it appeared.

Ms. Szalwinski addressed the Committee on behalf of French Quarter Citizens, reiterating staff's comments about signage.

Ms. King noted that all of the work was removable. Mr. Bergeron moved for **approval**, noting staff's comments on the planters. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

422 Chartres St: 23-01121-VCGEN; Loretta Harmon, applicant; C E R Realty, Fernando E Palomenque, Fernando E Palomeque, owner; Proposal to install four skylights on flat roof, per application & materials received 01/12/2023.

<https://onestopapp.nola.gov/Documents.aspx?ObjLabel=Permit&ID=959085>

Ms. Vogt read the staff report with Ms. Harmon present on behalf of the application. Ms. Harmon stated that she agreed with staff and was fine with rotating the skylights, adding that she needed to get onto the roof to look at the framing and slope. She stated was seeking conceptual approval before developing the drawings further.

There was no public comment.

Ms. Bourgogne noted that a letter from the condo association would be needed. Mr. Bergeron moved for **conceptual approval** with the applicant to submit revised details and the letter as requested. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Ms. Vogt noted that VCC review was required for the work, and it would be scheduled for the next Commission hearing.

Appeals and Violations

529 Bienville St: 22-33217-VCGEN; Kirk Fabacher, applicant; Chateau Bienville LLC, owner; Appeal to retain pergola constructed in deviation from VCC permit, per application & materials received 11/02/2022 &

01/25/2023, respectively.

<https://onestopapp.nola.gov/Documents.aspx?ObjLabel=Permit&ID=952831>

Ms. Vogt read the staff report with Mr. Fabacher present on behalf of the application. Mr. Fabacher stated that they would repoint but needed to budget and schedule, and that they were ok with moving the two speakers as requested. Ms. Vogt stated that staff wanted to see the masonry work done as part of this scope, or a red flag would remain on the property. Mr. Fabacher stated that they had been needing to fix the elevator but could not with the flag in place. Ms. Bourgogne responded that this was the first we had heard of it, and that we were willing to lift the flag briefly for that work to proceed, but it would be put back on.

Mr. Fifield noted that the pergola had not been constructed per the approved drawings. Mr. Fabacher agreed that the header ledger was lower, but not a problem.

Ms. Szalwinski addressed the Committee on behalf of French Quarter Citizens, stating that she was concerned about the speakers and that the VCC had no way to enforce volume. She noted that the brick wall was more pressing than the pergola. Mr. Fabacher responded that this was a restaurant, not a bar, and the sound would not be loud. Ms. Bourgogne noted that attachment, not sound, was within VCC jurisdiction.

Mr. Bergeron moved to **approve** retention of the pergola and related work as proposed by the applicant, with the proviso that the courtyard walls must be repointed as part of this scope, and **conceptual approval** of the speakers with the proviso that two must be relocated. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

With no business left to discuss, Mr. Bergeron moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:37 pm.