

STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTIES OF POTTER §
AND RANDALL §
CITY OF AMARILLO §

On the 7th day of December, 2017, the Downtown Design Review Board met in a scheduled session at 5:30 p.m. in Room 203 located on the second floor of the Simms Building, 808 S. Buchanan, Amarillo, Texas, with the following members present:

VOTING MEMBERS	PRESENT	NO. MEETINGS HELD	NO. MEETINGS ATTENDED
Steve Gosselin	Y	33	29
Steve Pair, Chairman	Y	16	12
Cole Camp	Y	11	11
Cindi Bulla	Y	11	10
Gary Jennings	N	11	9
Verlinda Watson	N	11	1
Becky Heinen	N	11	7
Alan Cox (alternate)	Y	8	7

Staff in Attendance:
Jeffrey English, Planner I

ITEM 1: Public Comment: Citizens who desire to address the Downtown Amarillo Urban Design Review Board with regard to matters on the agenda or having to do with policies, programs, or services will be received at this time. The total time allotted for comments is three (3) minutes per speaker. The board may not discuss items not on this agenda, but may respond with factual, established policy information, or refer to staff. (*Texas Attorney General Opinion. JC-0169*) If you wish to speak regarding an item on the agenda, please hold your comments until that item is introduced.

No comments were made.

ITEM 2: Approval of September 15, 2017 Downtown Urban Design Review Board meeting minutes.

Chairman Pair asked for corrections, deletions or changes to the minutes of September 15, 2017. Motion was made by Commissioner Bulla, seconded by Commissioner Camp, to approve the minutes as submitted. Motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 3: COA-17-32 A request for variance from the requirement that fencing along the building edge and parking lots within the Downtown Urban Design District not be chain link, to allow an existing chain link fence to remain at the following location: 1101 South Pierce Street (1Broadcast Center), legally described as Lots 1-10, Block 147, Plemons Addition Unit No. 1. [Section 4-10-122, pg. 14 & 24, Downtown Amarillo Urban Design Standards]

Mr. English advised the project consists of a recently built 6' tall chain-link fence around KVII office building parking lot for employee security and protection of assets. This fence was submitted as a violation to the City, and the violation process was followed, resulting in this application. The existing site consists of an existing building and landscaping, along with a recently built chain-link fence around the rear side of the property that face I-27/ US 287/US 87/ US 60 highways. Downtown Amarillo Urban Design Standards (DAUDS) elements involved are building edge and street grid and parking. Mr. English explained that the chain-linked fence does not meet the DAUDS as chain-link, barbed-wire, razor-wire fences are not allowed by either element involved. Mr. English advised staff recommends denial of the item as presented along with variance 1.

Chairman Pair asked if there were any questions or comments. Diane Taylor, general manager of ABC 7 broadcast center 79109, appeared to explain why the fence was built and that it did not require a permit to be so. Ms. Taylor noted the safety concerns of the business and employees, presenting photos of examples various times it was an issue, as well as an example of an existing chain-link fence that was built before the DAUDS were adopted. Ms. Taylor was concerned about the overall maintenance and security of a proposed new fence. There was a discussion regarding the types of fencing that would meet the DAUDS standards while serving as protection.

A motion to deny the variance for this project as submitted was made by Commissioner Camp, seconded by Commissioner Cox. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 4: Consider future agenda items

It was inquired about the status of the department staffing level. Staff advised there were hopes in being able to make an offer to a new potential Senior Planner.

No further comments were made; Chairman Pair adjourned the meeting at 5:53pm.



AJ Fawver, AICP, CNU-A
Planning Director







