

For DRC (circle those present): **Robert Dudka, Charles Craig, Charles Matta, Darren Hannabass,**

For Arlington County (circle those present): **Cynthia Liccese-Torres, Rebecca Ballo**

Case #13 - 12 Agenda Item # No 2

Application Complete

Application Incomplete

Applicant(s): Saul Reyes & Lois Athey
For Applicant(s): Saul Reyes & Lois Athey

(See attached application for applicant, address, name of property and property description, drawings, photographs, and proposed scope of work.)

Design Recommendations:

1. Explore conservation issues.
2. Consider adding metal flashing to at least top edge of frame.
3. Look at 5 year extension of the CoA.

Findings:

Return to next DRC meeting

Send to HALRB (see below for recommended actions)

If sent to HALRB, recommended action is:

Place on consent agenda

Place on discussion agenda:

Recommend approval of CoA, with DRC design recommendations and/or additional information provided

Recommend deferral of ruling on CoA (explanation):

Recommend denial of CoA (explanation):

No recommendation.



CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS STAFF REPORT

TO: HALRB
FROM: Rebecca Ballo and Cynthia Liccese-Torres
DATE: June 6, 2013
SUBJECT: 300 North Glebe Road, Case 13-12, Buckingham Historic District

The proposed application is to repair and refurbish a mural that has been installed on the Glebe Market, located at 300 North Glebe Road in the Buckingham Historic District. A CoA request to install the mural was approved by the HALRB in November 2000. The original approval was conditioned to run for only five years, and technically expired in November 2005. The applicants, the Buckingham-Gates of Arlington Tenants Association (BU-GATA), are requesting a five year extension of the CoA, as well as permission to repair deteriorated features of the mural.

The work on the mural will include the following:

1. Repair and replacement of deteriorated sections of framing;
2. Installation of new bird spikes along the top;
3. Repainting deteriorated portions of the mural;
4. Covering the mural with a new protective coat of varnish.

The DRC made some recommendations, including looking at further restoration work, and installing metal flashing at least along the top of the frame. The DRC did not make a recommendation for this application, and asked that this case be placed on the discussion agenda for the June 19, 2013, HALRB meeting.

Staff requested the opinion of the County's Public Art Program staff. They are concerned that the existing materials (acrylic paint on plyboard) are not ideal for long-term exposure outdoors. Their additional observations include: the framing has warped and is even missing in some sections; there are bird's nests in the frame and bird droppings on the mural itself; paint has deteriorated due to sun and rain exposure; and the plyboard is warped and damaged in places. The Public Art staff feels that restoration would not extend the overall lifespan of the mural for very long, and could be quite costly.

The preservation staff understands the applicant's desire to restore the mural since it is a vibrant part of the community. However, the original CoA terms have long since expired and that needs to be remedied. But staff questions the overall longevity of the existing mural and whether planned repairs would be adequate and how long such repairs could feasibly last. If the CoA request is approved, staff suggests that the terms of the CoA be shortened to a maximum of two years instead of five. This would help ensure that the mural not only stays well-maintained, but that no major physical issues arise given its already fragile condition. At the end of this time, should the applicants desire the mural to continue to remain in this location, they could apply for a new CoA.