

MINUTES
DESIGN COMMITTEE OF THE BOSTON CIVIC DESIGN COMMISSION

April 18, 2023

5:00 pm, Held virtually via Zoom

Project: 1141 Bennington Street

Present: Shauna Gillies-Smith, William Rawn, Laura Solano, Kirk Sykes

DISCUSSION:

The planning context for the project was introduced by BPDA planning staff. The Project team used a digital presentation to outline their approach and project updates, and answered questions from the BCDC Commissioners present. The Commissioners applauded the project team for their tactful approach to a difficult site with many constraints. Discussion focused mainly on the site plan and contextual experience of the project. In particular, the Commissioners asked the team to further simplify and justify the complex forms found in the site plan. The treatment and necessity of the bridge linking the two volumes was questioned, given its impact on view corridors from the adjacent neighborhood through to the Belle Isle marsh. The Commissioners also asked clarifying questions about the relationship of the project to the edge of the marsh.

The Project will continue in Design Committee.

6:00 pm

Project: **Fan Pier Parcel H**, South Boston Waterfront

Present: David Manfredi, William Rawn, Laura Solano

DISCUSSION:

The Project team used a digital presentation to outline their approach and project updates, and answered questions from the BCDC Commissioners present. The first portion of the discussion focused on the vehicular drop off space along Harborshore Drive. The Commissioners urged the project team to reduce the incursion of vehicular travel into the pedestrian travel zone as much as possible, if not outright eliminate it. The discussion then moved to the design of the open space between the harborfront and the building. Acknowledging the project team's desire to create the feeling of walking through a meadow with narrow paths, the Commission cautioned the team against creating planters that are too small for substantial planting. A member of the public spoke to encourage the team to continue thinking about public activation and usage of the open space by dogs.

The Project will return to the full commission.