MINUTES
DESIGN COMMITTEE OF THE BOSTON CIVIC DESIGN COMMISSION

July 25, 2023

5:00pm, Held virtually via Zoom
Project: 40 Roland
Present: Commissioner Catherine Morris, Commissioner Linda Eastley, Commissioner David Hacin, Commissioner Mikyoung Kim, Commissioner Kathy Kottaridis, Commissioner David Mandredi and Commissioner Mimi Love

DISCUSSION:
Commissioners felt the proportions of historic element to the new modern features of building were not work well across each façade. At times, the curvature shape or the industrial is overwhelming the other parts below. Please look into providing more separation between the three parts. Commissions commented that the penthouse feels very dominant. Possibly consider a warmer or natural color for the curtain wall, instead of blue. They would like more active program at the south side (rather than bike room) and hierarchy of spaces along this south side. Maybe more conference spaces on the curve to activate that side. The topic of open space was also heavily discussed, and would like a strong public urban realm along Roland. The goal is to not privatize spaces and to explore are different types of relationships to the landscape. Think about the accessible route, lot of stairs, make this welcoming for everyone, while creating spaces to connect and rest. A massive amount of very successful planting is what will make the current proposal work. Explore designing a more porosity between lower and upper landscape areas. Consider some public art which shares the history of the site. Overall, more open space to this site would be very beneficial.

No public comments.

The Project will continue in design committee.

6:00pm, Held virtually via Zoom
Project: One Mystic
Present: Commissioner Catherine Morris, Commissioner Linda Eastley, Commissioner David Hacin, Commissioner Mikyoung Kim, Commissioner Kathy Kottaridis, Commissioner David Mandredi and Commissioner Mimi Love

DISCUSSION:
Commissioners thought the design team was very responsive to prior comments. There were very few concerns; commissioners asked for clarity to the site design and how you move through. Along with giving more attention to the building cornice, which could use for definition. For site design and open space, the commissioners recommend more street trees on Dorance Street, along with street bike parking. Commissioners commented that this project will be a space that will be a nice oasis and attractive entrance to the city. They asked the team to consider transportation to this area and to keep in mind Assembly Square and Everett as neighboring districts and the crossover connections.
There were no public comments.

The Project will return to the full Committee.