

MINUTES

DESIGN COMMITTEE OF THE BOSTON CIVIC DESIGN COMMISSION

February 21, 2023

5:00 pm, Held virtually via Zoom

Project: **Stanhope Hotel**, Back Bay

Present: Commissioner David Manfredi, Commissioner Mimi Love, Commissioner Anne-Marie Lubenau, Commissioner Bill Rawn, Commissioner Kirk Sykes

DISCUSSION:

The Project team used a digital presentation to outline their approach and project updates, focusing on changes to the massing and expression of the penthouse stories. The Commissions appreciate the changes to the penthouse and made recommendations for smaller further developments. The majority of the discussion focused on the cantilevered “zipper” between the existing historic ground floor façade and the tower. The Commissioners asked the project team to reconsider the scale and proportion of the cantilever to reach a more harmonious synthesis with forms found in the context. The treatment of the ground plane was also discussed, and it was recommended that the team use scaling elements like paving and planting to help distinguish between the hotel and its surrounding amenity space.

The Project will continue in Design Committee.

5:00 pm, Held virtually via Zoom

Project: **52 Everett Street**, Allston

Present: Commissioner David Manfredi, Commissioner Mimi Love, Commissioner Anne-Marie Lubenau, Commissioner Bill Rawn, Commissioner Kirk Sykes

DISCUSSION:

The Project team used a digital presentation to outline their approach and project updates, and answered questions from the BCDC Commissioners present. The Commissioners were supportive of the direction the project had taken since the last meeting, and praised its contribution to the area’s urban design. Minor questions about materials, details, and lighting were raised. It was recommended by the Commissioners that the presentation be sent to the landscape architects on the Commission for comment on the project’s public realm, given that none were present at the meeting.

The Project will return to the full Commission, contingent on positive feedback from the Commission’s landscape architects.