

## CAPITAL CENTER COMMISSION

### Meeting Minutes of Wednesday, December 8, 2010

A meeting of the Capital Center Commission (CCC) was held on Wednesday, December 8, 2010 in the 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room of the Department of Planning and Development, 400 Westminster Street, Providence, RI 02903.

#### 1. Roll Call

Members Present: Leslie Gardner, Wilfrid Gates, Stanley Weiss, John Sinnott, Seth Handy, Duncan Johnson and Glenn Kumekawa\*

Members Absent: Michael McCormick, Councilman Luis Aponte, Councilwoman Joan DiRuzzo, Guy Abelson, Greg Benik, Christopher Thomas and Barry Fain

Staff Present: Christopher Ise and Robert Azar

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 12:25 PM, Chairman Gardner presiding.

At this time, Chairman Gardner introduced and welcomed new member John Sinnott to the Commission.

\*Because there was no quorum for this meeting, no action was taken on any of the following items:

#### 2. Minutes

- 1) Approval of Commission meeting minutes of September 15, 2010, October 13, 2010 and November 10, 2010
- 2) Acceptance of DRC meeting minutes of August 3, 2010 and August 17, 2010

#### 3. 2011 CCC Monthly Meeting Schedule

- 1) Acceptance of the Capital Center Commission 2011 monthly meeting schedule.

#### 4. Parcel 13: Providence Place

Proposal by P. F. Chang's to replace the existing storefronts of the former Napa Valley Grille location with new storefronts and to install new metal awnings, glass entry, entry doors and signage on the Francis Street elevation. The proposal also includes the installation of a blade sign on the west side (parking garage elevation) of the building.

Chairman Gardner introduced the project. Robert Dahlgren and Andria Pacinelli, representing P.F. Chang's, made a presentation. Mr. Dahlgren stated that the company is excited about coming to Providence. The restaurant size is approximately 7,783 square feet with a total seating capacity, including the outdoor patio area, of about 210. There was a brief discussion regarding the interior layout. In response to a question by Mr. Weiss, Mr. Dahlgren explained the history behind the P.F. Chang's horses. He also explained the changes to the storefront and the materials proposed, including the Nana Wall system and metal panel patio railing. A brief discussion ensued about the horses regarding illumination and possible vandalism. Mr. Dahlgren reiterated that the company does not have a problem with vandalism of the horses in other locations. Chairman Gardner explained the issue with the design of the patio railing. The original railing system proposed was presented to the members.

At this time, Chairman Gardner asked Mr. Gates, Chair of the Design Review Committee, to present the comments from the Committee's last meeting. Mr. Gates explained that the DRC felt one horse did not compartmentalize the façade the way two horses did, adding that one horse was the appropriate scale and the icon of the restaurant. Mr. Gates noted that the issue was the

proposed red and black patio railing. The DRC suggested that the color of the panels be muted. He commented that the revised all black railing system presented might have gone in the opposite direction of the DRC's recommendation. Mr. Gates noted that the brackets for all the parking garage blade signs have logos at the top that correlate to the name of the garages – Cityside and Stateside. The correct logo should be identified on the plan. Mr. Sinnott had a question regarding the color of the glass on the Nana Wall system and the entry door. Mr. Gates noted that the DRC did not have an issue with the 5% smoky tint. He also noted that the entry door seemed more isolated with two horses. A brief discussion followed regarding the red color proposed. Mr. Sinnott commented that he liked the railing.

Mr. Gates stated that the overall plan is good with the exception of the railing design. The consensus was that the applicant should proceed with design drawings and return to the DRC with railing design options.

## **5. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:05 PM.

---

Christopher Thomas  
Secretary/Treasurer