

BALTIMORE CITY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING
URBAN DESIGN AND ARCHITECTURE REVIEW PANEL
MEETING MINUTES

Date: January 7, 2010

Meeting No.: 106

Project: Lyric Theatre Expansion

Phase: Re-Introduction

Location: Maryland and Mount Royal Avenues

PRESENTATION:

Jonathan Fishman of RCG Architects described the history of this project and its current budget and reduced scope. The substantial brick wall behind the stage is to remain and generally restored on the exterior, facing Maryland Avenue. A “crossover” passage from left to right behind the stage is to be constructed (attached to the exterior wall) as well as a new flyloft above the existing gable roof form. The flyloft will be zinc-clad.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PANEL:

Members of the Panel commented as follows:

1. To express approval of “less is more” approach and also zinc colored material shown.
2. To express doubt about partial glass cladding shown for the “crossover” addition and disapproval of the “billboard” approach shown.
3. One Panel member expressed to the contrary some interest in the “billboard” approach and some transparency at the “crossover”.
4. To express the view that the bridge to stair connection seems unresolved.
5. To express additional doubt about the “billboard” proposed as it seems the wrong place for such a marquee.
6. To suggest that a sign placed elsewhere would better direct one to the actual entrance.
7. To recommend an approach to the crossover that would better relate to the historic back wall as a whole. It would better take the form of a catwalk or fire escape attached to or responsive to the historic wall. A delicate metal structure might be expressed to advantage. A roof sloping away from the back wall could diminish the apparent height and bulk of a “catwalk”.
8. To recommend that a future presentation might consist of alternative sketch studies.

PANEL ACTION:

None – Re-introduction only.

Attending:

Jonathan Fishman – RCG Architects

Sandy Richmond – Lyric

Mackenzie Paull – DPOB

Neb Sertsu – UB

Ed Gunts - Sunpapers

Jay Brodie, Paul Dombrowski – BDC

Ms. Eig, Messrs. Bowden, Ramberg, and Cameron – Panel

Alex Hoffman, Anthony Cataldo, Bob Quilter - Planning