



APPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Mike McGinn
Mayor

Diane Sugimura
Director, DPD

Marshall Foster
Planning Director, DPD

Julie Bassuk
Chair

Graham Black

Malika Kirkling

Laurel Kunkler

Tom Nelson

Julie Parrett

Osama Quotah

Norie Sato

Donald Vehige

Debbie Wick-Harris

Valerie Kinast
Coordinator

Tom Iurino
Senior Staff

May 19, 2011

Convened 10:00 am
Adjourned 3:30 pm

Projects Reviewed

Fire Station 36
Grange Insurance Association Skybridge
Yesler Terrace Redevelopment

Commissioners Present

Julie Bassuk, Chair
Graham Black (excused from 10:30am-11:30am)
Malika Kirkling (excused from 12:00pm-3:30pm)
Tom Nelson (excused from 10:00am-11:00am)
Julie Parrett
Osama Quotah
Norie Sato (excused from 10:00am-11:45am)

Commissioners Excused

Laurel Kunkler
Don Vehige

Incoming Commissioners Present

Debbie Wick-Harris

Staff Present

Valerie Kinast
Tom Iurino



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May 19, 2011	Project:	Grange Insurance Association Skybridge
	Phase:	Skybridge
	Last Reviewed:	N/A
	Presenters:	Jennifer Stachowiak, Grange Insurance Association
	Attendees:	David Suver, Grange Insurance Association Todd Merkley, Grange Insurance Association

Time: 11:30am – 12:30pm

Presentation

Grange Insurance Association presented its plans to re-permit a skybridge that it built in 1981. Grange's employees move between offices across the skybridge, and network cables connect the offices through it. Grange offered as a public benefit the plaza they built in 1981, when its second building was added and the skybridge was constructed. Grange has maintained this plaza and allowed the public use of it for over thirty years. Anyone walking past the site would assume it was a public park. The plaza has mature vegetation, benches, trash cans, and a small area of lawn.

The city's Skybridge Review Committee approved the public benefit package in an unprecedented decision to accept existing improvements as public benefit.

ACTION

The Design Commission thanked Grange Insurance Association for its presentation of the skybridge and plaza.

The commission applauded the association for providing an outdoor plaza for public use and believed the plaza functioned well. By a vote of 6-0, the Design Commission recommended the SDOT Director approve the skybridge permit as well as the public benefit package which consisted of the existing 7,500 sq ft plaza and the amenities that supported it: flowering cherry trees and other mature landscaping; colorful annuals; a curved lawn; professional maintenance of the plaza; tree-lined sidewalks along Clay and 2nd Ave; alley lighting and cameras; plaza and wall lighting; security guards and night patrols; a parking area security camera; and permission for community groups to hold events. The commission made the following conditions:

- **Retain the plaza's paving, lighting and security patrols.**