

LIQUOR COMMITTEE MEETING
January 2, 2019

A meeting of the City of Jackson Liquor Committee was held on January 2, 2019 at 6:58 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Economic Development Office in City Hall with the following persons in attendance: Liquor Committee members Matt Madden, Brandon Finck and Dave Cushman, City Administrator Matt Skaret and Recording Secretary Dave Maschoff.

CONCERNS REGARDING THE LIQUOR STORE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

Cushman explained he has seen photographs of the light fixtures in the new liquor store building and they look terrible.

Skaret said he brought that up to the architect. He explained Liquor Store Manager Michelle Bratrud had taken pictures and brought the issue of the light fixtures to his attention. Skaret said he went and looked at the interior of the liquor store on Monday, December 31st. He said, in his opinion, the light fixtures look more like they're designed for a warehouse.

Liquor Committee members agreed with Skaret.

Skaret said he sent architect Dustin Tomoson pictures and asked if this is what were in the specifications. He said Tomoson replied by saying the fixtures were in the specifications but they look hideous because of the cables the light fixtures are hanging from. Skaret said Tomoson noted the cables are nothing close to what they are supposed to look like. He said Tomoson sent pictures of what the fixtures should look like. Skaret said the light fixtures that are currently in the new liquor store don't look close to what they're supposed to.

Finck agreed the fixtures look terrible. He noted there are also issues with the ceiling paint. Finck noted there are spots missed and roller marks everywhere. He said you can still see some sheetrock. Finck said they didn't do a three-coat finish sheetrock ceiling the way it looks to him because you can still see some of the mud marks.

Finck noted there was also supposed to be color. He said the City wasn't building a warehouse that's white but a building that was supposed to have soft colors. Finck said what had been talked about was some light beiges or light greys and not having white on the walls. He said the soft colors are to create an environment and that's not there. Finck explained he's pretty disappointed with the architect right now and isn't ready to release the recent project pay order based on the work quality that he's seen.

However, Finck said there are a lot of positives. He pointed out the bathrooms were coming along nicely and appear they're going to look good. Finck noted the large cooler and storage area.

Finck asked about having a window installed in the office so the check-out area can be seen from the office. He said he thought the project specifications had been outlined that way so when someone is sitting in the office, the checkout area can be seen. Finck said there is a window facing out to the cooler doors and that's it. He said he was confused on the things that were previously talked about and how they didn't make it to the finish line. Finck said he was curious on what changed. He said those were his concerns.

Cushman said he knows that the window in the office in order to see the checkout area was previously discussed. He said the purpose of the window was so the liquor store manager would have clear site if someone comes into the store so the manager can assist them.

Finck and Madden concurred that the window had been previously discussed.

Finck said he recalled it's supposed to be one way viewing glass where you can look out from the office but can't look in.

Cushman said the window in the office can be remedied, but what is the fix regarding the light fixtures.

Skaret said the Liquor Committee needs to relay their displeasure with the lights to the architect. He said the lights are different than what he expected. Skaret said he expected lights that were mounted into the ceiling.

Finck said he wasn't expecting hanging light fixtures inside the store and thought the liquor store was going to have a smooth, flat ceiling and that's not the case. He said that has to be changed.

Cushman said the installation of light fixtures at the store needs to stop until the issue is resolved.

Finck said he would like to have a Liquor Committee meeting at 12 noon on Friday, January 4th at the new liquor store building to walk through the building and point out the things that need to be corrected. He suggested having the Liquor Committee meet weekly in the final weeks of construction to insure things are completed as they were anticipated. Finck said now is the time to make corrections instead of trying to get corrections made after the building is completed.

Madden noted it's difficult to get things fixed after the building is completed.

Finck said he isn't ready to approve the pay order request until the Liquor Committee meets with the architect.

Finck said he has some questions about the sales area. He said it had been previously talked about the sales area having the soft woodwork and veneer. Finck noted everything right now is sheetrock. Finck said he's hoping the contractor is planning to put a veneer that goes over the sheetrock. Finck said the new liquor store wasn't supposed to be a complete sheetrock building.

Cushman suggested Skaret contact architect Dustin Tomoson to see what the next step is and that the payment order has been put on hold. He said to let Tomoson know that things aren't what the Liquor Committee thought they would be and how is it going to be fixed.

Skaret said his first impression when he walked into the building is that it appeared to be designed more for a warehouse and not for a building that is supposed to be aesthetically pleasing and have heavy foot traffic for retail space.

Finck noted the paint colors. He said a building with a white interior is not what the Liquor Committee proposed. Finck said they wanted warm colors and none of those colors are in the paint. Finck said so far he's really disappointed. He said it's like walking into a grocery store and that's not what the Liquor Committee wanted. Finck said they wanted a retail sales place where you come in and felt welcomed and wanted to stay and shop and not get in and get out. He said that's what the Liquor Committee wanted to create and the architect was well aware of that. Finck said the architect needs to come to Jackson and walk the Liquor Committee through the building again.

Cushman agreed that the architect needs to come down to Jackson and walk the Liquor Committee through the building again.

Finck said he has heard some very positives in talking with Liquor Store Manager Michelle Bratrud about the new building. He said Bratrud is very excited that the planning of the building was done right in how it was laid out. Finck said Bratrud has been hearing very positive things from the liquor store's vendors and suppliers that this store was laid out the right way regarding the cooler space and storage. He said the vendors and suppliers are very impressed. Finck said the building is going to work very well functional wise with easy access.

Cushman said the outside of the building presents itself very nicely.

Finck suggested it would be nice for the Liquor Committee to have a walk-through of the building every time a pay order is submitted to the City so the committee would be familiar with what has been completed.

Skaret said he would contact architect Dustin Tomoson regarding a Liquor Committee meeting this Friday, January 4th at 12 noon at the new liquor store building.

Finck suggested having Liquor Committee meetings each Friday at the new building until it's completed.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the Liquor Committee adjourned their meeting at 7:14 p.m.

David A. Maschoff, Recording Secretary

