

Written Testimony:  
Historic Use Variance Application  
445 Smith Avenue

August 5, 2015

Dear Ms. Spong,

Please accept this letter in support of the HPC recommending to the City Council:

1. Historic designation of the Stone Saloon
2. Granting of a "historic use variance" to allow the Stone Saloon to re-open as a historically-themed, Civil War era beer-only neighborhood tap house and microbrewery.

I live just down the street and watch in awe as this once rough structure is being painstakingly transformed into a neighborhood showplace. One of the things that drew me to move to the Uppertown part of the West 7th neighborhood is the great collection of old buildings and deep history. Mr. Schroeder has a unique vision for this building that is helping bring renewed pride to the neighborhood. One of the challenges of preserving our structural history is how to make old places viable for the present and future. This project is a great way to bring history to life and add vitality to the neighborhood.

I urge the HPC to support the Stone Saloon project.

Thank you,  
Brian

Brian Harvey  
201 Goodrich Ave #4  
St Paul, MN 55102  
[briancpharvey@gmail.com](mailto:briancpharvey@gmail.com)

Written Testimony:  
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445 Smith Avenue

August 5, 2015

Hello Ms. Spong and Councilmember Thune,

Will Wilson from 254 Goodrich Ave. I support the historic use variance for the Stone Saloon. Honestly, it feels a little weird that the owner needs such a variance when the restoration currently underway is bringing the structure back to its historic purpose, but whatever the process involved, the project is worthy.

Personally, I believe historic preservation works best when a proposed change starts with sound research, seeks input, balances the multiple desires of the neighborhood, leverages the good intent of the owner, and acknowledges the necessity for a neighborhood's culture to evolve, albeit incrementally. The Stone Saloon meets all those criteria.

I sat on the Fort Road Federation board for three years and heard a lot of requests for variances and heads-up on projects. I cannot say that any project was as well researched, as thoughtfully considered, or as neighborhood-focused as the Stone Saloon. Early on, Tom Schroeder and John Yust actually prepared a presentation to the board detailing their historical research on the building. My last vote on the Federation board was to grant the variance so the Stone Saloon can have its front steps. I continue to support the project.

Tom has been very inclusive in his plans. Along with the fact that the Stone Saloon is simply a great idea, his inclusiveness has built significant support in the neighborhood. That support includes neighbors who will be immediately impacted such as myself, and neighbors a few blocks away who are also excited about this welcome addition to the culture of the city.

Two other topics that may not be related to the historic use variance, but that I'd like to bring up: first, apparently parking is a concern.

Tom has already arranged to provide sufficient spots along the alley.

As a neighbor, I can attest that this alone would be a significant improvement. Yes, it's parking, but parking for patrons coming to visit our neighborhood is better than the current eyesore of used cars, delivery trucks and even couches for sale. Seriously -- drive by and take a look at the graffiti-covered box truck that's currently on that lot. It has been there for months, just like the one before that and the one before that.

And second, I want to say that having two breweries is likely better than one. If you look at the magnetic effect of Urban Growler and Bang Brewing sharing a parking lot, the same opportunity exists for Bad Weather and the Stone Saloon. Beer fans like yours truly enjoy sampling different styles. Having both nearby will make it a destination.

Tellingly, these potential competitors are both in support of each other. So are the majority of neighbors I talk to.

Thoughtfulness, history, and reasonable input have been a part of this process from day one. There's no reason to think that will change. I am comfortable that the Stone Saloon has been researched and planned well, and that with the continued spirit of inclusiveness, the project will be a success on all levels. It's an exciting time in the neighborhood.

Thanks!

Will Wilson  
254 Goodrich Ave

Written Testimony:  
Historic Use Variance Application  
445 Smith Avenue

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Dear Ms. Spong,

I am writing in support of Thomas Schroeder and the historic designation of the Stone Saloon (and the four other small limestone houses). As a 13+ year resident of St. Paul I would be thrilled if the Stone Saloon was allowed to open as a neighborhood tap house.

We have so much wonderful history in St. Paul and to be able to immerse ourselves in that history is one of the reasons I love this city. I appreciate the hard work that Mr. Schroeder has done to the property. It is wonderful that he is willing to share this wonderful building with all of us.

Thank you for your assistance on this matter.

Stacy Oelerking  
380 Ramsey Street  
St. Paul, MN

Written Testimony:  
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445 Smith Avenue

August 5, 2015

Hello. I live in the West 7th neighborhood and have been watching, with interest, the work Tom has done on the future Stone Saloon. The amount of work and effort that he has put in is a reflection of his respect of our whole city. I love that his intention is to (hopefully) pave the way for more historic renovation. Our city has such a cool past, and the more businesses and buildings like the Stone Saloon we have, the more that history is preserved, recognized, and appreciated. The building is a gem, and the owner seems to be so innovative and creative in his process. I can't wait for it to become a place that also fosters community, just as it always has. I love the idea of another space that creates connections between neighbors ... and creates a destination for the metro and tourism.

Lori Karis  
514 View Street  
Saint Paul MN 55102  
612-516-1525  
Home Away From Home

Written Testimony:  
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445 Smith Avenue

August 5, 2015

Hi Amy,

In case I cant make it to the meeting on the 15th I wanted to make sure that you know that I completely support this effort of opening the Stone Saloon! It is such a great idea and will benefit the neighborhood. I live up the bluff and it has been so great to watch the building transform and I can't wait to celebrate my German heritage and enjoy it.

Best,  
Brenda Danner  
791 Ottawa Ave  
Saint Paul, MN 55107

Written Testimony:  
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445 Smith Avenue

August 5, 2015

Hello Ms. Spong,

Although I cannot attend in person, I wanted to express my support for Tom Schroeder's request for granting a historic variance to allow the Stone Saloon to be designated as a historic site and to re-open as a historically-themed, Civil War era beer-only neighborhood tap house and microbrewery.

As a citizen of St Paul, I am proud of this city's respect for and recognition of its heritage and also its closely knit communities and neighborhoods. I believe the Stone Saloon will serve both of these traditions, and I strongly encourage you to grant a historic variance on August 13th.

Thank you for your time and your work serving our city.

Sincerely,  
Maya Missaghi

Maya Missaghi  
J.D.  
952.237.9602

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Thank you Maya,  
Can you please provide your address.

Amy

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Hi Amy,  
2122 Randolph Avenue  
55105  
Thanks,  
Maya

Written Testimony:  
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445 Smith Avenue

August 5, 2015

Dear Ms. Spong,

I support the Stone Saloon project. Thank you,

Sincerely,  
Lawrence Lawyer  
370 Marshall Av #104

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445 Smith Avenue

August 5, 2015

To Heritage Preservation Commission --

Please expedite the approvals needed for the Stone Saloon to open.

The building is a treasure, and returning it to commercial use would be wonderful.

And would help us preserve and enjoy all the historic buildings in the area.

Karen Cole  
Attorney at Law

651/222-6938

Premium Legal Writing  
[www.premiumlegalwriting.com](http://www.premiumlegalwriting.com)

644 Summit Ave.  
St. Paul, MN 55105



Written Testimony:  
Historic Use Variance Application  
445 Smith Avenue

August 5, 2015

Hello Amy Spong,

**I am writing in full support of the Stone Saloon!**

I heartily urge the HPC to recommend to the City Council:

- the historic designation of the Stone Saloon (and four other small limestone houses); and
- the granting of a "historic use variance" to allow the Stone Saloon to re-open as a historically-themed, Civil War era beer-only neighborhood tap house and microbrewery.

I have a conflict for the hearing date, but would attend otherwise to show my support.

As Executive Director of the Minnesota Craft Brewers Guild, **I would love to see this become a reality.** And it's only 2.5 miles from home.

Cheers,

Phil

Phil Platt

Executive Director

Minnesota Craft Brewers Guild

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Hello Phil,

Can you please provide your address for the testimony? And copy to me.

Thanks,

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Amy,

My personal address is 1334 Osceola Avenue 55104

Phil Platt

Written Testimony:  
Historic Use Variance Application  
445 Smith Avenue

August 6, 2015

Hello Amy,

I live in the West End neighborhood. I have been a proud resident of the Schmidt Artist Lofts for two years now. I love how this neighborhood takes pride in its history and fights to preserve that history. Community members, the Fort Road Federation, and Councilman Dave Thune have all been instrumental in the restoration and redevelopment of the former Schmidt Brewery site, where my husband and I call home. I hope the City neighborhood continues that tradition of historic preservation, redevelopment, and investment in the cultural landscape of the area by granting the Stone Saloon an historic use variance.

I fully support the work Tom has been doing and hope the HPC votes yes on:

- the historic designation of the Stone Saloon (and four other small limestone houses); and

- the granting of a "historic use variance" to allow the Stone Saloon to re-open as a historically-themed, Civil War era beer-only neighborhood tap house and microbrewery.

Best,

Alanna Morris-Van Tassel

West End Resident

Professional Dancer, Teaching Artist, Choreographer, Artist Organizer

[www.victoriatheater.org](http://www.victoriatheater.org)

[www.tudance.org](http://www.tudance.org)

917-583-3567

Written Testimony:  
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445 Smith Avenue

August 6, 2015

Dear Amy,

I am writing to express my support for the granting of a historic use variance to allow the Stone Saloon to re-open as a historically-themed, Civil War era beer-only neighborhood tap house and microbrewery.

St. Paul is in a unique position to allow for a unique experience of a location and space that has been meticulously restored.

The approval of this variance will do several things: It will provide a one of a kind experience only available in St. Paul. It will add to the livability of the neighborhood and city by providing a gathering place for neighbors and residents. The Stone Tap will attract visitors to a unique and historic neighborhood in the city while helping provide much needed tax revenues. It will also help spur further investment in historic structures elsewhere in the city by showing that there are valid uses of such a costly renovation.

I urge the Heritage Preservation Commission to approve the granting of a historic use variance for the Stone Saloon.

Sincerely,

Jeff Zaayer  
1750 Saunders Ave  
Saint Paul, MN 55116

Written Testimony:  
Historic Use Variance Application  
445 Smith Avenue

August 5, 2015

Dear Ms. Spong,

I'm writing to express my support for the Stone Saloon project on Smith Avenue. I sincerely hope that the HPC will recommend:

1. An historic designation for the Stone Saloon; and 2. That the Stone Saloon be granted a variance so that the property may re-open as a historically-themed tap house and microbrewery.

My family and I live just across the Smith bridge from the Stone Saloon and we would be very glad to see the Stone Saloon open as a neighborhood-oriented place within walking distance of our home.

All best,

Bjorn Arneson  
587 Ottawa Ave  
Saint Paul, MN 55107

Written Testimony:  
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445 Smith Avenue

August 7, 2015

Amy,

As a High Bridge neighbor, I support the Stone Saloon and what they are doing for the neighborhood.

Thank you  
Bill Nosan  
829 Ottawa Ave  
St. Paul, MN 55107

Written Testimony:  
Historic Use Variance Application  
445 Smith Avenue

August 7, 2015

Hi Amy,

Because of my work schedule I cannot attend the hearing for the Stone Saloon, but I want you to know that I support it.

I am asking that the St. Paul Heritage Preservation Commission recommend to the City Council:

- historic designation of the Stone Saloon.
- granting a "historic use variance" to allow the Stone Saloon to re-open as a historically-themed, Civil War era beer-only neighborhood tap house and microbrewery.

I believe the Stone Saloon will help to bring our city's history to life in an engaging way, increasing interest in preserving historic buildings.

Thanks!

Renee Valois  
2014 Cleveland Avenue North  
Saint Paul, MN  
651-631-0499

Written Testimony:  
Historic Use Variance Application  
445 Smith Avenue

August 6, 2015

Ms Spong

As I am unable to attend the St. Paul Heritage Preservation Commission hearing scheduled for August 13, 5:00 p.m, I am sending you an email to express my support of Tom Schroeder's request for historic designation of the pre Civil War era building known as the "Stone Saloon" at 445 Smith Avenue in St Paul as well as his request for the granting of a "historic use variance" to allow the Stone Saloon to re-open as a historically-themed, Civil War era beer-only neighborhood tap house and microbrewery.

Sincerely,  
Ann Page  
82 Manitoba Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55117

Written Testimony:  
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445 Smith Avenue

August 5, 2015

Ms. Spong:

I'd like to add my voice to those encouraging you to recommend that the Stone Saloon in St. Paul be granted historic designation, as well as to grant an historic use variance to allow this historic building to re-open as its restorers intend.

My husband and I went to take a look at the building a couple of years ago when the story about it first appeared in the Pioneer Press. It's a wonderful structure --- a period piece that is part of the fabric of old St. Paul. Its history is well worth keeping alive, especially in an era when things of the past seem to be disappearing before our eyes.

Thanks in advance for making this recommendation to the City Council.

Louise Benson Griffin  
Woodbury MN



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445 Smith Avenue

August 5, 2015

Ms. Spong,

I support the Stone Saloon and the 3 other historical limestone buildings. Places like these give St Paul the vibrant character that makes it unique and interesting. I have only recently started working in downtown St Paul and am learning the interesting and fun places that make up the city.

Please assist in having the HPC recommend to the City Council that they:

- Assign historic designation to the Stone Saloon (and four other small limestone houses); and
- Grant a "historic use variance" to allow the Stone Saloon to re-open as a historically-themed, Civil War era beer-only neighborhood tap house and microbrewery.

Respectfully,  
Daryl Johnson  
1255 99th Court Ne  
Blaine, MN 55434

Written Testimony:  
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445 Smith Avenue

August 5, 2015

I will be unable to attend the public hearing on August 13th with the St. Paul Heritage Preservation Commission, so I wanted to voice my support for the Stone Saloon via email.

Thanks!

Brad Knutson  
950 18th Street  
Newport, MN 55055

Written Testimony:  
Historic Use Variance Application  
445 Smith Avenue

Good morning,

August 5, 2015

I am unable to make the public hearing on August 13th, but I am writing to add my voice to support Tom Schroeder's work to restore the Stone Saloon on Smith Ave to it's original purpose of a German lager house.

I have been following the progress of this project and as someone who appreciates history and beer I am excited to see this work complete and raise a stein in this historic building.

I am also writing as a board member of the Germanic American Institute. German settlers are the people who helped make Saint Paul a great city, and celebrating this heritage is important. The GAI does this through educational activities throughout the year and I have spread the word about this building. We are all looking forward to supporting this institution, which we feel will add to the renown of Saint Paul.

Tom has done a great deal of hard work and I hope that this hearing will allow him to complete his vision.

Thank you for your time.

Liz Pearson  
GAI Board of Directors  
[www.gai-mn.org](http://www.gai-mn.org)

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Thank you Liz,

Just to verify, your testimony does not represent the whole board of the GAI?

Amy

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Thank you Amy.

You are correct, my statements do not represent every member of the Board of Directors of the GAI, but it does represent several, along with many members of the GAI who I have spoken with in regards to this establishment.

Everyone that I have spoken to (not as a board representative, but as a fellow member of the GAI, a lover of Saint Paul history and beer) has shared the same excitement about this project and are very excited to see it open for business.

The board's retreat is this Saturday and I plan to bring this item up on our agenda and ask for a formal statement that can be submitted for record.

Thank you for your response.

Liz Pearson

Written Testimony:  
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445 Smith Avenue

August 6, 2015

Please consider approving this owner's application at the Council meeting on August 13<sup>th</sup>.. Thank you.

156 22<sup>nd</sup> Ave. South, SSP... formerly a West Sider @ 793 Delaware...

Written Testimony:  
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445 Smith Avenue

August 5, 2015

I support the stone saloon at 445 Smith Ave.

This would be a great asset to the neighborhood. Bringing back a lost history from the roots of St Paul.

Please support making the Stone Saloon a reality. This is the type of small business we should be investing in. Something backed by the neighborhood, steeped in history, a perfect platform for continued neighborhood collaboration.

Thanks.

Anna Yust

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Can you please provide your address.

Thanks,

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Currently I am living in Copenhagen Denmark but was a resident at 256 Goodrich ave for 1982-2001. And a resident at 202 mcboal st 2007-2013.

During my time at 202 mcboal, I was able to participate with archeological excavations at 445 smith. I was also able to witness the fragments of history the revealed themselves when the old plaster was taken down on the interior and the infill stone facade was removed.

I will likely move back to this neighborhood when I move back to Minnesota and would really love this addition to the neighborhood.

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Historic Use Variance Application  
445 Smith Avenue

August 6, 2015

Hi Amy,

Greetings from accross the pond.

I just wanted to offer my support to the owners of The Stone Saloon who were kind enough to show me around the saloon when I last visited St Paul in January last.

I was thouroughly impressed by the sympathetic renovations and with the future plans for the premises. As a former renovater of property here in the UK and in France and a fellow bar owner its always exciting to see other similar minded folk embracing historic buildings and utilising them for modern day use, instead of flattening them for a quick buck and replacing them with cheap trash.

I hope you will offer your support and I look forward to raising a tankard by way of thanks in the near future at the saloon on completion of the works or when I next visit, whichever comes first.

All the very best to you.

Honk, honk,

Nelly Smyth  
Snow Goose Cafe Bar

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Can you please provide your address?

Thanks,

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Sure Amy, really hope to visit the Saloon soon.  
The Snow Goose,  
52/54 Sunderland Street,  
Macclesfield,  
Cheshire,  
England,  
SK11 6HN

Written Testimony:  
Historic Use Variance Application  
445 Smith Avenue

August 6, 2015

Hello Mrs.Spong,

I would like to voice my support for the Stone Saloon.

I have been a Saint Paul resident and am particularly fond of the West 7th area. An area on the up and up featuring the new Bad Weather Brewing tap room (right across the alley from Stone Saloon!).

I've had the pleasure to visit the Stone Saloon and it is a magnificent way to introduce a whole new generation to a love for local history. As a young person myself, I know others my age will love getting a heritage beer in the most 'old-school' tap room in town and those interactions will spark interest in local history in general! Not to mention a great place to energize and organize existing history lovers!

For me, the historic designation and the historic use variance go hand in hand: without the use variance, there is no need for the historic designation. It would be like fixing up a model T without an engine.

Please recommend to the City Council to designate the Stone Saloon as a historic space and to grant a historic use variance.

Sincerely,

Eric R. Sannerud

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Please provide your address.

Thanks,

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I live at 16501 Buchanan St NE, Ham Lake, MN 55304

Used to live at 1815 Thomas Ave, Saint Paul

Written Testimony:  
Historic Use Variance Application  
445 Smith Avenue

August 6, 2015

Amy,

My name is Pat Cunningham.

I am writing to you to express my interest, and seek your support of helping the Stone Saloon complete the transformation of becoming a vital community asset. The historic building has already been preserved, and now awaits utilization to be put back to work.

I believe having a German Lager House, that showcases German culture would be a great addition to the City of St. Paul, and the immediate neighborhood.

Your support would be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Pat

806 Park Place Drive

Mendota Heights, MN 55118

C: 651.724.0434



Written Testimony:  
Historic Use Variance Application  
445 Smith Avenue

August 5, 2015

Dear Ms Spong

I am writing on behalf of the Stone Saloon in their request to be granted an historic use variance.

I would like to ask that you grant that so the stone salon can open.

I have been following their renovation efforts on their website.

I am not in any way affiliated with the stone salon or its owners.

I am writing as a history buff.

I think that this would be a very interesting place to visit.

I would hope that all of the work and money that the owners invested will result in a place that the public can visit.

Hopefully his successful efforts will encourage others to renovate historically significant buildings.

Thank you for your time.

Pat Cosgrove  
14302 Hickory Court  
Apple Valley, MN 5524

Written Testimony:  
Historic Use Variance Application  
445 Smith Avenue

August 5, 2015

Hi Amy,

I think St. Paul is very lucky to have someone like Tom working on a restoration project. Very lucky, indeed. (I keep trying to get him to move to Stillwater!). I do hope the HPC and City Council will grant his request; I certainly think he has done his homework.

Donald Empson  
"Witsend Cottage"  
1206 North Second Street  
Stillwater, MN 55082  
651-351-0172

Written Testimony:  
Historic Use Variance Application  
445 Smith Avenue

August 5, 2015

Dear Amy: I am writing to you about my support for the Stone Saloon on Smith Av. This will be a WONDERFUL addition to the neighborhood! I am very excited to see Tom Schroeder's dream finally come to fruition. It is great to see someone with so much ambition and energy putting their heart and soul into the project. And I am looking forward to finally being able to drive into my hometown and enjoy a brew in such a historic building in the very near future! Thank you for all you do to make this happen.

Sincerely,  
Patricia Thraen  
16015 Norell Av N  
Marine on St. Croix, MN 55047  
651-216-3015

Written Testimony:  
Historic Use Variance Application  
445 Smith Avenue

August 7, 2015

Dear Ms. Spong,

As I am not able to attend the St. Paul Heritage Preservation Commission meeting next Thursday, I am writing in support of the Stone Saloon.

I have known and worked closely with Tom Schroeder for 6+ years. I became aware of his work on the Stone Saloon during this time and have closely followed the evolution of the Stone Saloon building.

The Stone Saloon - and the other limestone houses - are important remnants that illustrate the history of St. Paul beyond that of the great ox cart merchants and railway industrialists. Don't get me wrong, those individuals and their buildings contributed greatly to the City. It is important to preserve these buildings for future generations as they represent those who provided the labor for the city's builders.

The plans proposed for the Stone Saloon, to make it a living historical site, are ambitious and will be a great addition to the community along West 7th. The plans to make the Stone Saloon a functioning commercial building, contributing to the economy of the neighborhood, are fantastic! Putting the building to work is greatly preferable to a site that receives historical designation, then is put on the proverbial mantle to collect dust with a placard saying, "look but don't touch".

Without the historic designation and historic use variance, these plans for the building and the community are for naught. What's left you ask? Another historical building placed on the mantle to collect dust.

Specifically, I ask that the St. Paul Heritage Preservation Commission approve and recommend to the St. Paul City Council:

- the historic designation of the Stone Saloon (and four other small limestone houses); and
- the granting of a "historic use variance" to allow the Stone Saloon to re-open as a historically-themed, Civil War era beer-only neighborhood tap house and microbrewery.

Thank you.

Robert Sannerud  
6613 Hillside Lane  
Edina, MN 55439  
(952) 564-1528