

**MINUTES OF THE ZONING COMMITTEE**  
**Thursday, March 11, 2021 - 3:30 p.m.**

PRESENT: Baker, DeJoy, Grill, Hood, Rangel Morales, Reilly, Syed, and Taghioff  
EXCUSED: DeJoy  
STAFF: Menaka Mohan, Samantha Langer, Allan Torstenson, and Peter Warner

The meeting was chaired by Commissioner Baker. He stated that the chair of the Planning Commission had determined that due to the COVID-19 pandemic it is neither practical nor prudent for the Zoning Committee to meet in person, and therefore the meeting was being conducted remotely, with all members of the Zoning Committee attending the meeting remotely. The public is also able to join the meeting remotely and can speak during the public hearing portion or submit comments by noon on the day before the meeting.

**North End Community Center - 21-237-397 - Conditional use permit for multi-use community recreation center, with modification of a conditions to permit parking in the minimum front yard and principal access to be from Lawson Street. Variance for parking front setback (25' minimum, 7' proposed)., 1025 Rice Street, NW corner at Lawson**

Menaka Mohan presented the staff report with a recommendation of approval with a condition for the conditional use permit for a multi-use community recreation center, with modification of conditions and a variance. She said District 6 recommended approval, and there was one letter that expressed concern regarding parking on the site.

Chris Stark, City of Saint Paul, Department of Parks and Recreation, 25 W Fourth Street, Saint Paul, said that they really wanted to activate Rice Street and hopefully share programming with the library across Lawson Avenue which positioned the building in that location and also provides good access to public transportation that is important for this facility. The grading on site causes some challenges to do anything right of off Rice Street. The entrance to the building will be at the second level and it will have a walkout basement feel which is how people will access the building from the parking lot. That led them to put the parking lot access from Lawson and in doing so positioning it where it is relative to the setback and provides more opportunities for the multipurpose feel and for stormwater management that is located underground. This project will be a great addition to the community.

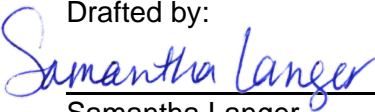
In response to Commissioner Baker, Mr. Stark said they want to start as soon as possible with construction. Ideally it would happen in 2021, but it is entirely dependant on funding they receive.


No one spoke in support or in opposition. The public hearing was closed.


Commissioner Reilly moved approval with condition of the conditional use permit with modifications of conditions and a variance. Commissioner Grill seconded the motion.

The motion passed by a vote of 7-0-0.

Adopted                      Yeas - 7              Nays - 0              Abstained - 0

Drafted by:  
  
Samantha Langer  
Recording Secretary

Submitted by:  
  
Menaka Mohan (Mar 29, 2021 10:10 CDT)  
Menaka Mohan  
City Planner

Approved by:  
  
Cedrick Baker (Mar 29, 2021 19:11 CDT)  
Cedrick Baker  
Chair









# 21-237-397 North End Community minutes MM

Final Audit Report

2021-03-30

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