

ACTION MINUTES OF THE HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION
CITY OF SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA
Online MS Teams Meeting
September 20, 2021

Present: Teresa Kimker, Barbara Bezat, Stuart MacDonald, Paul Nelson, Joseph Peroutka, Steve George, Joseph Peroutka, Ethan Osten, Leetta Douglas (3:35)

Absent: Robert Lubke, David Wagner

Staff Present: George Gause, Christine Boulware, Kate Daley

Number of Public in Call: 8

I. Call to Order 3:30 pm

II. Oath of Office

City Clerk Ms. Moore delivered the oath of office to commissioner Ethan Osten.

III. Adoption of the Agenda

*Commissioner George moved to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion. **Motion passed 8-0.***

IV. Conflicts of Interest None

V. Minutes

Minutes for August 23, 2021 HPC meeting was reviewed.

*Commissioner Bezat moved to recommend approval of the minutes. Commissioner Peroutka seconded the motion. **Motion passed 8-0.***

Commissioner Douglas joins meeting.

VI. Pre-Application

Staff presented the application for 321 Irvine Avenue W. to construct a new duplex structure.

Commissioner questions and comments

The intent of the guidelines and the Irving Avenue plan is for new construction to 'fit' in. This building is heavily vertical.

Proposal doesn't 'fit' with the rest of this area.

The next-door structure which is modern would be a good building to look at for design.

When was the structure at 275 Irving built?

Are the new buildings counter to the precedent of the guidelines?

Did the applicant meet with staff?

Irving Avenue development plan is only for reference correct.

Applicant comments

Applicant was present for the start of the meeting, but not for the discussion.

Public testimony

A letter from several nearby neighbors was acknowledged by the commission chair.

Commissioner comments

It looks as if this design was started without knowing the guidelines.

Applicants should contact staff and discuss options.

This is a poor design that doesn't 'fit' with the hill historic district.

I'm particularly disturbed by the window design it doesn't correspond to the area.

The facade should complement the district.

There are several great structures on this street that could be used as inspiration but never copy.

They should probably start from scratch.

It would be helpful if we had a context drawing and narrative of how the applicant feels this fits.

VII. Business

a. B-Line Bus Rapid Transit CLG Review

Commissioner questions and comments

Will this be light rail?

Will the streets be right widened for this?

Is this replacing current bus lines?

Applicant

Applicant presented the Power Point that was made available prior to the meeting.

Public testimony

Staff did not receive any comments from the public.

Commissioner comments

Can stations contain info on historic structures and districts especially when they're located nearby?

We are grateful that stations have been moved away from the Dacotah Building and Blair Flats.

Could the speed of BRT be a negative effect to the district?

It will not be faster speed wise we are only taking away delays by making improvements to the process such as prepay and less stops.

Great that you are using clear glass in the stations.

This is welcomed as it helps diversify Saint Paul and keeps our city moving.

*Commissioner George moved that the HPC concurs with the assessment of no adverse effect and delegate City of Saint Paul HP staff the ability to comment on any minor issues that may arise with the project. Commissioner Bezat seconded. **Motion passed 8-0.***

VIII. Commissioners Bezat and Wagner were recognized for their years of service to the residents of Saint Paul.

Adjourn 5:19pm

The meeting recording is available on the City of Saint Paul YouTube site, under the playlists tab-HPC.