

**ACTION MINUTES OF THE HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION
CITY OF SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA
Online *Skype for Business* Meeting
October 5, 2020**

Present: Paul Nelson (3:41), David Wagner (3:41), Stuart MacDonald, Teresa Kimker, Joseph Peroutka, Leetta Douglas, Steve George

Absent: Robert Lubke, Barbara Bezat

Staff Present: George Gause, Christine Boulware, Allison Suhan Eggers

Number of Public in Call: 19

I. Call to Order 3:30pm

II. Adoption of the Agenda *It was noted that the listening session for Tuesday would begin at 4:30pm and not 3:30 as listed on the agenda. Commissioner George moved to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Douglas seconded the motion. **Motion passed 4-0.***

III. Conflicts of Interest *None*

IV. Minutes

*Minutes for September 21, 2020 HPC meeting were reviewed. Commissioner George moved to recommend approval of the minutes. Commissioner Peroutka seconded the motion. **Motion passed 4-0.***

V. Public Hearing

A. 701 Summit; Side Porch Reconstruction (Gause)

- Commissioners Wagner and Nelson join the meeting (3:41)

Commissioners asked about the neighboring structure

Staff read comments in favor of the project from Commissioner Bezat

*Commissioner McDonald moved to approve the application. Commissioner George seconded the motion and offered an amendment that the seven conditions in the draft resolution be approved as well. Amendment was accepted. **Motion passed 6-0.***

B. 540 Portland; New Construction (Suhan Eggers)

Commissioners asked about water management plans for the site.

Staff read in submitted written testimony – 1 opposing, 17 in favor.

Commissioners commended the thoroughness of the applicant's submission.

Commissioners acknowledged and appreciated neighbors' concerns but noted that the project meets all the criteria they are charged with addressing.

- Commissioner Douglas left the meeting (4:20)

*Commissioner Nelson moved to approve the application. Commissioner Wagner seconded the motion and offered an amendment that the seven conditions in the draft resolution be approved as well. Amendment was accepted. **Motion passed 5-0.***

VI. Pre-Application

B. 2260 Summit; Demolition St. Thomas Loras Hall (Gause)

Staff read comments which oppose the demolition from Commissioner Bezat

Commissioner comments:

I'm greatly concerned about the demolition.

Mothballing or rotating the structure should be reexamined.

Preserving cultural heritage should be a mission of a University.

The profound importance of a Cass Gilbert designed building should outweigh demolition.

Demolition seems to be a short-term solution.

Has an environmental impact study been accomplished?

The University should be working on creatively integrating Loras Hall into the STEM building, it's an opportunity to showcase how the past and future can exist as one.

The Chair noted that the open public listening session on bias and exclusion will be tomorrow at 4:30pm.

VI. Adjourn 5:07pm

- End -