

CITY OF SAINT PAUL

HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION RESOLUTION

FILE NUMBER 13-Lighting Civil War Memorial

DATE April 25, 2013

WHEREAS, Chapter 73 of the Saint Paul Legislative Code declares as a matter of public policy that the preservation and perpetuation of areas, places, structures and objects having special historical, aesthetic interest or value is a public necessity and is required in the interest of the health and welfare of the people; and

WHEREAS, the Saint Paul Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) is authorized by Chapter 73 of the Saint Paul Legislative Code to safeguard the heritage of the City of Saint Paul by preserving sites and structures which reflect elements of the city's cultural, social, economic, political or architectural history and to protect and enhance the City of Saint Paul's attraction to residents, tourists and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the Civil War Memorial, also called the Soldiers and Sailors Monument, is located on a triangular parcel of land that is bounded by John Ireland Boulevard, Summit Avenue and Kellogg Boulevard also called Summit Park. The Monument is located just outside the boundaries of the local and National Register Hill Historic Districts and is located within the Capitol Area boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the 14-foot tall bronze statue of Josias R. King stands atop a 55-foot tall column of Vermont marble designed by artist John K. Daniels, a Norwegian-born sculptor in Saint Paul who also created statues of Senator Knute Nelson and Leif Erikson, as well as another Civil War monument in Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, Josias R. King was the first Minnesotan to volunteer to fight for the Union in the Civil War. The men of the 1st Minnesota Infantry are most remembered for their actions on July 2, 1863, during the second day of the battle at Gettysburg, where the regiment prevented the Confederates from pushing the Federals off of Cemetery Ridge, a position that was to be crucial in the battle and considered a turning point of the Civil War; and

WHEREAS, the Memorial was commissioned by the Allied Organizations of the City of Saint Paul and the Grand Army of the Republic. Henry Castle dedicated the statue on November 20th, 1903; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Edward (Mike) Murphy III is donating lighting for the Memorial and states that the statue has been in the dark for 100 years while other monuments in Saint Paul have enjoyed some type of architectural lighting. Mr. Murphy's goal is to light the memorial on this 150th Anniversary year of the Battle of Gettysburg. Mr. Murphy enlisted a lighting design firm and the plan uses seven small LED's to cast narrow beams of light to reach the height of the statue while providing a wash of light on the marble column; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that based on the information presented at its April 11th and April 25th, 2013 meetings, the Heritage Preservation Commission supports the proposal of adding ground-mounted lighting to highlight the Civil War Memorial and thanks Mr. Edward (Mike) Murphy III for this donation. Further, the HPC also supports and encourages restoration of the marble column and statute and recommends coordination and planning between Public Art Saint Paul and the Department of Parks and Recreation.

MOVED BY Trout-Oertel

SECONDED BY Dana

IN FAVOR 8

AGAINST 0

ABSTAIN