

FILE
13-218791

Diatta, YaYa (CI-StPaul)

From: Irna Landrum <irna@summit-u.com>
Sent: Friday, September 13, 2013 3:17 PM
To: Richard Lang; Diatta, YaYa (CI-StPaul)
Subject: Saint Paul College Sign Variance

Richard,

Thank you for continuing to follow up with me. I have copied Yaya Diatta on this email. Hopefully, this will be helpful.

Yaya, Richard and his colleagues made a thorough and very well-received presentation to our Neighborhood Development Committee and several residents on Tuesday, August 20. I understand that the general feel and consensus of the meeting is that the community is glad that Saint Paul College is providing so many opportunities for education in our city. The college has consistently shown themselves willing to work with neighbors and other stakeholders to expand thoughtfully and with as little disruption to the community as possible.

We understand the need the college has for signage, and that their building is quite large and much of it faces out into downtown. For that reason, we have no objections to this request.

Due to climbing temperatures in August, our board was not able to meet. We believed that in our meeting room, which is not air conditioned, it would not be wise or safe to hold a 2-hour meeting. To that end, the board has not been able to vote on the committee's recommendation to approve this variance application. I believe, though, that this board's continued goodwill towards Saint Paul College will remain as long as they keep reaching out to us and responding in the ways that they have.

Thank you,

Irna

--
Irna Landrum
Executive Director
Summit-University Planning Council

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Diatta, YaYa (CI-StPaul)

FILE
13-21899

From: Langer, Samantha (CI-StPaul)
Sent: Monday, September 16, 2013 1:44 PM
To: Diatta, YaYa (CI-StPaul)
Subject: FW: Today's BZA Meeting

Importance: High

Please see below. Thanks.

From: Mike and Benita [<mailto:warns@pclink.com>]
Sent: Monday, September 16, 2013 1:42 PM
To: Langer, Samantha (CI-StPaul)
Subject: Today's BZA Meeting
Importance: High

I cannot find an e-mail address for YaYa Diatta in order to submit comments for one of the agenda items for today's BZA meeting. Please forward this to the appropriate person so that the BZA members have it available for this afternoon's meeting. Thanks.

Benita Warns, Owner
Mr. Michael Recycles Bicycles, LLC
520 N. Prior Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55104
651-641-1037
www.mmrystore.com

Please enter this information into the official record for the September 16, 2013 public hearing before the Board of Zoning Appeals. This is in reference to item 13-21899, which is a request for major variances to the zoning code to install illuminated signs on all four building sides of St. Paul College, at least one of them being a dynamic display sign.

I oppose granting these variances. The spirit of the zoning rules for signs is to reduce the visual clutter that comes from an excessive number of signs. The purpose of signs on buildings is typically to identify the entity that occupies the building. These signs are supposed to let people know that the building contains St. Paul College. I fail to understand why more signs are needed for this building, as I don't recall ever hearing anyone claim that they couldn't find St. Paul College because there was no sign. Also, I don't see a need for a sign on every side of the building, let alone the need for all of them to be far above the square footage permitted by the zoning rules.

St. Paul College is located in close proximity to residential properties on the south side of their property. The additional light pollution that comes from illuminated signs is a nuisance to people living nearby. I seriously doubt that these signs are necessary for St. Paul College to attract more students, or that St. Paul College will cease to be a viable institution if they don't install huge signs on all sides of the building.

Please deny these major variances and have St. Paul College come back with a more reasonable proposal for one sign on the main entrance side of their building, with no dynamic display, and that will not add significant light pollution to any nearby residence.

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FILE
13-218991

Diatta, YaYa (CI-StPaul)

From: Katie Engman <tobaccoke@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, September 16, 2013 1:25 PM
To: Diatta, YaYa (CI-StPaul)
Subject: Continued enforcement of existing sign code

Dear Yaya:

In 2012, the City of Saint Paul amended its sign code to improve the community's image and safety. District 3,4,5,7,8,11,12,13,14 and 17 Community Councils, the Land Use Committee from District 6, Ramsey Tobacco Coalition, Scenic St. Paul, Mothers Against Tobacco, Scenic Minnesota, and Saint Paul crime prevention officers all advocated and supported these code amendments. We oppose the request to BZA and ask that the existing sign code continued be enforced.

Thank you for your dedication in maintaining a great community!

-Katie

Katie H. Engman, MCHES
Ramsey Tobacco Coalition Program Director
North Suburban Tobacco Compliance Project
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