## Spong, Amy (CI-StPaul)

From:

bethany gladhill <bethany@gladhillrhone.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, July 22, 2014 10:23 PM

To:

Spong, Amy (CI-StPaul)

Subject:

SARPA position on Summit properties for HPC meeting on 7/24

Attachments:

sarpa solar whitepaper.docx

Dear Amy:

Hopefully an email can stand in for a fancy letterhead missive with our position.

SARPA (the Summit Avenue Residential Preservation Association) met on Monday night. Our unanimous opinions, should they be of interest to the HPC, are as follows:

900 Summit: SARPA would not be opposed to the solar panels, provided they were in accordance with our solar energy position (see attached).

1621 Summit: SARPA is not convinced that outward opening casement windows are appropriate for this house. However, we feel that the removal of the non-original storms (along with the retention of the transoms) is an extremely positive alteration. We believe the removal of the storms is the most important factor, and would not oppose outward-swinging casements in that case.

1890 Summit: In general, SARPA is not in favor of the demolition of original structures, including outbuildings. However, in this case, we believe that the current garage is in such poor condition that its replacement is warranted. We would encourage the homeowner to make some small changes to add some additional architectural character, which we believe will serve the property well and add particular value. We would like to see this project serve as an impetus for other preservation work on that block.

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DATE: July 24, 2014

TO: Saint Paul Heritage Preservation Commission

SUBJECT: Comments regarding 1621 Summit Avenue (File #14-030)

I am the homeowner at 1623 Summit Avenue, next door to the proposed project. I disagree with the staff's recommendation on the project at 1621 Summit Avenue (File #14-030). I believe the project should be approved for the following reasons:

The recommended denial of the project rests on fine points which have little practical validity. The windows already have non-conforming storms, which the homeowner wishes to remove and replace with more attractive ones. Considering the existing inappropriate storms, the proposed project is a considerable improvement over the current state of the building. The alterations are designed with sensitivity to the original design, and simply opening outward is a reasonable concession to changing social requirements. The original design is fairly impractical for a modern family, and simply opening outward largely maintains the integrity of the original design while updating it to accommodate human needs.

The guidelines concede that most properties change over time -- and this change will improve the usability of the house and will actually improve its attractiveness, with virtually invisible alterations to the original style. For those of us who actually live in the area, this project represents a significant improvement and should be approved.

Respectfully submitted,

John Gaylord

1623 Summit Avenue

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