

Dearing Mansion Support

Tahsha LePage <tahshalepage@gmail.com>

Mon 6/18/2018 10:13 PM

Kramer, Scott

To: Administrative Staff <staff@ferdlaw.com>;

To Whom it May Concern,

We are writing this letter to show our support for Scott Kramer, owner of the Dearing Mansion.

We have lived four houses down from the mansion at 189 George St. since June of 2016. The mansion was the first building we noticed when we moved in. It is the highlight of our neighborhood in the often forgotten 40 acres of St. Paul and is truly an asset for this side of the river showing that beautiful historic homes are not just limited to Summit St. The fact that visiting friends and family can experience some of the historic feel of St. Paul without the downtown hotel prices is beneficial to our neighborhood.

We understand the city is considering revoking the Bed and Breakfast license due to a New Year's party ringing in 2018. We spent a low key evening at home this New Year's, which included late night lounging on our back deck. We did not hear anything that indicated a party happening just 4 backyards over. It was actually surprising that there was no signs of partygoers using street parking, especially with parking on only one side of the street.

There are only two properties that cause noticeable noises over the norm nearby. One is the church between us and the mansion, with all day sermons that seem to be occurring outside. The other is a house at the bottom of the hill near Robie or Winifred St where someone is constantly running power tools. These are things we understand and accept. We also have a lot of emergency vehicle and police traffic, considerably noisy at all hours of the day and night.

The historic essence of the Dearing mansion is far more an asset as a bed and breakfast option. The neighborhood is seeing a trend is historic preservation. Home Street Home cafe is near opening day, with the owner preserving the historic aspect of the building and Yoerg Brewing is set to open nearby, with historic preservation as part of their plan. This is obviously important for growth in our neighborhood, drawing in people who would otherwise never step foot on this side of the river, or any further than Harriet Island or the street caves.

Scott has been a responsible neighbor and contributor to our community. I highly recommend using discretion wisely in this decision. The Dearing Mansion is far more a positive asset to our community in this secluded area of St. Paul than not. The bed and breakfast permit allows a unique and special experience for visitors/tourists in our part of the city, which supports the local businesses in our neighborhood.

I urge you to consider an exception to the rule, and allow for a flexibility of BnB and private event bookings for this unique property.

Regards,

Tahsha LePage and Esten Staab