

Fwd: Dearing Mansion Bed and Breakfast—letter of support

On Mon, Feb 13, 2017 at 5:07 PM, Shelly Campbell <Shelly@shellycampbellstudios.com> wrote:

Hello Kady Dadlez-

Please pass this letter onto the Zoning Committee:

This is a letter in support of Scott Kramer's request for a modification to the conditional use permit for the Dearing Mansion property, located at 241 George St West, St Paul, 55107. Scott is hoping to have the permit expanded to the use of six bedrooms in the house. Currently, the conditional use permit only allows him the use of four bedrooms.

I've known Scott as a neighbor for many years, and I have to say that his small short-term housing business on George has brought community pride to the West Side. The Dearing Mansion makes all of us feel as though we here on the West Side count—just as much as any mansion on Summit Hill. We may not have the resources of the Summit folks, but with people like Scott amongst us, we've certainly got the talent to run small quality businesses that attract people from all over the world. Over the years, Scott has done a great job of renovating and maintaining the mansion himself—no small feat for such a large home.

Please consider granting Scott Kramer an expansion of his permit. The city of St Paul and the folks on the West Side with thank you for it.

Sincerely,
Shelly Campbell

Shelly Campbell
www.shellycampbellstudios.com
[651-769-4280](tel:651-769-4280)

Fwd: Emails received regarding your case

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Laurie <lasovell@yahoo.com>
To: "Dadlez, Kady (CI-StPaul)" <Kady.Dadlez@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Cc: "Noecker, Rebecca (CI-StPaul)" <Rebecca.Noecker@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Bcc:
Date: Tue, 27 Mar 2018 01:52:45 +0000
Subject: [241 George St W](#)

Dear Kady,

I am writing in support of Scott Kramer and the continuation of his permit to run a bed and breakfast at [241 George Street W](#). I am actually really upset that I must do this. Again. As I wrote last time his permit was in question, Scott has done NOTHING BUT GOOD AND POSITIVE WORK for West George Street, the West Side, and the city of St. Paul.

We ALL owe Scott more than any of us could ever pay him for what he has given our neighborhood and city - the restoration of a historic home to its original splendor. No one else could, or would, have done what Scott has done for that house and this neighborhood. Let's face it, George Street W is not and will never be Summit Ave, or even Cherokee Ave. We are so blessed to have Scott here, and the dedication and care that he has put into our neighborhood. It would be a HUGE loss to our community if he were to lose his permit, forcing him to sell.

I ask the city to support Scott, a resident and citizen who cares and invests in our neighborhood.

I understand that Scott made some questionable decisions regarding the New Years 2018 party. I do not believe that his permit should be revoked as a result of this. He does not deserve, nor do I believe that his actions deserve that kind of treatment.

We have lived directly across the street from the Dearing Mansion for 15 years, since before Scott bought the house. Scott has been an excellent neighbor and has run the B & B in a very considerate way for us, his neighbors. He is always very open and honest, often letting us know when he will have guests. I honestly cannot understand who would complain! The church, two doors down from Scott, is louder on a weekly basis than his home has been.

We have SO many issues on the West Side that demand the city's time, attention, and our tax dollars. Please, please do not spend time and resources to shut down the positive efforts and investments of a person we need and value as a member of our community!

I stated my feelings to the Star Tribune reporter who rang my doorbell a few weeks ago and asked me questions about this situation. He apparently didn't feel my sentiments were a good fit for his story. Again, our loss. Scott deserves so much better. We all do.

I will do my best to be at the hearing on Thursday, but I wanted to send you a letter of support as well.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Laurie Sovell
[240 George St W](#)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Michele Stillinger <stil0005@umn.edu>
To: "Dadlez, Kady (CI-StPaul)" <Kady.Dadlez@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Cc: "#CI-StPaul_Ward2" <Ward2@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Bcc:
Date: Tue, 27 Mar 2018 15:24:02 +0000
Subject: Urgent: Scott Kramer Conditional Use Permit

3/27/18

To: Kady Dadlez

CC: Councilmember Rebecca Noecker

Re: Conditional Use Permit for Scott Kramer

Dear Ms. Dadlez,

I am saddened to hear that city is considering revoking Scott Kramer's Conditional Use Permit. I live directly across the street from Scott. He has been an exemplary neighbor and I have never had any issues with him or his property being used as a bed and breakfast. I have lived in this neighborhood for over 20 years. I remember the former owners and when that house was falling apart. Scott rescued and restored a beautiful old house to its former glory. In this economy, that type of property is too large for a single family and ideally suited to being a bed and breakfast and event rental where everyone can have the opportunity to enjoy its historic charm. He has brought life back into our community and I for one am happy that the home can be preserved and enjoyed by others.

Apparently on New Years he had a private party. I was home all night recovering from a recent surgery. I didn't even know he was having a party. I heard no noises, no cars, nothing. I assume as citizens, we are allowed to have parties in our own homes, barbecues, family get-togethers, etc. I don't know how Scott's rental events are any different than a private citizen enjoying their own property. As long as everyone is respectful of their neighbors, which I know Scott is, I don't see any problem. **I am very concerned that the city is continually taking the word of one person as representative of the situation. This is beginning to look like a personal vendetta.**

This problem is really a matter of geography. Scott lives uphill of his neighbor to the north. Sound is carrying down, and probably seems louder than it really is. There is nothing that can be done about the placement of these houses. **No matter who lives in that house, the noise from their family get-togethers, barbecues, children playing in the yard, etc. is going to carry downhill. Instead of ruining the livelihood of a citizen in our neighborhood, how about recommending that the two individuals come up with a plan to build a fence or hedge as a sound barrier?**

I plan on being at the meeting on Thursday in support of Scott. I hope the city takes a closer look at the fact that they are relying on the word of one individual instead of a neighborhood, which has benefited from having a neighbor like Scott.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Michele Stillinger

[234 George Street West](#)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: DAN NANCY ZIGMUND <DNZIGMUND@msn.com>

To: "Dadlez, Kady (CI-StPaul)" <Kady.Dadlez@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

Cc:
Bcc:
Date: Tue, 27 Mar 2018 01:39:31 +0000
Subject: RE: Public Hearing to Consider Revocation or Modification of the Bed and Breakfast Conditional Use Permit for [241 George St W](#)

Hi Kady,

Once again, it appears that our neighbor Scott Kramer and his Deering Mansion B & B are in the spotlight – this time, in connection with a New Year’s Eve party 1/1/18 that another neighbor reported as a problem...

We don’t know Scott very well but over the years our interactions have always been positive and cordial and he seems to be very much a mild mannered good citizen – the kind of person you’d be happy to have live near by. So in this context, I would like point out that our current outreach is driven not because Scott is a “special pal” but rather by two simple things 1). Facts, and 2) Our sense of fair play.

In terms of FACTS: We attended a New Year’s Eve party elsewhere in the neighborhood and drove past [241 George St. W.](#) somewhat after midnight and whatever was going down at 241 George St [West](#) made absolutely ZERO impression on us. That is, we didn’t see anything or hear anything in the least bit untoward or problematic.... Not when we drove by, and not when we got out of the car and entered the house. We live two doors down from the Deering Mansion.

In terms of FAIR PLAY: we live here year round and the Deering Mansion has never, not once, come up on our radar as a problem. Scott’s B & B business is wholly invisible to us... And if we HAD noticed a party going on or heard one New Year’s Eve at ANY of our neighbors’, our sense of fair play is such that it would not have occurred to us to raise a fuss... It seems unfair that a New Year’s party can be conflated with year round behavior (and again, we don’t know what the problem even was 1/1/18...).

In closing, we are sorry to see a citizen who, from our perspective, is a welcome addition to the neighborhood being characterized in way we don’t understand. We do not think that Scott’s Conditional Use Permit should be revoked.

Sincerely,

Dan & Nancy Zigmund

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: DAN NANCY ZIGMUND [mailto:dnzigmund@msn.com]

Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 9:18 PM

To: Dadlez, Kady (CI-StPaul)

Subject: Public Hearing to Consider Revocation or Modification of the Bed and Breakfast Conditional Use Permit for [241 George St W](#)

Dear Kady:

Nancy and I just learned that our George Street neighbor, Scott Kramer and his B&B, will be the subject of a Planning Committee vote this Thursday re: the conditional use permit for 241 George, a.k.a., the Dearing Mansion.

We have been residents on St. Paul's West Side for nearly 20 years and have owned our property at 205/207 George since December 2014 (that is, the first house after the church east of 241 George).

This letter is in support of Scott and the operation of his B & B. In our view, Scott has done a remarkable job restoring a West Side landmark and operating a B & B from there is terrific way of sharing this terrific old, St. Paul home with others.

Scott indicated to us that the hearing is a result of a Robie St. neighbor's complaint about an outdoor party. This came as a surprise to us as in our experience, the B&B aspect of 241 George has been wholly invisible and never a problem (also, in our experience one party doesn't generally constitute a public nuisance...).

In closing, we regret that our work schedule does not permit our attendance at the Public Hearing this Thursday.

Could you please read this email into the record? Our bottom line is that restored home and B & B is a St. Paul success story and the B & B should definitely be allowed to carry on as such.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dan & Nancy Zigmund

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Fwd: Public Hearing to Consider Revocation or Modification of the Bed and Breakfast Conditional Use Permit for 241 George St W

----- Forwarded message -----

From: DAN NANCY ZIGMUND <dnzigmund@msn.com>

Date: Tue, Feb 14, 2017 at 9:18 PM

Subject: Public Hearing to Consider Revocation or Modification of the Bed and Breakfast Conditional Use Permit for 241 George St W

To: "Kady.Dadlez@ci.stpaul.mn.us" <Kady.Dadlez@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

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Dan & Nancy Zigmund

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Fwd: FW: Public Hearing to Consider Revocation or Modification of the Bed and Breakfast Conditional Use Permit for 241 George Street West

Scott Kramer <skramer241@gmail.com>

Tue 5/8/2018 8:51 PM

To: Mick Tschida <mtschida@ferdlaw.com>;

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Scott Kramer** <skramer241@gmail.com>

Date: Sun, Feb 26, 2017 at 8:29 PM

Subject: Re: FW: Public Hearing to Consider Revocation or Modification of the Bed and Breakfast Conditional Use Permit for 241 George Street West

To: DAN NANCY ZIGMUND <DNZIGMUND@msn.com>

Gregor: (507) 202-1719

On Sun, Feb 26, 2017 at 7:01 PM DAN NANCY ZIGMUND <DNZIGMUND@msn.com> wrote:

Hi Scott,

So how did things turn out at the hearing?

I also wanted to follow up on the tub project (versus the attic project) you looked at the other day. There is a 32 X 32 inch shower base and surround made by a company called DreamLine (available thru Home Depot). I am wondering if that could be worked into our existing a bathroom offset to the left, allowing access on the RH of the new shower.

Could you give me a call to discuss?

We are thinking we would like to do something on this sooner rather than later.

Thanks!

Dan Zigmund

651.387.7076

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Scott Kramer](#)

Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 9:43 PM

To: [DAN NANCY ZIGMUND](#)

Subject: Re: FW: Public Hearing to Consider Revocation or Modification of the Bed and Breakfast Conditional Use Permit for 241 George Street West

Dan and Nancy,

Thank you so much for your support. I feel that the Zoning Committee will be likely grant the modification. And I also think they will ban any future events indoor and outdoor. I don't mind losing the outdoor ones but losing the indoor events will be hard on me financially. But as long as they allow me to rent the whole house I believe I will survive. Thank you very much!! I'll keep you posted as things develop. Every bit of support is welcome and it will help make a difference.

Scott

On Tue, Feb 14, 2017 at 9:11 PM, DAN NANCY ZIGMUND <DNZIGMUND@msn.com> wrote:

Dear Kady:

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Could you please read this email into the record? Our bottom line is that restored home and B & B is a St. Paul success story and the B & B should definitely be allowed to carry on as such.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dan & Nancy Zigmund

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Scott Kramer](#)

Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 8:00 PM

To: dnzigmund@msn.com

Subject: Fwd: Public Hearing to Consider Revocation or Modification of the Bed and Breakfast Conditional Use Permit for 241 George Street West

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Dadlez, Kady (CI-StPaul)** <Kady.Dadlez@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

Date: Tue, Jan 10, 2017 at 12:56 PM

Subject: Public Hearing to Consider Revocation or Modification of the Bed and Breakfast Conditional Use Permit for 241 George Street West

To: "skramer241@gmail.com" <skramer241@gmail.com>

Hi Scott-

I am the city planner assigned to handle the zoning case to consider revocation or modification of the bed and breakfast conditional use permit for 241 George Street West. I am following up on my phone call with you yesterday to provide some details.

The Saint Paul Planning Commission voted on December 30, 2016 to hold a public hearing to consider revocation or modification of the conditional use permit. The public hearing will be conducted by the Zoning Committee, a committee of the Planning Commission. Meeting details are as follows:

Thursday February 16, 2017

City Council Chambers, Room 300, Third Floor City Hall

3:30 pm

A staff report will be sent to you on February 9th. Please plan to attend the meeting to address the committee and answer any questions they may have for you. The recommendation of the committee will be considered by the Planning Commission at its meeting on February 24, 2017. This is a public meeting but not a public hearing, so you are encouraged to attend the meeting but will not have the opportunity to speak.

I have not heard whether the West Side Community Organization will discuss this case at their upcoming board meeting. You can contact the Executive Director, Monica Bravo, at [651-293-1708](tel:651-293-1708) or monica@wsco.org

Also, for your information, attached is the DRAFT Study on Short Term Rentals (Airbnb, VRBO) and proposed ordinance language.

Please feel free contact me if you have any questions.

-Kady



<http://www.stpaul.gov/>

Kady Dadlez

Senior City Planner

Planning and Economic Development

25 West Fourth Street

Saint Paul, MN 55102

P: [651-266-6619](tel:651-266-6619)

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kady.dadlez@ci.stpaul.mn.us



<http://www.stpaul.gov/v/fb>



<http://www.stpaul.gov/v/yt>



<http://www.stpaul.gov/tw>



<http://www.stpaul.gov/gd>

Making Saint Paul the Most Livable City in America

Fwd: Zoning committee meeting Thursday re 241 George St W.

On Tue, Feb 14, 2017 at 10:27 AM, Michele Stillinger <toadhollow@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Kady and Zoning Committee,

I am writing in support of Scott Kramer's conditional use permit for 241 George Street West.

I have live across the street for 8 years and have NEVER had any problems or issues regarding the property at any time. There has never been any noise issues, traffic, or other problems when guests are renting at the property.

Scott has been an exemplary neighbor and is very professional about his business. He always keeps us well informed if there are any whole house rentals or events and asks us to inform him immediately if there are any problems. There never has been. Scott's property is a historical treasure and he would not allow the type of clientele that would potentially damage the property or have disruptive parties.

It is my opinion that any problems experienced by neighbors on Robie Street are being misconstrued by the complainant and that these events are simply the same type of occasional outdoor gatherings that can occur at any residence when people are enjoying a beautiful summer day and having a small event or barbecue.

I fully support the continuation of Scott's permit and the modification to allow him to rent 6 bedrooms to simplify his compliance.

Sincerely,

Michele Stillinger
234 George Street West