
Subject: Email - Communication - Susan Clark - Knox United Church Heritage Designation - File CK 710-49
Attachments: knox_united_church_heritage_designation_dec._6_2020.pdf

Submitted on Sunday, December 6, 2020 - 11:22

Submitted values are:

Date Sunday, December 06, 2020

To His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

First Name Susan

Last Name Clark

Phone Number

Email

Address 23rd Street East

City Saskatoon

Province Saskatchewan

Postal Code

Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable)

Subject 7.2.2 Municipal Heritage Advisory Council - Knox United Church Heritage Designation

Meeting (if known) Standing Policy Committee on Planning, Development and Community Services

Comments

Please find attached a letter from me addressing the 7.2.2 the Municipal Heritage Advisory Council – Knox United Church designation.

I submit this letter for the consideration of the Standing Committee on Planning, Development and Community Services meeting of Dec. 8.

Attachments

[knox_united_church_heritage_designation_dec._6_2020.pdf](#)

December 6, 2020

To the attention of the Standing Policy Committee on Planning, Development and Community Services:

I would like to express the following points regarding 7.2.2 the Municipal Heritage Advisory Council – Knox United Church designation:

- 1) Heritage Property Designations should not be amended or if they must be amended, it must be done very cautiously. The consequences of de-designation must be thoroughly considered. Allowing designations to be changed too casually erodes the power of the designation.
- 2) The Knox United Church has pointed out its shrinking membership and deteriorating finances. However, it is not clear what re-development options the Church has considered or even that it clearly understands the implications of the de-designation and how Meridian Development plans to develop the property. It is also not clear whether the Board of Trustees of the Church supports the de-designation.
- 3) Development of the Knox United Church parking lot will affect the attractiveness of our city. Development will affect the view from the City's finest riverside urban walking route, where hundreds of citizens walk each week. This affects the enjoyment of all citizens.
- 4) The stretch of Spadina Crescent from the Queen's Bench Courthouse and the Bessborough Hotel to the Anglican St. John the Evangelist Cathedral and Knox United Church, is one of the loveliest in Saskatoon. These are highly recognizable buildings and for many, much appreciated, landmarks. Jeopardizing the heritage value of this part of the City should not be taken lightly.

However, the 18-page Approval Report submitted to the Municipal Heritage Advisory Council covers the Knox United Church re-zoning issue in 8 pages and similarly devotes 8 pages of the report to the 2nd issue on the Agenda. Namely, the issue of the window replacement of Pendygrasse House, a designated landmark that many Saskatoon residents may not even know is a designated building. The modest amount of detail on the re-Knox United Church designation

issues suggests that someone has not carefully thought through the implications of what a re-designation of Knox United Church means, or perhaps someone is trying to take advantage of the uncertainty of the times to push through a decision that normally would be given a lot of thought and scrutiny.

5) In its letter of support for the development, Knox United Church acknowledges that the plans for the development are not in their final form.

6) There is much undeveloped property in the City Centre, this riverside view along Knox United Church should not have a change of designation to allow "a new developable parcel."

7) This is not the time to make this de-designation of Heritage property decision. The ordinary workings of municipal government and public interaction have been disrupted by Covid 19.

Thank you for your consideration,

S. M. Clark