Development Activities Meeting: Synod Hall St. Paul Cathedral Masonry Repairs

Date: Aug 30, 2022; 6:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.

People: LGA Partners—Jonathan Glance, Partner; Bill Edmonds, Project Manager

Jonathan Glance led the presentation.

They are making a modest change to the exterior. It's a part of a larger scope of work including a renovation of the interior of the building. The intent of this project is to make it more usable for the diocese and public.

They've been working on the exterior. Over the past nine months, they've cleaned the stone and made replacements with authentic slate.

The scope of work includes two locations: a code-compliant egress landing at the front door and an ADA-compliant ramp and stair towards the back. The front door is being retained and kept original; they're pushing the landing out and adding historically appropriate stairs. Existing decorative railings are being matched; the change is hardly noticeable.

Comment: I love to see it cleaned up. The proposed location is a great place to add accessibility.

Q: What are the next steps?
A: The next step for this project is going to the Historic Review Commission—they're hoping for October 5. The client wants to move right away to get work done. The concrete work can be performed in colder months and will proceed after approvals—as early as November. It will be largely limited to a side parking lot—the parish doesn't want to impact holiday functions.

Q: How will the building be accessible?
A: The auditorium has 5 means of egress. There are a couple of different ways it will be accessible. Main access to the building has been from the North Dithridge parking lot. There is a flush-with-grade entrance on the southwest corner of the building off of the bigger Dithridge parking lot. I imagine we would operate similarly to how it has been the last couple of months.

Q: Will entrances have push buttons to open doors?
A: Currently, that is not part of the scope of work. We can look into a retrofit that would allow us to do that.