

Molinar, Tess

From: Andrew Oksner <aoksner@outlook.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2020 9:05 AM
To: Molinar, Tess
Cc: D. Jason Lyon; Wilson, Andy; Thyret, Pam; Reyes, David; info@mhnapasadena.org; Barbara Wachsman
Subject: Planning Commission Meeting August 12: Mansionization

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I would like this read at the meeting but saw that a submittal is not possible. In that case please forward to the committee members.

Dear Planning Commission Members,

Like many things in life one is not motivated into action until one is personally affected.

Some months ago, across the street from my home, a notice was posted that there would be an “Addition of 583 square feet to extend the living, dining and family rooms” to my neighboring home. My reaction was “great” as such would be a clear investment and improvement to the neighborhood.

However my initial pleasure turned into displeasure and the feeling that the property owner has “gamed the system”. Improvements of far more than 583 sf seem to be being built — there is a new facade, roof, second floor deck, chimney and additional and/or significantly enlarged rooms.

My two takeaways for any “solutions” are as follows:

1. Truth in advertising: If the notice has truthfully described what would have been done to the property I would have considered action, or I would not have but would have been property informed in advance;
2. Suitability: The new improvements are not in the spirit of the neighborhood’s other improvements notwithstanding whether they might have met setback, FAR and other requirements.

I hope the above comments are factored into any new solutions to this problem.

Best regards,

Andrew Oksner
1191 S Euclid, Pasadena