



Rapid City Masonic Building Association, Inc
618 Kansas City Street
Rapid City, South Dakota 57701

October 4, 2022

Deadwood Historic Preservation Commission
City of Deadwood
108 Sherman Street
Deadwood, South Dakota 57732

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In July and August of 2021, the Rapid City Masonic Temple Board of Trustees and I signed papers attesting to our intent to accept and utilize an "Out of Deadwood Grant" for replacing non-historic windows with replicas on the South front of the Rapid City Historic Masonic Temple.

Prior to submission of the grant request, we had a proposal for fabrication and installation of the replicas. When the grant was approved, we requested the proposer to begin construction and plan for installation of same. There was a long lapse between request and subsequent response. Essentially, the company had undergone personnel changes and there was no longer any interest on the part of the "new" deciders at the company to provide materials, artistic services, construction or installation.

I immediately began to contact alternative providers. I will not recount the details of the adventures of interacting with over-worked, under-supplied, out-scheduled providers. The reprehensible impacts of the COVID pandemic all came home to roost.

At this juncture, the Grant has expired. I am deeply sorry that the windows have not been restored and, as of this date, I do not expect such will even be possible in the near future. We are continuing to seek a dependable, qualified provider. Accordingly, the Trustees and historic advisors have suggested that we request transfer of the grant, which expired on August 31 of this year, to deeds of interior restoration. Accordingly, I have requested pricing for original woodwork refinishing (doors, windows, picture rails, in two (2) rooms, plastering a wall where a drinking fountain was removed, painting the walls. We would like to refinish flooring in the area. We are concerned about bare-wooden flooring being a safety hazard and are considering carpeting...which is not, of course, original to the building.

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Before beginning the work, outlining the details, I am directed to inquire as to whether the Grant, about which this letter refers, could be reallocated to the specifics listed above.

If the answer from the Commission is "no", then we will respond with appreciation for the award and, when the window situation is again viable, we will make a grant request.

If the answer from the Commission is a qualified "yes", we will continue our pursuit of options, costs, outcomes and submit such for possible approval by you.

Of course, I eagerly await the Commission's response, sincerely thank you for your very kind consideration and especially thank Bonnie for her patience and counsel on this matter.

Our sincere thanks for all the Deadwood Historic Preservation Commission does to save and restore our historic edifices.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "George E. Bauder". The signature is fluid and extends across the width of the text block.

George E. Bauder
President

Rapid City Masonic Building Association, Inc.