Thinking it Through

When it was time to remodel their classic Minneapolis home, Lynne Bardy and Rahoul Ghose wanted to get it right. The couple worked closely with a carefully selected team of professionals from McMonigal Architects, Southview Design, and Gigi Olive Interiors to approach the project holistically.

According to Lynne, "There were a lot of conversations up front between the architect, general contractor and landscaper. Everything was considered at the same time in a similar fashion. Because we thought things through, we avoided redoing what had already been done."

"When the couple prioritized an in-ground pool, we suggested moving that ahead of the addition," says architect, Rosemary McMonigal. Waiting until after the addition was complete would have made access to the back yard much more challenging and increased the total cost for the homeowners.

Rosemary believes having a landscape designer involved early on is important so the architecture and landscape are integrated. She appreciates how landscape designer, Tim Johnson artfully tucked the pool into a corner of the property (instead of "plunking it down").

"Tim was attentive and cared about the details," says Rosemary. "He was tuned in to what looks stately and appropriate. We were able to share drawings back and forth. As concepts evolved and changed, I had confidence he was thinking about design, but also what the costs would be and the logistics that were involved."

"Tim was really proactive in trying to partner with contractors in order to get the work done in a sensible way," says Lynne, "He was my role model project manager. It didn’t go without a hitch, but when there was a hitch Southview did what they had to do."