

BLIGHTED PROPERTY REVIEW COMMITTEE

MINUTES – JANUARY 18, 2023

Mr. Procsal called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.

Committee members present included Ryan Procsal, Jamie Sanchez, Brian Hydier, and Phil Vonter. Also present included Matthew T. Hovey, Esquire, the Assistant Solicitor, and Stephanie Drobins, on behalf of the Department of Licensing and Inspections.

The Committee first engaged in reorganization.

Mr. Procsal nominated Ms. Sanchez to be Chairperson; second by Mr. Vonter. Ms. Sanchez got elected Chairperson by a vote of 4-0.

Mr. Procsal nominated Mr. Vonter to be Vice-Chairperson; seconded by Mr. Hydier. Mr. Vonter got elected Vice-Chairperson by a vote of 4-0.

Mr. Procsal next motioned approve the minutes of the September 21, 2022 Blighted Property Review Committee; seconded by Mr. Hydier. Motion passed 3-0-1; Ms. Sanchez abstained.

Mr. Hovey then provided an overview of the Urban Revitalization Act and the process for blighting properties within the Borough.

The Committee next received public comment from Judy Members of Genesis Housing. Ms. Members discussed Genesis's prior involvement with the Committee, as well as the organization's continued interest in potentially acquiring blighted properties for rehabilitation.

Ms. Drobins then reviewed with the Committee the updated list and status of the properties contained therein. A color-coded system is now being used to identify those properties which require review to confirm status of notices, as well as those properties which are being remediated. Ms. Drobins will provide updates at the next meeting in terms of which properties may be removed.

Mr. Hovey then discussed with the Committee whether any changes to the method of service of notices are needed. The Committee declined to alter procedures. Service by certified mail is to be attempted first, then personal service, and finally, if needed, posting of the property.

The Committee then identified 57 N. Hanover Street as a property to evaluate for blight.

The Committee next discussed potentially assisting with the Vacant Commercial Unit Registration Program. The members supported this role. The members will attempt to organize a walk of the Downtown to begin compiling a list of vacant commercial units which can be provided to L&I.

Finally, the Committee agreed to not meet in February. The Committee will next meet again on March 15th beginning at 4:00pm.

The meeting adjourned at 5:21pm.