

MINUTES
BLIGHTED PROPERTY REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING
MARCH 15, 2023

Chairperson Jamie Sanchez called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. Members present included Jamie Sanchez, Ryan Procsal, and Phil Vontor. Also present were Charlie Weller and Stephanie Drobbins from the Department of Licensing and Inspections, Chuck Garner, Borough solicitor, and Judy Memberg of Genesis Housing. Deb Spence, as a member of the public, also attended the meeting.

Ryan Procsal made a motion, seconded by Phil Vontor, to approve the January 18, 2023 Meeting Minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Deb Spence commented that it would be a good idea to attempt to mesh and coordinate the Blighted Property Review Committee list and the list of properties that had delinquent taxes.

OLD BUSINESS

Stephanie Drobbins provided an updated list of properties dated March 15, 2023. She advised the Committee that 56 King Street and 244 Third Street should be removed from the list. In addition, two other properties on the list are scheduled for inspections with the hope that they would be removed.

Ms. Drobbins mentioned issues with 403 Chestnut Street and 635 Beech Street noting both property owners are deceased and, therefore, service has become challenging. Ms. Sanchez inquired as to the status of 30 Walnut Street.

Charlie Weller reported that L&I had cited the property at 57 N. Hanover Street and that the property was clearly in a blighted condition. Ryan Procsal made a motion, seconded by Phil Vontor, to enact a Resolution to declare the property as blighted and authorize the Department of Licensing and Inspection to provide notice to the property owner to correct the violations within thirty (30) days. The motion carried unanimously.

The Committee then discussed whether or not there was a need for an April meeting. The Committee also discussed the possibility of a bus tour for its May meeting. Following additional discussion and input, Ryan Procsal made a motion seconded by Phil Vontor, to cancel the April 19, 2023 meeting and to authorize the scheduling of a bus tour for the May 17, 2023 meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The Committee indicated it would post an agenda for the May meeting on the borough website by May 8, 2023 which would include a list of properties to be viewed during the tour. Charlie Weller requested that the Committee email him any other possible properties to view during the tour.

NEW BUSINESS

Members of Licensing and Inspection and Committee members referenced various properties that could be included in the bus tour which include 643 Spruce Street, 406 Lincoln Avenue, 503 West Street, 5 and 7 E. Fifth Street, 393 N. York Street, 76 N. Adams Street, 319 High Street, 246-248 E. High Street, 37 W. Fifth Street, and 57 Beech Street.

Jamie Sanchez reported of grant availability through Representative Ciresi's office. Such grants included monies for blight removal and building demolition. Judy Memberg also reported that monies would become available through Montgomery County for property repairs and maintenance.

Jamie Sanchez had questions to Licensing and Inspection regarding properties with stickers and the significance of the colors of those stickers.

There was no additional public comment.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:14 p.m.