

Burton Historic District  
Architectural Review Board  
Minutes  
November 10, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m.

Board members present: Jim Wohlken, Chuck Weikart; Jim Croup

Visitors: Todd Hicks, Tom Clark, Ben Berkowicz

Permit # 2016-13, (con't)

Burton Fire Department request for a demolition permit for Briggs/Domodina house at 13810 Spring Street

Mr. Croup stated that both he and Mr. Berkowicz met with Century Village about moving the house – Century Village was not interested because they cannot afford to move the house; furthermore, the house isn't unique enough to go through all the effort to warrant inclusion on the property.

Mr. Croup stated that he had looked into websites where historic homes are listed for sale; Mr. Croup was not sure if the one he mentioned in the last meeting – Early American Life was still in business.

Mr. Berkowicz stated that he had listed the property for sale on Preservation National. Mr. Hicks tried to look up the listing at that time, but could find no such listing. Mr. Berkowicz stated that the Fire Department had listed the home on Preservation Nation for two months, and didn't get any bidders on the property. Mr. Hicks asked Mr. Berkowicz to forward the link to Ms. Hernandez that showed the house had indeed been listed on Preservation Nation, since Mr. Hicks could find no such listing. As of 1/23/17, Mr. Berkowicz has not sent the link to Ms. Hernandez despite repeated requests by Ms. Hernandez via Mr. Clark, who stated that he (Mr. Clark) passed the message on to Mr. Berkowicz.

Mr. Wohlken asked Mr. Berkowicz if the house was locked up and secure. Mr. Berkowicz stated that it was, and that no one had been given access to the house.

Mr. Croup asked Mr. Berkowicz if the Fire Department was approved to tear down the house, when would they do it? Mr. Clark noted that the person they have in mind to do the demolition would have to act quickly, otherwise, they are putting their demolition equipment away until Spring. Mr. Clark further noted that as time passes, the Fire Department is still facing ongoing expenses related to the property including insurance and taxes.

Mr. Croup suggested that both parties give the matter two months, and then revisit the matter. Mr. Berkowicz agreed, stating that he felt that finding another alternative to demolishing the house had not been given a fair opportunity. It was decided that the two groups would reconvene on January 26, 2017, to discuss the matter further.

Mr. Wohlken asked why the Fire Department did not look for open land. Mr. Clark noted that the Fire Department is currently centrally located. Mr. Wohlken asked what type of expansion they planned to carry out. Mr. Clark stated that the expansion was necessary and would include parking for personnel, maneuvering the trucks and providing an alternate way to get out. Mr. Wohlken asked if they could build down, or behind the property, instead of next to it. Mr. Berkowicz stated that that would not give them enough room to store the vehicles or move them around.

Mr. Weikart asked if the Fire Department had any plans for expansion at this time. Mr. Berkowicz stated that there were no plans at this time.

Moving on to other issues, Mr. Croup made a motion to approve the minutes of 10/13/16. Mr. Weikart seconded the motion; by voice vote, the motion passed.

The Board was advised that Ms. Yolita Rausch presented the Hicox Street Survey to Council on October 28.

In other business, Mr. Weikart stated that he was planning to put a new roof on his house, and while the shingles would be the same type, the color might be different. Mr. Hcks advised that the Board lacked a quorum to grant Mr. Wiekart a permit. Mr. Hicks further advised that Mr. Weikart could start the work and then come before the Board, since there were no structural changes or demolition taking place. Mr. Weikart was given a Permit to fill out.

Mr. Weikart suggested Mr. A.J. Bissell as a candidate to fill the empty spot on the Board.

Mr. Wohlken made a motion to adjourn the meetng; seconded by Mr. Weikart. By voice voite, the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 9:49 am.

Respectfully submitted – Lisa Hernandez, Clerk