



Town of Ridgefield
Blight Prevention Board Meeting Approved Minutes
April 23rd 11am

Present: Rudy Marconi, Jason Celestino, Alice Dew, Drew Loya, Gillian Sheerin and Rebecca Ramirez

Absent: Ed Briggs

Guests: Cindy Crean, Stacey Smith, Bevin Carsten, Claire Garcis and Ellen Burns

1. 275 Mountain Road

In the meeting, it was decided by Jason Celestino and First Selectman Rudy Marconi that due to a rubber-tired backhoe construction vehicle existing on the property, this may not be blight but could be a zoning issue. Alice Dew agreed and said the commercial vehicle on the property could be a zoning issue. It was decided that piles of wood and other fragments do not imply that this is blight however, an unregistered vehicle on the property is a violation of code 349-1 in town ordinance and would be a police enforcement. The board will review this with the Ridgefield police department and also consult with the zoning department about this matter. The property will be added to the next meeting's agenda to discuss further.

2. 12 Clearview Drive

Days prior to the meeting, Alice Dew drove by the house and saw that a new fence was being put up and the old one was being taken down. The board doesn't perceive this to be blight but more of a civil case. Debris and waste on property is not part of blight ordinance. If this poses as a health concern then Ed Briggs will visit property. He was absent during this meeting but when he returns he will decide if this poses as a health risk. It will be discussed further in the next blight meeting and will go on the next agenda.

3. 29 Lakeview Drive

On Friday preceding the meeting, an excavator was delivered to the site. Mr. Pereirra had a conversation with First Selectman Rudy Marconi and Mr. Marconi advised him that he must speak with his attorney as the town was proceeding to

foreclose the property. The discussion was passed to Attorney Alex Copp. The judge of the court is currently away in April and when she returns, she will meet with Mr. Copp again. Cindy Crean was present at the meeting and inquired if the backhoe machine will be removed by the state attorney. It was decided that he does not have the authority to do so. If Mr. Pereirra proceeds to demolish the house without a permit, he will be arrested. First Selectman Rudy Marconi suggested that Cindy call the police and Ridgefield building department if he demolishes it. There was a worry that asbestos and lead would fall onto her and neighboring properties and there would be a health problem. Other neighbors attended and expressed their concerns for safety. Rudy Marconi said he would follow up based on comments and would attend court to obtain an injunction to prevent the demolition from happening.

4. 120 Ivy Hill

The property is still in the process of being sold. There is nothing that has been filed recently. It will be on the agenda for the next blight meeting before it can be closed out in the next month or so.

5. Meeting Minutes

Alice Dew moved to approve the Blight Prevention Board Meeting Minutes from March 26, 2024. Jason Celestino seconded the motion. Motion carries 4-0.

Jason Celestino moved to adjourn the Blight Prevention Board Meeting at 11:27am. Alice Dew seconded the motion. Motion carries 4-0.