

Meeting Notes for June 4, 2014 meeting

Present: Mark Reile, Allen Van Kampen, Christine Broberg, Dorie Ehrig, Theresa Bunch, Russell Randall, James Ebert, Suzanne Nemeth and Vicki Georgeau Director of the Dept. of Community Development.  
Excused Absent: Katie vanLonkhuyzen and Erica Eklov.

2663 Mandigo property – We heard from Vicki Georgeau regarding the neglect of the property and due to previous history with the home owner there would be ticket citations given, and continued legal action by the City to improve the property. Due to extreme neglect one of the outer buildings, the spring kitchen, it was asked that the HDC allow for complete demolition of what remains of the building. A motion to allow for removal of the spring kitchen was made by Dorie and second by Allen. The motion was passed unanimously.

We then heard further information from Vicki on the basic protocols the City takes when dealing with any home owner when properties are in disrepair.

1521 East Centre – The HDC was approached with a Certificate of Appropriateness regarding the barn at this property. The owners want to remove the existing structure. Vicki was able to give information from the City regarding the condition of the barn. It is indeed unsafe, has been tagged as such, and the majority of the building will need to be replaced. After discussing several ideas and options, Mark has agreed to contact the home owners to discuss with them reconstructing as close to the same structure that currently stands and repurposing as much of the materials as possible. Vicki did give us information that the roof height may require variances due to new construction building codes.

3221 West Milham – The owner has submitted requests to replace the roof on the house and to demolish and rebuild the current barn. Mark visited with the home owner regarding the roof and requested sample of the roofing material. It was also discussed that approval would be contingent on some conditions including repair and/or replacement of eaves and soffit. Great discussion was held regarding the barn, including rebuilding the structure from the inside and using as much as possible of the existing siding. It was again mentioned that due to new construction codes a variance would be needed for the roof lines and for the size of the structure. HDC will contact the owner to work together on a solution.

10234 East Shore – The Certificate of Appropriateness approved to replace barn siding has expired. A letter will be sent to the home owner with a notice and inquiry of intent to complete the work.

Jim and Mark briefly reported on their attendance of the commissioners seminar at the May conference of the Michigan Historic Preservation Network in Jackson.