

**Portage Historic District Commission
Historic District Study Committee**

Special Meeting
Public Hearing – part II
Conference Room 2
Wednesday, October 4th, 2017

Present: C. Forrest, J. Duniphin, F. Grunert, E. Eklov, M. Barton, K. VanLonkhuyzen

Absent: S. Nemeth, F. Grunert, M. Maytnier (excused)

Citizens: Mick Lynch and Laura Bouw

Meeting called to order at 9:46 AM.

NEW BUSINESS:

Public Hearing for 2663 Mandigo re-opened from 9/13/17 adjournment.

- The City Clerk still has not received any comments on the Commission's preliminary report.
- Erica updated the Study Committee on the response from the County Treasurer's Office and the Land Bank regarding the status of the two professional opinions, as well as a subsequent phone conversation with the County Treasurer.
- Mick Lynch and Laura Bouw, owners of the properties at Sprinkle and Bishop, commented on a personal site visit to the property at 2663 Mandigo. They both commented that they agree with the Study Committee's recommendation in the preliminary report regarding the nature of the buildings. They both commented that the ranch has value to be saved as well. Mick asked what options and leverage the city has with the County.
- Mick mentioned his family would be interested in assuming ownership of the buildings, but only as a last resort if a demolition permit was submitted.
- Katie relayed that she had asked the County Treasurer about offering the property for sale or splitting the 7-acre parcel during her brief phone conversation.
- Laura Bouw commented that she could not locate the Mandigo property listing amongst the Kalamazoo County Treasurer's foreclosed property auction database/website.

Next steps:

- The Study Committee will adjourn the public hearing again and postpone the final discussion pending receipt of the two professional opinions or reports regarding the structural stability and integrity of the buildings/property. Erica had already discussed this with Chief Deputy Treasurer Megan Buwalda via e-mail.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 AM.

Next Special Meeting to be held after Regular HDC meeting on November 1, 2017.