

**City of Portage  
Historic District Study Committee**

Portage City Hall  
Conference Room #2  
Wednesday, December 6, 2017

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## **Special Meeting**

Meeting called to order: 9:30 AM

**Present:** S. Nemeth, C. Forrest, J. Duniphin, E. Eklov, M. Maytnier, M. Barton, R. Henicky, R. Lopez, K. Mucha.

**Absent:** F. Grunert and K. VanLonkhuyzen (excused)

**Guests:** Mick Lynch and Laura Lynch Bouw; Debbie Newsome; Kyle Mucha and Chris Forth (staff)

### Discussion Regarding 2663 Mandigo

**Note\* The Kalamazoo Landbank has asked that the formal hearing be postponed until the February meeting.**

Concerns (as noted by citizen/prospective buyer Debbie Newsome):

- Farmhouse is open to elements.
- Windows absent or leaking.
- Property not secure from casual entry.
- County has not removed all the debris from property.
- Do not have a formal report from expert on the condition of the historic farmhouse.

The Landbank has retained Randy Case, a preservation architect, to report on the actual condition of the farmhouse. Status of report is unknown.

The ex-husband of Colleen Kiley's (former owner) has expressed interest in acquiring the property.

In addition, citizen Debbie Newsome has made an offer to purchase property from the Landbank providing that debris is removed from the property. If the county does not assume the cost of cleanup, the offer may be withdrawn.

- The Landbank has given listing to realtor Paul Valentin as an authorized agent for the Landbank. Mr. Valentin has offered to mediate cleanup issue.
- Property listed at \$200,000, which the County considers to be the fair market value of the property.

- Ms. Newsome plans to live on the property in the ranch house.
- Her daughter would live in the farmhouse.
- Family has horses, and code requires at least 5 acres of land, 2663 Mandigo is listed as having 7.5 acres.
- There may be a problem with the parcel size description on the title for the property. Lot lines may not be accurate.
- The Newsomes also own rental property nearby.
- Representative from Community Development will tour property with prospective owner. At present, none of the existing structures on the property have been condemned.
- Ms. Newsome would also like information on HDC guidelines for exterior restoration of an historic property.

A motion was made and passed to table further discussion for another Special Meeting to be held on Wednesday, February 7, 2018 at 9:00 AM.

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 AM.

Respectfully submitted: Martha Deming Maytnier/Recording Secretary