



Town of Ridgefield
Blight Prevention Board Meeting Unapproved 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

Jason Celestino and First Selectperson Rudy Marconi commented that a rubber-tired backhoe construction vehicle existing on the property, may not be blight but could be a zoning issue. Alice Dew agreed. In addition, piles of wood and other fragments are not considered blight either. 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. Fence issues and debris/waste on the property are not blight violations. The Board commented that this could be a civil case. Ed Briggs will visit the property when he returns to determine 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 reached out to First Selectperson Rudy Marconi and Mr. Marconi advised him that he must speak with his attorney. The discussion was passed to Attorney Alex Copp. The judge of the court is currently away 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. Pereira proceeds to demolish the house without a permit, he will be arrested. First Selectperson Rudy Marconi suggested that Cindy call the police and Ridgefield building department if he demolishes it. There is a concern 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 attempt to obtain an injunction to prevent the demolition from happening.

4. 120 Ivy Hill

The property is still in the process of being sold. No paperwork pertaining to a sale has been filed. 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.