

Madison County Land Bank

Meeting Minutes

November 30, 2023

In attendance:

Stacey McKenzie

Jason Stanford

Tony Xenikis

Mark Forrest

Andy Drake

Shannon Treynor

Rex Castle

David Kell (Land Bank and County Staff)

Amy Rees (County Staff)

Welcome

Mark Forrest, Chair, welcomed everyone who could make the meeting and started the meeting at 10:02.

Approval of October 2023 Meeting Minutes

Mark Forrest asked for a motion to approve October 2023 meeting minutes. Tony Xenikis made a motion to approve meeting minutes. Andy Drake seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

David Kell led the conversation about different projects in different communities, with board members providing input as needed/able:

South Solon: The two projects focused on in Mt. Sterling are the old school located at 12701 N. Washington Street and a “partial demo” of a house that burned down at 7233 E Main Street. Both property owners are receptive to the demolition of buildings on their properties. When asked what the end use would be, David told the board that the Main Street lot will most likely remain green space, while the N. Washington Street site could be the future location of new homes to South Solon.

London: One demo is being considered for London, a property at 33 Stewart Street. David Kell talked to the property owners, and while there is interest from the family to demo the buildings, he has some concern because there is a chance the demo could displace the woman who lives there, which is not allowed by the program. When asked to elaborate, David stated that the lady who lives there currently said she has a family member who said she can live with them, but there is no way to know if that will be an accepted, permanent situation. David will continue to explore more.

Plain City: David explained that Jonathan Alder would still like to demo the school on 161 in Plain City. Jason Stanford echoed this. David stated that he and Jason will be meeting with Jonathan Alder leaders to further discuss the program and the application so they are prepared. Jonathan Alder should plan to get a “good chunk” of dollars available after other projects have been satisfied, which looks to be 3-4 “other projects” at this point.

West Jefferson: David Kell spoke to the Mayor about an old funeral home on Center Street in West Jefferson. It could not be confirmed if anyone lived there at this time.

Mt. Sterling: Andy Drake, Mayor Elect of Mt. Sterling, brought 205 N. London Street to David Kell's attention and David visited the property with Andy. David Kell told the board that the property would certainly qualify. Andy said while it does qualify, it also has its challenges. The property owner is still listed as the "mother of the family", even though she passed away many years ago. The son was living at the house but passed away from complications with Covid-19 back in 2020/2021. Andy said that there are a couple family members, presumed to be daughters, that don't really want to have much to do with the property. There was a discussion between board members about how the property could eventually end up with the land bank, since there may be issues with title due to the property never transferring to heirs of the mother. David said that he will start communication between Andy, Shannon Treynor, Stacey McKenzie and himself to further discuss how this property could end up with the land bank, so it could be demolished.

Additional Discussions

With no additional discussions, the meeting adjourned at 10:26 am.