

Jonesboro Land Bank Commission
Agenda for Tuesday, March 8, 2022
City Council Chambers, 300 South Church Street, Jonesboro, AR

Note: We will follow guidelines for public meetings per the Arkansas Department of Health.

1. Roll Call

Present: Jeffrey Herndon, James Hollywood, Jay McLeod, Gabe Roberts, Bob Warner, Monica Percy/Planning, Heather Owens/City Attorney

Absent: Corey Mills, Dennis Zolper

2. Finding of a quorum

Chair Warner asked of Planning Staff Monica Percy if she knew where we were on the appointment of two new commissioners. She said they are to address that at the next City Council meeting. Chair asked if we had contacted those people or knew anything. Monica did not have more information.

3. Approval of Minutes

A. February 8, 2022 – no corrections or discussion

A motion was made by Jeffrey Herndon to approve the minutes, seconded by James Hollywood. The motion PASSED unanimously.

4. Old Business

5. New Business.

A. 700 Cate Avenue Donation

Also known as the Ice House property, STAFF has made contact with the owner and she has agreed to make that donation. Monica will get her a signed donation application. Chair Warner asked what the present lien is on that property, approximately \$130,000? Monica believes so, stated that a title search has been ordered so we should have that information soon. Chair Warner asked if owner is Ms. Rosse. That is correct. Chair Warner asked City Attorney representative Heather Owens what action needs to be taken. She stated that after title search is complete and satisfactory, then after that pass a resolution to accept the donation of property. Commissioner Hollywood asked had they not condemned that property in the last couple years. Heather responded it had been several years. Chair Warner said after getting a clear title and actual lien amount, Commission could take action on it.

B. Burlington Northern Owned Property

Property is toward Johnson Avenue on North Bridge Street. Monica had spoken with Derrel Smith, Planning Director. They have the title information and BNSF actually owns

several lots Land Bank may be interested in. Commission needs to go through that information and see which lots they'd be interested in. It is being considered as a donation. Chair Warner reminds Commission that there is a corner lot at Front & Bridge city is interested in obtaining as a donation. Once that is complete, then there would be a complete block. The BNSF lots in question are adjacent and north of that area. Chair Warner reminded Commission that there has been conversation with Fisher Street Baptist Church in the past (Commissioner Hollywood met along with Chair Warner) and have some different proposals that could be pursued with them as well to continue the possibility of development along Aggie Road and Front Street. The biggest priority after the BNSF property, is the potential donation of 106 N. Bridge Street. They are still trying to get in contact with the owner of that property who is in Pine Bluff. They will try to get it contact with her and update at the next meeting.

C. Commissioner Comments

Chair Warner mentions after the two new commissioners are approved at the next city council meeting, there should be a full commission, and the plan is to put together a tour of all the Land Bank properties. City council members are also interested in going on the tour. Chair remembers that initially the target concentration areas area the Nettleton area, north Jonesboro, and West End, but that's just a guide, not a restriction and can do anything anywhere within the city that would be of help. Monica asked if Chair had a date in mind for the bus tour. Chair said after the new commissioners are on board, they can inquire of the group when would be a good time. It was discussed that a morning sometime in April might be good. The group can take the tour on a city JETS bus so the group can discuss things as they see them. That's how it was done before & was very informative.

Commissioner Jeffrey Herndon said that half of the commissioner's terms were going to be up this year and that issue should be addressed. Chair has asked Monica and they will query commissioners if they'd like to continue and if so, ask for reappointments. Commissioner Herndon needs to discuss with someone as he has a potential conflict with what he was originally appointed to represent. Chair expressed the desire to not lose him on commission as his expertise is valuable. Commissioner Herndon said that after May, he would no longer be representing Habitat (for Humanity). Chair asked Heather if that is a requirement. She does not think it is required. It will be looked into.

6. Public Comments (3 Minutes Per Person)

None

7. Adjournment

James Hollywood made a motion to adjourn. The motion PASSED unanimously.