

## Abington Township Vacancy Property Review Board

Thursday, May 4, 2017  
Commencing at 4:00 PM  
Township Building Conference Room

**A. Start of Meeting:**

In Attendance: John Spiegelman, Shaun Littlefield, Cathy Gauthier, Toby True, Lora Lehmann, Bob Greaves, Lorena Trujillo, Larry Matteo, Van Strother, Jerry Nugent  
Excused: Mike Narcowich

- B.** Shaun Littlefield provided an update on the current vacant properties. 721 Cheltena Avenue (formerly a Chinese take-out restaurant) & 1864 Horace Avenue (mixed residential/commercial use) were added to the vacant list.
- C.** Shaun stated that pre-blight letters were sent to three different vacant properties: the Massino property (2602 Jenkintown Road/490 Tyson Avenue), the Braccia property (1933 Old York Road) and the Kieser property (878 Township Line Road). Both Braccia and Kieser have responded to the letters and are supposedly working on remedies.
- D.** Bob Greaves said that the past year working with the VPRB has been a learning process for all involved. Examples of positive progress given include movement on 397 Stewart Ave & the Patane property (1180 Easton Road).
- E.** Lora Lehmann stated that she believes violation letters should have been sent to violators in the past. Bob said that people respond differently to various methods, whether it is through a letter or a phone call.
- F.** Bob wondered if an update could be given to the Board of Commissioners. John Spiegelman responded that a presentation could be made at the Code Agenda meeting scheduled for May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017. Larry Matteo suggested meeting with the Ben Sanchez, the head of the Code Committee, prior to May 31<sup>st</sup>.
- G.** Lora asked if there is a time limit to how long windows can stay boarded up. The question was raised if a sign is painted over can the post remain or does the whole fixture have to be removed. Shaun said he is not sure; however, he will check with the Township solicitor to get an answer for both issues.
- H.** There was a brief discussion as to what direction the Township would proceed with the aforementioned three vacant properties. Bob suggested waiting until after the deadline of the violation letters and continuing the conversation at the next VPRB meeting.

The next meeting will be held on June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 at 4:00 pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:52 PM.