

MINUTES OF THE STARK COUNTY LAND REUTILIZATION CORPORATION  
May 16, 2022

The Stark County Land Reutilization Corporation met for their Regular Meeting on Monday, May 16, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. in the Stark County Regional Planning Commission Conference Room.

Board Members Present

Alex Zumbar  
Lem Green  
John Arnold  
Janet Creighton  
Bill Smith

1. CALL TO ORDER BY SCLRC CHAIRMAN, Alex Zumbar

2. ROLL CALL – Board Members Present

Roll call found the following Board members in attendance: Alex Zumbar, John Arnold, Lem Green, Janet Creighton and Bill Smith.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 18, 2022 MEETING

Arnold moved and Green seconded to approve the minutes of April 18, 2022 meeting. Roll call vote: Zumbar – yes, Arnold – yes, Green – yes, Creighton – yes, Smith – yes. Motion carried.

4. PUBLIC SPEAKS

5. TREASURER/FISCAL REPORT

Heather Cunningham reviewed the Treasurer's Report for the month of April. Green moved and Creighton seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report for April as presented. Roll call vote: Zumbar – yes, Arnold – yes, Green – yes, Creighton – yes, Smith – yes. Motion carried.

6. SIDE LOT/VACANT LOT PROGRAM REPORT

**Sarah Peters provided the Side Lot Program Update:**

**Total Applications Submitted: 2,316**

*(10 applications were received since Apr. '22 update)*

Cities – 1,920

Canton: 1,518, Massillon: 156, Alliance: 246

Other Communities – 396

Beach City – 1, Bethlehem Twp – 47, Brewster – 9, Canal Fulton – 1, Canton Twp – 81, East Canton – 7, East Sparta – 2, Hartville – 3, Jackson Twp – 6, Lake Twp – 6, Lawrence Twp – 11, Lexington Twp – 48, Limaville – 2, Louisville – 2, Marlboro – 1, Meyer's Lake – 1, Minerva – 5, Nimishillen – 6, North Canton – 2; Osnauburg Twp – 15, Paris Twp – 3, Perry Twp – 17, Pike Twp – 21, Plain Twp –

37, Sandy Twp – 41, Sugarcreek Twp – 6, Tuscarawas Twp – 2, Washington Twp – 6, Waynesburg – 6, Wilmot-1

- Total Number of Applications under Preliminary Review: 6
- Total Number of Applications Denied: 857
- Number of Canceled Applications/Fee Refunded: 175
- Total Number Pending Approval by Community: 25
- **Total Number of Approved Applications: 1,253**

- Total Number of Approved Applications Pending Deposit Receipt / NIP Early Lien Release Approval / Request for Foreclosure / Completed Foreclosure Proceeding: 148
- Total Number Being Prepared for Transfer: 25
- **Total Number Transferred to Date: 1,080**

**Vacant Lot Program Update:**

**Total Applications Submitted: 321**

*(5 Applications received since Apr '22 update)*

Cities – 232; Canton: 196, Alliance: 26, Massillon: 10

Other Communities – 89

Bethlehem Twp – 51, Canton Twp – 11, Hartville – 1, Jackson Twp – 2, Lake – 1, Lexington Twp – 6, Nimishillen – 3, Paris – 1, Perry – 1, Sandy Twp – 7; Sugarcreek Twp – 1, Washington Twp – 4,

- Total Number of Applications under Preliminary Review: 3
- Total Number of Applications Denied: 220
- Number of Canceled Applications/Fee Refunded: 7
- Total Number Pending Approval by Community: 3
- **Total Number of Approved Applications: 83**

- Total Number of Approved Applications Pending Executed MOU/ Completion of Foreclosure Proceeding: 41
- Total Number Being Prepared for Transfer: 5
- Total Number Transferred to Date: 37

Green moved and Arnold seconded to approve the Side Lot/Vacant Lot report as presented. Roll call vote: Zumbar – yes, Arnold – yes, Green – yes, Creighton – yes, Smith – yes. Motion carried.

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

8. OLD BUSINESS

a. DAP Policy Review

Sarah Peters stated last month the proposed changes to the Demolition Assistance Program (DAP) policy was presented to the Board for review. The main change is regarding *eligible applicants* that would be able to apply and potentially be funded through the program. The original policy that was adopted referenced cities, village and townships as the only eligible applicants. In the past there have been a number of non-profit organizations interested in applying for demolition funding but are not qualified under the current policy. Also the city of Canton's school district had asked for funding assistance, and last year the Land Bank funded demolitions completed by the Hall of Fame. Based upon these inquiries and interest in the program, staff recommended the Board consider amending the policy to expand the eligible applicants. The proposed DAP policy now has a section about applicant eligibility which states "eligible applicants include Stark County, its political subdivisions, and qualified nonprofit organizations". Creighton asked where in this policy does it define a *qualified nonprofit*. Peters stated it doesn't, but in the Targeted Acquisition Assistance Program (TAAP) policy, the application uses the same language "qualified nonprofit" being a 501(c)3 organization, but we can define it differently here if the Board wishes. Creighton stated there could be a dispute over what a *qualified nonprofit* would be, and she believed there should be a definition of what a qualified nonprofit is. John Anthony stated he did agree with that point. He would look into defining that term and report back to the Board. Zumbar asked the Board if they wanted to hold off on any action or did they want to make an amendment to this document on the record. Arnold stated there could potentially be some groups that would not be a 501(c)3 but should be considered. Anthony stated he will need to define what is meant by *qualified*. Zumbar stated this Board will just wait until next month to make a decision.

9. Next Meeting – June 27, 2022 - 9:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 a.m.