

BUILDING AND STANDARDS COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Date: May 26, 2021

The Building and Standards Commission (BSC) convened remotely via video conference for a regular meeting on Wednesday, May 26, 2021. The meeting was available for viewing live at http://www.austintexas.gov/page/watch-atxn-live.

Commission Members in Attendance:

Chair Andrea Freiburger; Vice Chair Pablo Avila; and, Commissioners: Wordy Thompson, John Green, Elizabeth Mueller, Timothy Stostad, and Edward Selig; and, Ex Officio Commissioner Chief Thomas Vocke. Commissioner Sade Ogunbode was absent.

Staff in Attendance:

Melanie Alley, Code Review Analyst/BSC Coordinator; Robert Moore, Austin Code Division Manager; Marlayna Wright, Supervisor; James Candelas, Program Specialist; Farah Presley, Investigator; Elaine Garrett, Assistant Director; Daniel Word, Assistant Director; Moses Rodriguez, Field Supervisor; Justin Brummer, Acting Field Supervisor; Erica Thompson, Investigator; Willis Adams Inspector; Brandon Carr, Assistant City Attorney; and Adam Ellis, CTM A/V Technician.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Freiburger called the Commission Meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Meeting minutes from both March 24, 2021 and April 28, 2021 regular meeting were approved on a Commissioner Mueller's motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Green. The motion carried on a 6-0-1 vote. Commissioner Selig abstained and Commissioner Ogunbode was absent.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Five stakeholders spoke during Citizen Communication. Charley Dorsaneo and Leah Boho, both from the Drenner Group, provided an update to the Commission regarding that status of compliance regarding properties located at 907, 909 and 911 Congress Avenue. Caroline Taylor and Mara Heppen, tenants, and Gabriela Garcia, BASTA, provided testimony regarding the current conditions at storm-damaged property 1071 Clayton Lane, also known as Mueller Flats.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Karrie League and Lesley Taylor both appeared for Public Comment to speak about the conditions regarding their neighboring property, 1907 Cliff Street, which is on the agenda as Item number 4.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

New Case(s):

Case Number(s) Street Address Owner/Appellant

1. CL 2021-061642 2347 Douglas Street, Unit 2101, aka Douglas Street Landings, LLC

Douglas Street Landing

The property was represented by David King, Wayne Tai, Marc Modovan and Pete Martins. Attorney David King spoke on behalf of the owner at the hearing.

Chair Freiburger admitted Staff Exhibits 1 and 2A-2I. Commissioner Mueller moved to close the public hearing, which was seconded by Commissioner Stostad.

Commissioner Green moved to adopt Staff's findings of fact and conclusions of law, as well as staff's recommendation for repair within 45 days, with penalties of \$1,000 per week to begin accruing on the 46th day if not in compliance. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Avila. The motion passed on a vote of 7-0-0. Commissioner Ogunbode was absent.

2. CL 2021-068641 1200 E. 6th Street 1200 East 6th Partners, LLC

The property was represented by owners Jason Jones, Aaron Franklin and James Moody, and architect Ken Johnson.

Chair Freiburger admitted Staff Exhibits 1 and 2A-2I. Commissioner Stostad moved to close the public hearing, which was seconded by Commissioner Green.

Vice Chair Avila amended Staff's recommendation that the building's canopy be secured, whereby pedestrians can safely walk beneath it, within 14 days from the date of this meeting, and, on the 15th day, if compliance has not been achieved, penalties of \$1,000 per week will begin to accrue and continue until compliance is achieved. The remainder of the cited violations are continued until the October meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mueller. Commissioner. The motion carried on a 7-0-0 vote. Commissioner Ogunbode was absent.

Returning Case(s):

3. CL 2017-111475 2215 E. Anderson Lane Service Road EB Ghassan A. Karim, LLC

The property was not represented at the hearing.

Chair Freiburger admitted Exhibits 3 and 4A-4UU.

Vice Chair Avila moved to adopt Staff's findings of fact and conclusions of law; and, adopt Staff's recommendation for the owner to demolish the primary and accessory structures within 30 days and, on the 31st day, authorize the Code Official to proceed with demolition. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stostad. The motion passed on a 6-0-1 vote. Commissioner Thompson was off dais and Commissioner Ogunbode was absent.

4. CL 2009-009101 1907 Cliff Street Mary Sanches

The property was not represented at the hearing.

A repair order was previously issued by the Building and Standards Commission (BSC) in this case in 2009, i.e., TRV 2009039847. A second repair order, TRV 2011090776, was issued for this property in case number CL 2011-027108. No exhibits were presented.

Vice Chair Avila moved to adopt Staff's recommendation to rescind the 2009 order and, leave the 2011 order in place. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stostad. The motion carried on a 6-0-1 vote. Commissioner Thompson was off dais and Commissioner Ogunbode was absent.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS

4. Presentation: Austin's Winter Storm Multi-Family Report.

Austin Code Assistant Director Elaine Garrett made a presentation to the Commission as a monthly update regarding the status of Austin Code's winter storm multi-family cases.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The next regular meeting is set for June 23, 2021. The Annual Internal Review Report will be discussed and goals for the upcoming year are to be identified. The Commission is scheduled to hear a staff update regarding CL 2021-059641, 2504 New York Drive aka Mount Carmel Village. Commissioner Green requested a Staff update regarding 1124 Rutland Drive, aka Creek's Edge Apartments. Staff will continue to provide the Commission with monthly updates to the Austin's winter storm multi-family report. It was also requested that the following items be placed on future agendas, either for action or as a staff briefing: 1071 Clayton Lane aka Mueller Flats, 1907 Cliff Street.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Freiburger adjourned the meeting at 9:59 p.m.