

## AGENDA # 3

City of Madison, Wisconsin

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REPORT OF: LANDMARKS COMMISSION

**PRESENTED:** 3 March, 2017

TITLE: Buildings proposed for demolition - 2017

**REFERRED:**

**REREFERRED:**

**REPORTED BACK:**

AUTHOR: Amy Scanlon, Secretary

**ADOPTED:**

**POF:**

DATED: 3 March, 2017

**ID NUMBER:** 45700

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Members present were: Stuart Levitan, Chair; Anna V. Andrzejewski, Vice Chair; Erica Fox Gehrig, David WJ McLean, Marsha A. Rummel, and Lon Hill. Excused was Richard Arnesen.

### **SUMMARY:**

The Commission discussed the historic value of the buildings proposed for demolition.

3922 & 3926 Mineral Point Road

There was discussion about the unnecessary loss of functional housing that is in fair condition.

711, 717, and 727 E Johnson Street

Robert Klebba, registering in opposition and wishing to speak.

Klebba provided a printed sheet that highlighted the almost complete removal of all residences on the 700 block of East Johnson Street. He objects to these removals, as doing so will remove the vernacular context that makes the buildings in the larger neighborhood relevant.

Gehrig thanked Klebba for the visual representation of the removal of the 700 block of East Johnson.

Staff interjected to clarify that 711 E Johnson appeared as an addendum to correct an incorrect image used in a recent demolition report. 711 E Johnson was originally discussed by the Landmarks Commission on June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016 and returned for review given the lapse in time.

McLean requested clarification that the developers were relocating one of the homes. Staff indicated that the developers been asked to retain as many of those houses as possible to comply with the neighborhood plan recommendations.

Klebba indicated that all the buildings on the block are over 100 years old (most date to 1890).

Andrzejewski asked if there was a way of changing the language to protect a block or collection of buildings rather than individual buildings. Staff compared it to the West Washington Avenue example

discussed at a previous Landmarks Commission meeting, and that it was similarly difficult to reach a decision that would adequately address the issue of loss on such a large scale.

Staff spent time looking for West Washington language in previous minutes.

McLean referenced and read aloud an email from the Tenney-Lapham Neighborhood Association President, Patty Prime, requesting referral of the demolitions.

Rummel asked whether the Landmarks Commission could recommend to Plan Commission that more research must be completed.

Per staff, there are work orders on most of these properties. However, as the 700 block of East Johnson is not in a local historic district, there isn't the option to pursue a demolition by neglect case.

**ACTION:**

**By unanimous consent, the Landmarks Commission found that the buildings at 3922 and 3926 Mineral Point Road have no known historic value.**

**A motion was made by Gehrig and seconded by Rummel to recommend to the Plan Commission that the Landmarks Commission finds that the buildings at 711, 717, and 727 East Johnson Street collectively have historic value that contributes to the larger vernacular context of Madison's built environment, but the buildings themselves are not known to have historic, architectural or cultural significance. The motion passed via voice vote.**