



Acquisition and Disposition Committee Meeting Minutes

A meeting of the Acquisition and Disposition Committee of the Albany County Land Bank Corporation was convened on January 11, 2023, via audioconference.

Committee attendance: Charles Touhey, Sam Wells, Joseph Seman-Graves

Staff attendance: Adam Zaranko (Executive Director), Amanda Wyckoff (Director of Operations), Erica Ganns (Assistant Director of Operations), Will Sikula (Planning and Projects Coordinator), Elista Gayle (Applications Coordinator), Susan Baker (Enforcement and Administrative Coordinator)

The meeting was called to order at 3:03 PM

Review of minutes: The minutes of the December 14, 2022, Acquisition and Disposition Committee meeting were reviewed and approved.

Lots for Less pilot program update: The Executive Director provided an update of the Land Bank's Lots for Less pilot program. The program was designed to help return vacant lots back to productive use and expand opportunities for residents to acquire property and invest in revitalizing their community. The program was launched in April 2022 and 17 of the 21 lots in the pilot program have been sold to qualified buyers. Based on the success of the pilot program, staff recommends requesting that the Board of Directors amend the Land Bank's Disposition Policy to include the program as a disposition option. The Committee supports the recommendation.

Sales Summaries Review: The following property purchase offers were reviewed, and subsequent recommendations were set forth by the Committee as follows:

1 Valley Street rear, 74, 76, 78, 80, 83 & 85 Orchard Avenue, Albany: Applicant is the adjacent property owner, and wants to acquire to merge the properties. Committee recommends staff have further discussion with applicant regarding the lots to ensure the applicant, Collin Read, is aware that some of the lots are situated in the City of Albany and some in the Town of Guilderland.

2 Odell Street, 1 and 25 Batcher Street, Albany: Committee recommends staff counteroffer and if the applicant is agreeable then advancing the sale of these lots to Jonathan Heimerdinger.

298 Second Street and 315 First Street, Albany: Committee recommends land-banking these two lots for future development of affordable housing and recommends staff work with applicant, Jacqueline Gonzales, to identify alternative lots that may be suitable for the applicant's proposed use.

The meeting adjourned at 3:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Baker
Enforcement and Administrative Coordinator
Albany County Land Bank