

Moermond, Marcia (CI-StPaul)

From: Neis, Adrian (CI-StPaul)
Sent: Monday, May 07, 2018 3:00 PM
To: Henningson, Samantha (CI-StPaul); Kantner, Libby (CI-StPaul); Moermond, Marcia (CI-StPaul); Dornfeld, Matt (CI-StPaul); Magner, Steve (CI-StPaul); Wiese, Angie (CI-StPaul); Huseby, Laura (CI-StPaul); Vang, Mai (CI-StPaul); Shaff, Leanna (CI-StPaul); Bistodeau, Travis (CI-StPaul); Zacho, Karen (CI-StPaul); Martin, Lisa (CI-StPaul)
Subject: 1464 Minnehaha Ave. W. enforce condemnation as a Cat 2 VB.

Laura Huseby and I inspected 1464 Minnehaha Ave. W to verify compliance with the correction/ condemnation order deadline adopted by council resolution.

I am sticking to our correction orders as the basis for sending this to Vacant Buildings, but I wanted to give you some background on today's inspection as well since the said he has been in contact with the city council office, and may be contacting you again.

There was a lot of activity with people moving items out of the house. We met with Mr. Kempenich and asked if all the work was completed.

He said no, but he put 40k into the house and to condemn the house. There is a for sale sign in the yard and I asked if he was selling.

He then asked if we could speak privately and said he has had a hard time getting people/renters out and they moved people in. He admitted to having more than 4 unrelated adults living there as was agreed upon and voluntarily telling me there was drug activity. He specifically mentioned methamphetamines and he had a hard time controlling the occupants. He did offer to pay them to leave and said he called police previously. His behavior and appearance also seemed odd (sweaty, flushed face, disheveled) so I asked him if he was on any substances due to our personal safety. He said no, but he had been drinking all night. Based on the couple of interactions with Mr. Kempenich, I think he may have some substance abuse issues which is why we have had difficulty gaining compliance.

We proceeded with the inspection and noticed much of the lower floor vacant and being worked on. A lot of improvement was made on the second floor, but he did not remove the second kitchen as required and has not applied to make this a duplex. During that part of the inspection, a female was asking questions and began to get a little belligerent. I asked what her relation to the property was and she said she was the property manager. I told her that she was not doing a very good job, especially after hearing about the issues from Mr. Kempenich previously. She began to get more agitated and told us to just do our job. I advised her that the we will and the house was condemned. I did not feel comfortable going into the attic or basement after that so we exited the home. We continued to take pictures of the property from the outside and she was upset that we were still on the property. I asked if she would like us to leave, and she said yes so we took pictures from the public sidewalk.

Since this is owner occupied and does not have a CofO, please open a Cat 2 Vacant Building file based on the following;

The May 7th deadline to complete the work was not completed, and there is still a lot more to do.

The kitchen on the second floor was not removed.

There are still open and active permits for the required work.

The owner admitted that he continued to allow more than 4 unrelated adults to reside in the home after he indicated in the Legislative Hearing that the people moved out.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thanks,



A.J. Neis

Fire Safety Inspector III

Dept. of Safety and Inspections

375 Jackson St. Suite 220

Saint Paul, MN 55101

Phone: 651-266-8992

Cellular: 651-796-8087

Fax: 651-266-8951

The Most Livable
City in America



Making Saint Paul the Most Livable City in America

"DSI's Mission: To preserve and improve the quality of life in Saint Paul by protecting and promoting public health and safety for all."