

Development Activities Meeting Report (Version: 06/24/2020)

This report created by the Neighborhood Planner and included with staff reports to City Boards and/or Commissions.

Logistics	Stakeholders
Project Name/Address: 155 S. 15 th Street	Groups Represented (e.g., specific organizations, residents, employees, etc. where this is evident): South Side Community Council (SSCC) Project Development Team Design Review Committee (DRC) Local Review Committee (LRC) South Side Chamber of Commerce Residents
Parcel Number(s): 3-M-75	
ZDR Application Number: DCP-ZDR-2021-10086	
Meeting Location: via Zoom	
Date: October 21, 2021	
Meeting Start Time: 6:00pm	
Applicant: Refuge for Women Pittsburgh Emergency Housing	Approx. Number of Attendees: 16
Boards and/or Commissions Request(s): Use Variance for a community home / special use in a religious facility before the Zoning Board of Adjustment	

How did the meeting inform the community about the development project?

Ex: Community engagement to-date, location and history of the site, demolition needs, building footprint and overall square footage, uses and activities (particularly on the ground floor), transportation needs and parking proposed, building materials, design, and other aesthetic elements of the project, community uses, amenities and programs.

<p>Previous engagement with neighbors on 16th Street.</p> <p>Provide woman that have been exploited through human trafficking with aftercare to restore their lives. National network of homes and national leader. Assist with services and emergency housing. Work closely with law enforcement. The business is licensed with the State so we have standards and accountability. This building is perfectly arranged to accommodate this use. No exterior or interior changes. 6 existing parking spaces.</p> <p>Short-term programs are up to 90-days. Long-term program is the Two Year Continuum of Care: Emergency housing (Safety and stabilization), long term program (restorative care and healing), transitional living (financial stability and healthy living). Services include: therapy, job search and placement, medical and dental care, information/referrals, food and clothing, job skills training, and many more.</p> <p>We do not publicize the location. We hope the surrounding the neighborhood will be protective.</p>

Input and Responses

Questions and Comments from Attendees	Responses from Applicants
Thank you. I'm the block watch lead in the surrounding streets and we had a meeting and one-on-one conversations. We are very impressed with organization	Staff recommends contacting a land use lawyer.

Questions and Comments from Attendees	Responses from Applicants
and gave them 15 questions re: noise, expectations, loitering. One big concern is what if the organization leaves, will we be left with some other type of shelter.	
The Sisters, former owners of building, want this use here.	
Are 6 parking spaces enough?	Yes. Most admissions are pre-planned, so it's not like an emergency room.
Any staff nursing?	Yes, we have a Registered Nurse.
We agreed to connect if any issues arise.	We want to support this community.
Are you affiliated with a church? Where do you get funding?	Non-denominational but majority of our funding is from churches. We also fundraise to foundations and bill Medicaid.
Do you have to meet FHA requirements?	That is why this building is perfect. Already has ADA accessibility, fire sprinkling, etc.
Number of woman at location at one time? What was occupancy as convent.	Still figuring out the number. Was 10 women previously as convent. At least a minimum of 10.
Community is in support of this organization. What are the next steps?	ZBA hearing on December 2 nd . Community and applicant to find out whether homeless shelter would be permitted if this organization left.

Other Notes

Text

Planner completing report: Stephanie Joy Everett