CB 2018-252

Case 008-18: 536 N. Wall Avenue – A request to include property in a HP District (Historic Preservation Overlay District) – Kenneth Meisinger.

Kenneth Meisinger, 536 N. Wall Avenue, Joplin, MO. Mr. Meisinger presented some history of the Frederick Rodgers House which was built in 1905. Mr. Frederick Rodgers was successful mining operator. The house was sold to Mr. William Landreth in 1917. After graduating from Joplin Business School, he started Landreth Machinery Company in 1901. Mr. Landreth never held public office but was very active in the development of Joplin. Mr. Landreth donated the land for which is now Landreth Park. Dr. Harry K. Wieman and his wife acquired the home in 1953. The Rodgers House was designed by prominent Joplin architect Mr. Austin Allen. Mr. Allen was the architect for the Newman Building, United Hebrew Temple, St. Peter Catholic Church and the Olivia Apartments to name a few of the landmarks in the City of Joplin.

Mr. Ramsour stated that he noticed that there was a for sale sign in front of the house.

Mr. Meisinger stated there is. He will be joining his family in southern Maryland.

Mr. Duncan wanted to know at what point the back portion was added on to the house.

Mr. Meisinger stated that it was when the Weiman's lived there. They enclosed what was known then as a sleeping porch. It is now a guest room, added a bathroom and a breakfast room down below just off the kitchen.

Mr. Duncan asked if there was anyone else to speak in favor of this case?

Jill Sullivan, 721 N Sergeant, Joplin, MO. She stated she was very much supportive of this nomination for Mr. Meisinger's home. She admires the fact that even though he is moving out of the home, he is thinking about the future of the home. This home is in the North Heights neighborhood and historic preservation efforts moving out of Murphysburg and into other neighborhoods such as Roanoke, East Town, and North Heights. This home would be the first home by ordinance as a local landmark in the North Heights neighborhood.

Mr. Duncan asked if this would only be the one home in the neighborhood right now but if more property owners become involved would that become an Historic neighborhood? How does that work?

Mrs. Sullivan stated that this request is a standalone. You have to have a certain percentage of property owners that live within the official boundaries of North Heights wishing to make an historic district.

Mr. Duncan asked if there was anyone else to speak against this case? (There were not.)

MR. CORTEZ MOVED, SECONDED BY MR. RAMSOUR TO APPROVE CASE 008-18, BE FORWARDED TO THE CITY COUNCIL WITH RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL. MOTION CARRIED, WITH MR. DUNCAN, MR. CORTEZ, MR. RAMSOUR, MRS. KOELKEBECK, AND MRS. BRUCKNER-SEARS VOTING "AYE". (5 IN FAVOR, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT).