

LEWES HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
Public Hearing Meeting
February 5, 2019

The Lewes Historic Preservation Commission held a public hearing on **Tuesday, February 5, 2019 at 6:30 P.M. in Lewes City Hall** in accordance with proper notification with the following present: Chairwoman Barbara Warnell, Rachel Grier-Reynolds, George Thomasson, Philip Franz, Attorney Dan McAllister, Ex-Officio City Councilwoman Bonnie Osler, Building Official Robin Davis, and Recording Secretary Jackie Doherty. Larry Adams and Drew McKay were excused.

The Historic Preservation Commission of the City of Lewes, Delaware will hold a PUBLIC HEARING on the subject of the DEMOLITION to the existing outbuilding/shed owned by Steve and Mindy Evans and located at 142 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE (SCTM 3-35-8.08-76.00, R4/H, Contributing). In accordance with 197-42-D of the Code of the City of Lewes, a public hearing is required prior to the removal of a structure if the structure or any part thereof is deemed to be “contributing” and therefore, has historic and architectural significance.

Chairwoman Warnell called the public hearing to order at **6:30 P.M.**

Mr. Evans stated the shed built prior to 1941 is located on his property line and is actually on his neighbor's property. The plywood siding was installed between 1980 and 1990; there was an inspection by a contractor who stated that it could not be repaired; restoration would cost about \$30,000.

Jim Ford, 910 Savannah Road, stated he has sent a letter to the Commission to endorse the request by Mr. Evans for demolition of the shed.

Ms. Grier-Reynolds stated the shed was built in 1875 and is shown on the original tax map. The shed could be restored and remain on the property, and the new shed could still be built. The concern is that so many of the historic homes in Lewes would be demolished due to the need for restoration of the foundation and repairs.

Mr. Evans stated he has tried to preserve the shed, but the cost is too high. There is also a question if the 1875 date is correct because there had been mistakes on the maps regarding the house. This structure is not a home and is not visible from the street.

Mr. Franz stated there would be nothing left of the original building after the foundation is restored and the repairs are done, which would need to be completed by going onto the neighbor's property. He agrees with the reasons stated in Mr. Ford's letter and is in favor of the demolition.

Chairwoman Warnell stated Mr. Evans did a thorough presentation and also agrees with the opinions from Mr. Ford.

There were no comments from members of the public present.

Chairwoman Warnell adjourned the public hearing at **6:45 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jackie Doherty,
Recording Secretary
Historic Preservation Commission