

**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 14, 2018**

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WESTPORT ZONING
BOARD OF APPEALS

Members present: Gerald Coutinho, Vice Chairman
Roger Menard
Peter M. Borden
Constance Gee

Vice Chairman Coutinho called the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Westport Town Hall, 816 Main Road, Westport, MA with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman's Announcement - Under MGL Chapter 30A, Section 20(f), meeting being recorded.

581A Drift Road - RE: Application of Joan Casey-Amaral, 581F Drift Road, seeking a variance for side yard setback requirement relief as in Article 7, Section 7.6.2 side yards. The property is located at 581A, B & C Drift Road and is shown on Assessor's Map 53, Lots 12B and 10J.

Members present: Gerald Coutinho, Vice Chairman, Roger Menard, Peter M. Borden and Constance Gee.

Also present: Attorney John A. Markey, Jr., 50 Homer's Wharf, New Bedford, MA, attorney for the petitioner; and Sean Leach, SITEC Engineering.

Vice Chairman Coutinho opened the hearing at 7:15 p.m. with the reading of the Public Hearing Notice and asked that anyone wishing to address the Board on this petition should state their name and address for the record. There were no abutters present.

Vice Chairman Coutinho stated that he and Jim Hartnett, who is assisting the Zoning Board, had received an e-mail from Attorney Markey to continue the hearing. The e-mail requesting the continuance was read into the record.

Mr. Leach stated that the reason for the request was that the petitioner wanted to have her request for variance heard when

the Board had five (5) members. Attorney Markey also submitted a signed Mutual Extension of Time Variance Requested, agreeing to extend the time limit to hold a public hearing and the time limit to render a decision by forty-five (45) days.

Mr. Menard made a motion to grant the extension of the time limits to hold a public hearing and render a decision by forty-five (45) days. Motion was seconded by Ms. Gee and the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Mr. Menard made a motion to continue the hearing to Wednesday, March 28, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. Motion was seconded by Mr. Borden and the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Vice Chairman Coutinho signed the Mutual Extension of Time on behalf of the Board.

Mr. Hartnett would prepare a letter to the Town Clerk to file the written agreement between the petitioner and the Board to extend the time by forty-five (45) days. If, at the next meeting, the Board does not have a fifth member, there may be a further continuance or the petitioner has the option of going forward with the hearing on March 28, 2018 with four (4) members.

Mr. Menard advised Attorney Markey that the Board should be provided with specific details of the side yard setback requested, as well as the reasons for the variance (e.g. hardship).

Vice Chairman Coutinho stated that it appears that there are two (2) residences on one lot. Mr. Leach stated that one of the buildings is no longer a residence. Mr. Leach said that he would provide further information regarding this second structure at the next meeting.

Other Miscellaneous Matters:

1. Vice Chairman Coutinho stated that the Board of Selectmen had received two (2) applications for regular and associate members, but both had withdrawn their applications.

2. Vice Chairman Coutinho stated that the position of Principal Clerk for the Board would be advertised. He said that the former Clerk, Diane Pelland, had been helping the Board since her departure from Town employment. Mr. Hartnett, Mr. Menard and Vice Chairman Coutinho would be on the screening committee.

to review applications and interview prospective candidates. There was brief discussion as to the possibility of dividing the daytime and nighttime duties (1 clerk for daytime hours and 1 clerk for nighttime meetings).

3. Vice Chairman Coutinho asked if the Board would hold election of officers at this time. Following discussion, the Board decided to defer this matter to the next meeting in the expectation that a fifth member may be appointed to the Board.

Topics not reasonably anticipated forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the meeting

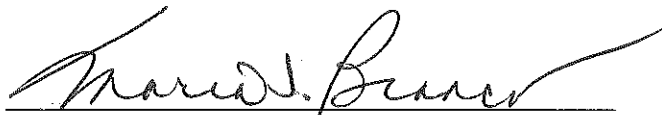
None.

7:46 p.m.

Motion made by Mr. Menard to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Borden and the Board voted unanimously in favor.

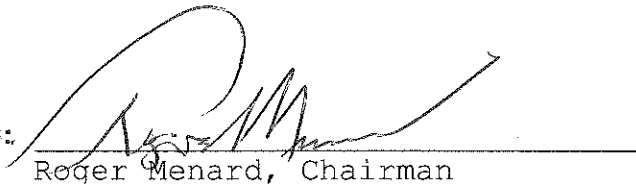
Adjournment.

Respectfully,



Maria I. Branco, Principal Clerk
to the Zoning Board of Appeals

APPROVED:


Roger Menard, Chairman