

**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY
MARCH 25, 2020**

THIS MEETING WAS CONDUCTED REMOTELY VIA GOOGLE MEET.

Members Present: Roger Menard, Chairman
Gerald Coutinho
Peter Borden
Constance Gee
Raymond Elias

Absent was Barbara Pontolilo.

Chairman Menard called the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Chairman Menard opened the hearing by reading the provisions mandated by Governor Charlie Baker regarding the congregation of people at the Town Hall and the manner in which municipal boards are to meet and hear matters on their agenda.

Chairman Menard noted that this meeting could be accessed by a link on the web browser (meet.google.com/efh-qtmm-uvz) or by calling into the conference telephone number (442-900-4438, PIN 984726907#). He asked everyone who had joined the meeting to mute their telephones, so as to eliminate any background noise; and unmute when they wished to speak.

Chairman Menard stated that, when voting, the Members will recite their name and vote aye or nay on each motion.

1. Chairman Menard read the public hearing notice on the petition of Helen L. Souza, as Trustee of the H.L.S. Trust, for a variance to allow the transfer of approximately 2,060 square feet of area from the lot containing house #21 to be combined with the lot containing house #17 in order to remedy the encroachment of an existing garage and yard area historically used in conjunction with #17. Both resulting lots contain insufficient area to comply with current zoning requirements; existing frontages for both lots will remain unchanged, as mandated by Zoning Bylaw Article 7,

Section 7.0. The subject property is located at 21 Drift Road, Westport MA and is shown on Assessor's Map 32, Lot 33 and Map 51, Lots 34 and 23A.

Petitioner Helen Souza stated that she was present.

Chairman Menard stated that, because all town and city governmental offices are in an emergency status as a result of the COVID-19 health crisis, all meetings are being conducted by remote access. He further noted that this meeting was being opened for the sole purpose of continuing to May 6, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. If a public hearing at the Town Hall is not possible at that time, then the Board will conduct a hearing by remote access. Ms. Souza stated that she was in agreement to the hearing being continued to May 6, 2020, and she further agreed that the Board be granted a 90-day extension within which to render a decision.

Mr. Coutinho suggested that this agreement be memorialized in writing. The Clerk stated that she would contact Ms. Souza for purposes of her signing an agreement form.

Chairman Menard said that the Governor has filed proposed legislation, whereby all Town governmental boards would be relieved of the decision-making deadline and, therefore, the agreement to extend the deadline may be moot. However, in light of the fact that the legislation has not yet been passed, it was necessary that the petitioner agree to the decision deadline extension.

A motion was made to continue the matter to Wednesday, May 6, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. The roll call vote was as follows: Roger Menard - Aye; Gerald Coutinho - Aye; Peter Borden - Aye; Raymond Elias - Aye; and Constance Gee - Aye. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

2. Chairman Menard read the public hearing notice on the petition of Andre Brum Soares and Whitney Pacheco for a Special Permit to install a 728-square foot one-bedroom accessory apartment on the second level of a two-level garage to be constructed, as mandated by Zoning Bylaw Article 4, Section 4.1.1.D.13. The subject property is located at 7 Old Farm Road, Westport MA and is shown on Assessor's Map 68, Lot 23.

Petitioners Soares and Pacheco were not present.

Chairman Menard stated that, because all town and city governmental offices are in an emergency status as a result of the COVID-19 health crisis, all meetings are being conducted by remote access.

He further noted that this meeting was being opened for the sole purpose of continuing to May 6, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. If a public hearing at the Town Hall is not possible, then the Board will conduct a hearing by remote access at that time. The Clerk will contact the petitioners to address the continuation of the hearing, as well as obtaining their agreement as to the 90-day extension within which the Board would be required to render a decision.

A motion was made to continue the matter to Wednesday, May 6, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. The roll call vote was as follows: Roger Menard - Aye; Gerald Coutinho - Aye; Peter Borden - Aye; Raymond Elias - Aye; and Constance Gee - Aye. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Administrative Items

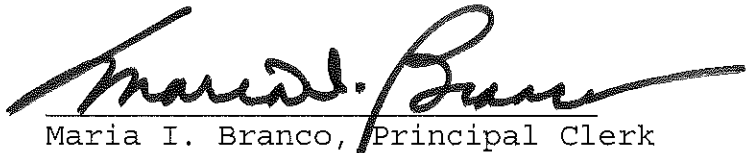
Minutes of February 12, 2020 - Chairman Menard made a motion, seconded by Mr. Elias. Roll call vote was as follows: Constance Gee - Aye; Peter Borden - Aye; Gerald Coutinho - Aye and the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the February 12, 2020 meeting.

6:54 p.m.

Motion made by Mr. Elias to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Ms. Gee. The Board voted unanimously in favor.

Adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,



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

APPROVED:



Roger Menard, Chairman