Borough of Metuchen Zoning Board of Adjustment Meeting Minutes JULY 13, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 7:35PM by Mr. Topping, the Chairman, who read the Sunshine Act in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

Iris Delgado
Jonathan Rabinowitz, Vice Chairman
John Shuchman
Angela Sielski
Byron Sondergard
Brian Tobin
Daniel Topping, Chairman
Jonathan Capp, Alt. 1

Chris Cosenza, Board Planner Robert Renaud, Board Attorney Adam Colicchio, Board Attorney Robert Mannix, Board Engineer Alberto Jimenez, Zoning Official Denise Hamilton, Board Secretary Sharon Hollis

ABSENT:

Ehrin Ziccardi, Alt. 2

RESOLUTIONS

Appointment of Zoning Board Secretary – Sharon Hollis

Mr. Rabinowitz motions to approve Ms. Hollis as the new Zoning Board Secretary and Ms. Sielski seconds the motion. All ayes.

23-1351 Egan, Christine – Applicant requires bulk variance approval for fence and set back distance of side and rear yards. (Approved 6.8.23)

206 High Street Block 140 Lot 61.01

Mr. Rabinowitz motioned to approve the resolution and Mr. Sondergard seconded the motion.

Vote on Motion

Ms. Delgado Yes Mr. Rabinowitz Yes

Mr. Shuchman Abstained Ms. Sielski Abstained

Mr. Sondergard Yes

Mr. Tobin Abstained

Mr. Topping Yes Mr. Capp Yes

NEW BUSINESS:

23-1352 Wyrtzen, David – Applicant requires "d" and "c" variances to construct an addition to the existing single-family home in a B3 Zone.

19 Halsey Street Block 144 Lot 15.01

Mr. Wyrtzen is sworn in by Mr. Renaud who explains the process to Mr. Wyrtzen. Mr. Wyrtzen describes his house with the porch he would like to replace and an addition that he would like to add. The property is an odd shape, and the porch is currently a single-story porch located at the rear of the home. The porch is currently in disrepair. While replacing it, they would like to add an addition. Mr. Wyrtzen displays plans the architect has prepared. The addition would add four feet to the back of the home and will be two stories. One of the variances that are required is a D2 which is a preexisting condition of a continued nonconforming use. The zone is a B3 zone that does not allow single-family residences. The tax records show the home back to 1890 and the B3 zone was created around 1950. This house was established prior to the zoning law. Positive criteria are the block already has nine other residences on it and this home is consistent with the block. There is really no negative criteria as there is no detriment to the public.

The C variances are minimal lot area, lot width, side yard setback and side yard combined setback.

It has been suggested to plant shrubs and a tree which have already taken place. They will consider all the Board Planner's suggestions.

The Board agrees it is all a hardship due to the shape of the property. There is a question regarding the French drains. The Board recognizes that the plans could have been larger, the houses on either side are much larger.

Mr. Cosenza is fine with the application as presented and states that his recommendations are just that, recommendations, not conditions.

The meeting is opened to the public for questions and comments. There are none.

Mr. Sondergard makes a motion to approve the application as presented and Mr. Rabinowitz seconds the motion.

Vote On Motion

Ms. Delgado	Yes
Mr. Rabinowitz	Yes
Ms. Sielski	Yes
Mr. Sondergard	Yes
Mr. Topping	Yes

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Mr. Tobin Yes Mr. Capp Yes

PUBLIC PORTION

The meeting was opened to the public. There were no questions or comments. A motion was made and seconded to close the public portion.

CORRESPONDENCE

Adoption of June 8, 2023, Meeting Minutes

Ms. Delgado made a motion to accept the meeting minutes and Mr. Sondergard seconded the motion. All ayes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Topping makes a motion to adjourn, and Mr. Capp seconds the motion. All ayes.

/jr