

BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON, WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT MINUTES
OCTOBER 27, 2015

Chairman Vitalos led the members of the Board in the flag salute and read the Open Public Meetings Act into the Record.

Roll Call: Carroll, Mangiacotti, Post, Vitalos—4 Present
Absent: Turner, Durfee, Eller
Vacancy: Alternate
Also Present: Steven Gruenberg, Board Attorney
Patricia Titus, Clerk

MINUTES:

Regular Meeting – September 22, 2015

Chairman Vitalos entertained additions or corrections to the minutes. No discussion. It was moved by Post, seconded by Mangiacotti, that the minutes of the regular meeting held on September 22, 2015, be approved as presented.

Roll Call: Carroll, Mangiacotti, Post, Vitalos,
Ayes: 3, Nays: 0, Abstained: 1 (Carroll)
Motion carried

RESOLUTIONS: None

APPLICATIONS:

Application 2015:2 – Buchra AlDakkak – completeness hearing:

Attorney Gruenberg reminded that Board that at the last meeting the application had been deemed incomplete and additional information was requested. The applicant has provided proof of taxes paid, photographs and hand drawn dimensions of the driveway. Mr. Post stated that he needs to see more details to make a determination. The applicant spoke with the Board Attorney to obtain a better understanding of what the Board was requesting. Attorney Gruenberg stated that the Board needs to see a detailed survey showing the existing driveway. The applicant stated that she could not afford to pay for a professional survey.

Attorney Gruenberg told the Board that could deem the application incomplete for the survey only as the applicant provided the photos and proof of taxes paid. Therefore, it was moved by Post, seconded by Carroll to deem the application incomplete for the survey requirement only.

Roll Call: Carroll, Mangiacotti, Post, Vitalos
Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, Abstained: 0
Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

None

COMMUNICATIONS:

None

REPORTS:

There were no reports at this meeting.

Board of Adjustment Minutes
October 27, 2015

REMARKS:

James Sparkman and Audrey Schupe, representatives from the Domestic Abuse Crisis Center, came before the Board. They are requesting relief from a portion of the fees incurred for a variance that was not necessary. Mr. Sparkman handed out copies of the invoices. They are asking for relief due to the bad advice from the zoning officer and, also, the length of the meeting due to public comments that were really related to another project in the Borough. Mr. Sparkman suggested possibly renegotiating with the vendors.

Chair Vitalos stated that the Board budget does not provide for emergency fund/relief. By law, the Board must provide the public a chance to speak. Attorney Gruenberg stated that the best way to go would be to challenge the invoices with Council. Ms. Schupe stated they are not challenging the invoices but feel they should not have occurred. Attorney Gruenberg stated that, speaking about his invoices, his rates are low. Mr. Sparkman stated again that they are requesting relief as they were steered in the wrong direction.

Dave DeSanto, 66 Cemetery Hill Road, representing HOPE, appeared before the Board. He has heard rumor that the Washington Cemetery may come before the Board. Chair Vitalos stated that there is no current case before the Board, no executive sessions held or anything scheduled.

Ms. AIDakkak asked the Board when the next meeting was. The requested survey must be received at least 10 days before the next meeting scheduled for November 24. Attorney Gruenberg explained the process of the public hear notices.

Holiday Dinner: December 5, 6 pm, at The Willows, Asbury, NJ

ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 8:06 pm. All in favor.

Ayes: 4, Nays: 0
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Mangiacotti, Secretary