

THE FAYETTE COUNTY ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS met on January 27, 2020, at 7:00 P.M. in the Fayette County Administrative Complex, 140 Stonewall Avenue West, Fayetteville, Georgia.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Marsha Hopkins, Chair
Tom Waller, Vice-Chair
Bill Beckwith
Therol Brown
John Tate

STAFF PRESENT: Chanelle Blaine, Zoning Administrator
Howard Johnson, Planning & Zoning Coordinator

Welcome and Call to Order:

1. Election of the Chairman.

Bill Beckwith made a motion to approve the nomination of Marsha Hopkins as the Zoning Board of Appeals Commission Chairman. John Tate seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

2. Election of the Vice-Chair.

John Tate made a motion to approve the nomination of Tom Waller as the Zoning Board of Appeals Commission Vice-Chair. Bill Beckwith seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

3. Election of the Secretary.

Bill Beckwith made a motion to approve the nomination of Howard Johnson as the Zoning Appeals Commission Secretary. Therol Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

4. Consideration of the Minutes of the Meeting held on December 16, 2019.

Therol Brown made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on December 16, 2019. John Tate seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

PUBLIC HEARING

5. Petition No. A-715-19, Xia Li (Lisa Li), owner, requests the following variance: variance to Section 110-125. A-R (d)(6), to reduce the side yard setback from 50 feet to 25 feet to allow an existing barn to remain. The subject property is located in Land Lot 222 of the 4th District and fronts on Highway 85 South and Bernhard Road.

Lisa Li (Highway 85 South) stated this is the first time I have joined in this type of meeting so I don't know what the procedure is. She added now I live at 1833 Highway 85 South and I bought this house last year in the summertime. She explained I have come to this meeting to apply for a variance and reason for the variance is because we have a barn that is located about 25 feet from the property line, so then I applied for a variance. She said when we bought this property we didn't know when they built this barn, this is an original barn, it is not a rebuilt barn. She noted this barn has a separate standalone power pole and also a separate meter, which is a good thing because it provides light inside and outside which protect my small animals against other harmful animals. She explained this lighting prevents a lot of bad things from happening in the evening, so we want to keep this barn since it has a separate stand-alone power pole and separate power meter. She said we also want to keep this small barn which is just for the small animals, such as geese and ducks because it so close to the water, it easy to take care of them. She clarified in the bigger barn I raise different kind of animals and the smaller barn prevents problems with mixing these animals together.

Lisa Li said also by keeping this barn does not hurt the neighbors because on the right side they are woods between the barn and my neighbor and on the left side it is much farther away, and they can only see the main residential house, simply because it's too far away, so it doesn't not affect the neighbors. She explained the front is facing Highway 85 South so it does affect anyone and in the back is the lake and behind the lake there are woods so no one can see this property. She added we want to keep this barn for the small animals only. She concluded this property is located in the A-R district which allows me to a barn along with my neighbors. She asked do you have any questions.

Chairperson Hopkins responded first of all, if you haven't sign in, please sign-in and thank you.

Chairperson Hopkins asked is there is anyone here to speak in favor of this Petition, you are welcome to come up to the podium now, sign-in and offer your statement.

Chairperson Hopkins then asked is there anyone in opposition who wants to speak and if so, please come up to the podium and sign your name.

Chairperson Hopkins stated we will bring it back to the ZBA members since there was no opposition noted, we will bring it back it here for questions, and I don't have any to start with.

Tom Waller replied I have no questions.

Therol Brown replied I have one question, how long has the barn been there, do you know?

Lisa Li replied I really don't know, I asked someone and they said maybe it was built the

same time as the house.

Therol Brown replied Mr. Kerlin do you know.

Bobby Kerlin (1789 Highway 85 South) replied the house that she is talking about was built at the same time my house was built in 1964.

Lisa Li responded yes, 1964.

Bobby Kerlin responded the barn was built and they started with the barn right after.

Therol Brown replied I thought it was in the 1960s, but I wasn't sure.

Bobby Kerlin said that I live at 1789 Highway 85 South which is adjacent to the house that you are talking about. He said that I am still not sure which two barns that we are talking about and how close they are, they have been there all these years, so does anybody have any idea about what we are talking about here.

Tom Waller replied it is the smallest one closest to you.

(Chanelle then approached podium and reviewed site plan with Bobby Kerlin)

Bobby Kerlin responded when Ford Motor Company underwent a large layoff for model changes, a bunch of guys got together and built this little cabin down on the pond, it been there ever since. He said how close it is to the property line nobody's every cared so I don't care now, besides that I got a beaver pond about to cover it up.

Chairman Hopkins asked does anyone have any questions, are we ready for a motion?

Bill Beckwith responded I don't have any questions.

***Therol Brown made a motion to recommend approval of Petition No. A-715-19.
John Tate seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.***


Chairperson Hopkins said being no further business, we will adjourn the meeting. She asked for all those in favor, please say aye. There were five (5) yeas.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
OF
FAYETTE COUNTY



MARSHA HOPKINS, CHAIRPERSON



HOWARD L. JOHNSON, ZBA SECRETARY