

APPROVED

Town of Grantham
Zoning Board of Adjustment
Minutes
January 29, 2015

Chair Conrad Frey called the Zoning Board meeting to order at 7:10p.m. Thursday, January 29, 2015. The meeting was held in the Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room located at the Town Hall, 300 Route 10 South in Grantham, NH.

Present: Chair Conrad Frey; members: Richard (Dick) Mansfield; Margery Bostrom; Tanya McIntire and Selectmen Representative Constance (Connie) Jones and Planning Board Clerk Jamielynn Garland filling in for M. Norris.

Absent: Member Myron Cummings; Alternates Peter Guillette and Sheridan Brown; Martha Norris, ZBA Clerk.

Public: Peter James

Approval of Minutes

Chair Conrad Frey asked the Board members if they had reviewed the minutes from September 25, 2014 were there any corrections. There being none motion was made by Richard (Dick) Mansfield and seconded by Margery Bostrom to approve the minutes as written.

Unanimously Approved

Correspondence

None

New Business

Variance application /Article XIII, Section 1C of the Zoning Ordinance: Signage. Sugar River Bank/Angela MacCreighton representative.

Frey asked A. MacCreighton to present her application. MacCreighton stated that Sugar River Bank would like to replace their sign with a larger one and to re-locate it on the building where it would be more aesthetically pleasing. Frey asked if they (Sugar River Bank) had considered using a street sign

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and MacCreighton stated they had but they could not come to an agreement with the property owner who would not allow them at this time to have a street sign on the property. MacCreighton continued that they also had approached the owner with the idea of one large sign with all the businesses on it but that would be too large and out of proportion with the area in question.

Frey questioned if the new sign were to be lighted and MacCreighton stated yes, as is the current sign they now have on the building. Frey stated that the sign would have to be turned off upon closing in the evening. MacCreighton stated that she did not realize this and if it were in the zoning ordinance stating so and Frey said yes. MacCreighton said that maybe because the building was a bank and had 24 hour ATM machines that was why it was lighted all the time.

Mansfield asked what the dimensions were of the proposed signage. MacCreighton stated that the overall size would be 25.34 square feet to cover the half-moon opening that currently exists where they plan on installing the new signage.

Bostrom expressed that the new logo (signage) is bold and nice looking and in good taste and felt that it was doing what it was supposed to do, advertise their business.

McIntire stated she would rather see the sign on the building instead of out on the street.

Frey continued that other banks in other towns have similar signage; his concern was still with lighting after hours which is not allowed as stated in the zoning ordinance and also had concerns with other local business in the same area not abiding by these rules and was going to bring this to the attention of the Selectmen.

James stated that he felt the ordinance makes it difficult for local area businesses that exist in this small footprint to advertise, and that especially at night if people are getting off the highway they need to see lighted areas to stop at Irving's for gas, Dunkin Donuts, get some money out of the atm machines etc. Bostrom agreed with this opinion and felt that it was realistic.

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Frey stated that the ordinance came into effect in 1990 and that's when these rules came into effect.

Frey read from the Zoning Manual Article XV: Zoning Board of Adjustment under H., conditions to be met, #3 Variance, page 54. After reading all the articles the ***Zoning Board members agreed on the Variance Approval with the following conditions:***

1. Lighting conditions remain appropriate.

Chair Frey asked if there were any further questions. There being none motion was made by Margery Bostrom and seconded by Richard Mansfield to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Unanimously Approved

The next Zoning Board of Adjustment meeting will take place on February 26, 2015 at 7:00p.m. in the Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room.

Deadline to receive applications for this meeting is February 5, 2015.

Respectively Submitted,

Martha M. Norris
ZBA CLerk