

The Dorchester County Board of Appeals met in regular session on Thursday, December 15, 2011 in Room 110 of the County Office Building at 7:00 PM. Present were Ed Howard, Vice-Chairman, Dwight Cromwell, Wendell Foxwell, Catherine McCulley, Chairperson, Walt Gunby, Attorney, Steve Dodd, Director of Planning, with Merris Hurley recording. Ms. Hill was absent.

An introduction was made by Chairperson McCulley, explaining the procedures of this meeting to the audience. She then asked Mr. Dodd to read the first case.

Case #2412 - William H. Beckwith, Jr., Owner
John Selby, Applicant

To request a variance from the maximum allowable square footage for an on-premise, free-standing sign. Property is located at 3447 Ocean Gateway and is zoned B-2, General Business. The subject parcel contains 8.41 acres.

Mr. Beckwith, Mr. Selby, and any other person who would be testifying in this case, were sworn in.

Mr. Dodd read the case and all pertinent information into the record.

William Beckwith, 2054 Dailsville Road, Cambridge, MD and John Selby, Selby Sign Company, Pocomoke, MD explained to the Board that they would rely on their written responses to the criteria. They would also like to add supplemental verbal testimony. Mr. Selby explained to the Board that he looked at the shape of the property, how wide the road is and the speed of traffic when determined what size sign is needed for a specific business.

Mr. Dodd read agency comments into the record. The Department of Public Works had no comments. The Health Department had no objection. The Planning Commission had no objection of the applicant could prove a hardship. The State Highway Administration had no objection.

No one spoke in favor of this request and no one was opposed.

At this time, Mr. Howard made a motion to adjourn and speak with Counsel. Seconded by Mr. Foxwell and unanimously carried.

When the Board reconvened, Ms. McCulley announced the end of testimony and the Board began their deliberations.

At this time, each Board member explained his decisions regarding the criteria.

After all testimony, Ms. McCulley called for a motion regarding this case. Mr. Foxwell made a motion "to approved this request." Seconded by Mr. Howard and unanimously carried.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

A motion was made by Mr. Foxwell for Ms. McCulley to continue as Chair and Mr. Howard to continue as Vice-Chair. Seconded by Mr. Cromwell and unanimously carried.

With no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Cromwell to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Foxwell and unanimously carried. Time of adjournment: 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steve Dodd".

Steve Dodd
Executive Secretary