

Harpers Ferry Board of Zoning Appeals

April 13, 2021

Meeting Minutes – Administrative Meeting (Via Zoom and Livestreamed on YouTube)

Call to order and attendees - The meeting was called to order by Chair Dave Simmons at 6:30 pm.

SEAT 1 (term ends January 1, 2024): David Simmons – PRESENT and leading meeting

SEAT 2 (term ends January 1, 2022): Chad Gauthier - PRESENT

SEAT 3 (term ends January 1, 2022): Lynn Pechuekonis – PRESENT

SEAT 4 (term ends January 1, 2023): Mike Buscher – PRESENT

SEAT 5 (term ends January 1, 2023): Chris Craig – PRESENT and recording minutes

ALTERNATE 1 (term ends March 1, 2024): VACANT

ALTERNATE 2 (term ends March 1, 2022): Rob Case – PRESENT (voting)

ALTERNATE 3 (term ends March 1, 2023): VACANT

Others attending included staffmember Pat Morse (assisting with technology), Town Attorney Kin Sayre, and others observing on YouTube.

Approval of minutes – Chris Craig moved to accept the minutes of the Administrative meeting on March 16, 2021. Chad Gauthier seconded; passed unanimously.

Dave Simmons moved to accept minutes of the March 26 Hearing on the Hill Top House Hotel Demolition Permit Application with slight revisions from the draft. Chad Gauthier seconded; passed unanimously.

Chris Craig moved to accept minutes of the Special meeting on April 1, 2021 with one sentence added to the draft. Mike Buscher seconded; passed unanimously.

Discussion and action regarding BZA jurisdiction to accept the Request for Hearing submitted by Roberta N. Meade-Curry – Mr. Simmons noted the majority opinion that the BZA should accept Mr. Sayre’s advice that this request is outside the jurisdiction of the BZA. It was noted that Ms. Meade’s options would be to take her appeal to the Circuit Court. Mr. Sayre stated the proper action would be to entertain a motion to deny a hearing.

Lynn Pechuekonis moved that, due to the lack of BZA jurisdiction, the Board deny Ms. Meade’s petition to hear her appeal on the Town Council’s decision to approve the street use agreement. Mr. Gauthier seconded; passed unanimously.

Mr. Simmons will draft a letter to send to Ms. Meade, notifying her of this decision.

Quarterly Meeting – An administrative meeting was set for 6:30 pm, Thursday, May 6.

Adjournment – At 6:58 Chad Gauthier moved to adjourn. Mike Buscher seconded; passed unanimously.