Board of Zoning Appeals James City County Government Complex Board Room, Building F

Oct. 3, 2013 - 7 p.m.

- A. Roll Call
- **B. Old Business**
- C. New Business
 - 1. ZA-0008-2013. 3506 Fieldcrest Court
- **D. Minutes** Sept. 5, 2013
- E. Adjournment

MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board of Zoning Appeals

FROM: Terry Costello, Senior Zoning Officer

DATE: October 3, 2013

SUBJECT: ZA-0008-2013, 3506 Fieldcrest Court

FACTS:

Mr. and Mrs. Walter S. Felton, property owners, have requested a variance to section 24-238 (b) of the James City County Zoning Ordinance for (1) the continued placement of a deck and porch; and (2) allow for the conversion of the porch into a bedroom addition located at 3506 Fieldcrest Court in the Fieldcrest subdivision. The variance request is to reduce the rear yard setback from 35 feet to 23 feet. This property can also be identified as Parcel (05-0-0007) on the James City County Real Estate Map (45-2). This property is located in the R-1, Limited Residential Zoning District.

FINDINGS:

Mr. & Mrs. Felton made application for a building permit to construct a bedroom addition that would replace their screened-in porch. Upon reviewing the application, Zoning noticed that the existing deck and porch encroached into the required rear yard setback of 35 feet by approximately 12 feet. Because of the encroachment, Zoning was not able to approve the building permit application. Expansion/Improvements to nonconforming uses of the James City County Zoning Ordinance states in part that:

Expansion of the dwelling and new or expanded accessory structures and uses shall meet all current zoning requirements, including height, yard and setbacks, for the zoning district in which they are located or the R-1 zoning district if such dwelling is not located in a zoning district where a residential use is permitted. In not case shall a nonconforming one-family dwelling be modified to accommodate additional dwelling units.

Therefore the proposed expansion on the porch must meet the current rear yard setback requirements.

The original building permit stated that the house would be built 48 feet from the rear property line and 39 from the front property. No deck or porch was shown on the plan at that time. The survey dated July 8, 1996; shows the house was actually constructed approximately 39 from the rear property line and 47.86 from the front, leaving only approximately four feet for construction inside the rear setback. No building permit for

the deck and porch could be located in County files. The applicants stated that the deck and porch were there when they bought the house, as demonstrated on the survey dated July 8, 1996.

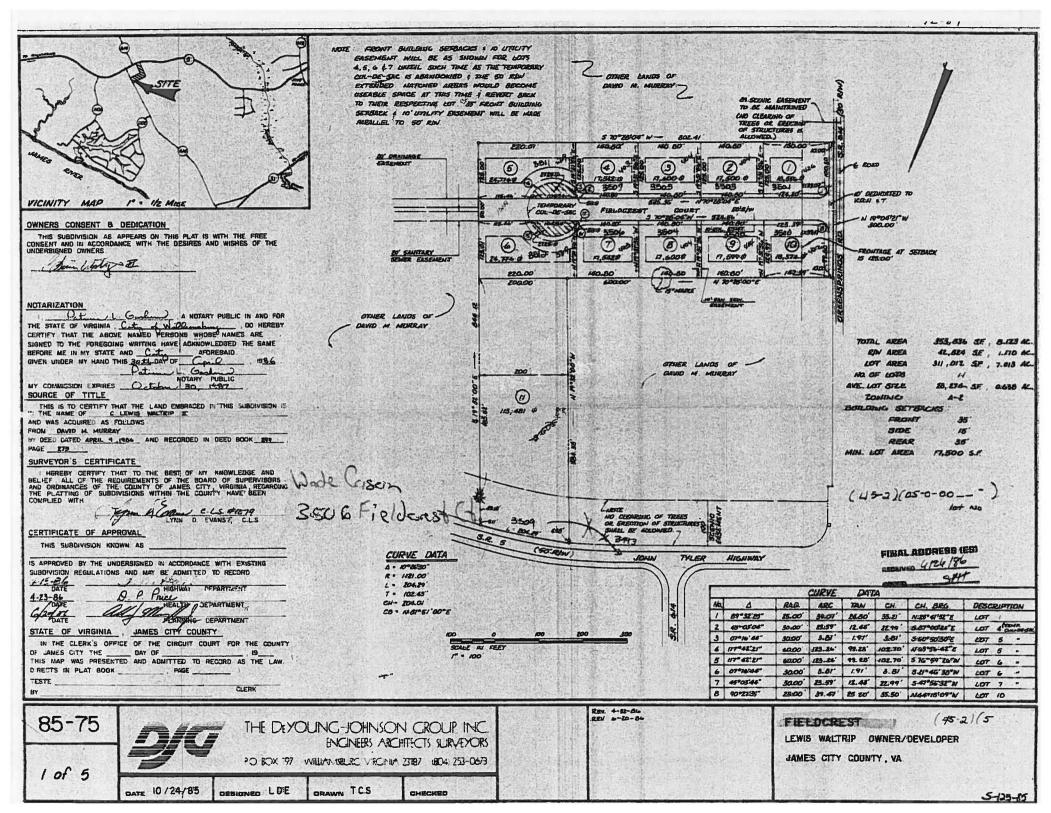
RECOMMENDATION:

Staff acknowledges that the current property owners purchased the property in good faith. Staff would also like to note that the property behind 3506 Fieldcrest Court is owned by James City County and no development is anticipated. Staff does not feel that the strict application of the James City County Code would effectively prohibit or unreasonably restrict the use of the property. Staff does not feel that a demonstrable hardship exists in this case; therefore, staff cannot support the request variance of 12 feet from the required 35 foot rear yard setback for the construction of a bedroom addition on the existing screened in porch. However, should the Board wish to grant this variance, two resolutions have been attached for your reference: (1) would allow continued placement of the deck and porch, but would not allow for enclosure; or (2) would allow both continued placement of the deck and porch, and enclosure into a living space, with no further encroachment.

Attachments:

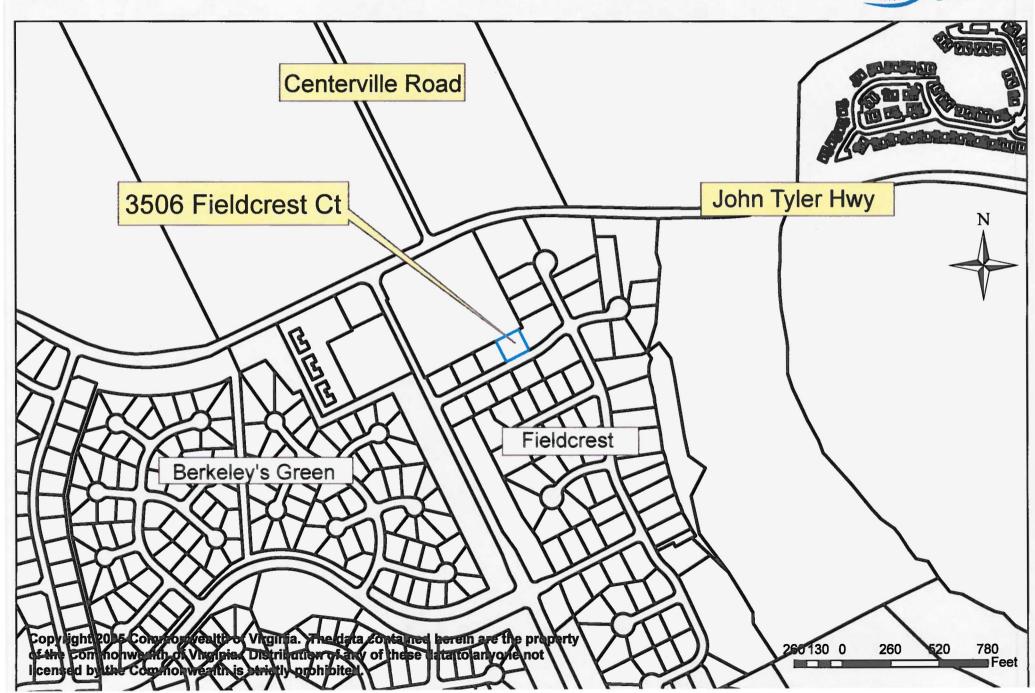
Attachments:

Survey dated July 8, 1996
Subdivision Plat dated October 24, 1985
Location Map
Aerial Map
Building Permit dated October 3, 1986
Building Permit dated April 28, 1992
Accessory Permit dated May 13, 1992
Photographs
Letter from neighbors
Resolution (2)



ZA-0008-2013 3506 Fieldcrest Court Tax Map #4520500007





ZA-0008-2013 3506 Fieldcrest Court Tax Map #4520500007



Greensprings Rd



BUILDING PERMIT

JAMES CITY COUNTY

45-0-105-0-000"-

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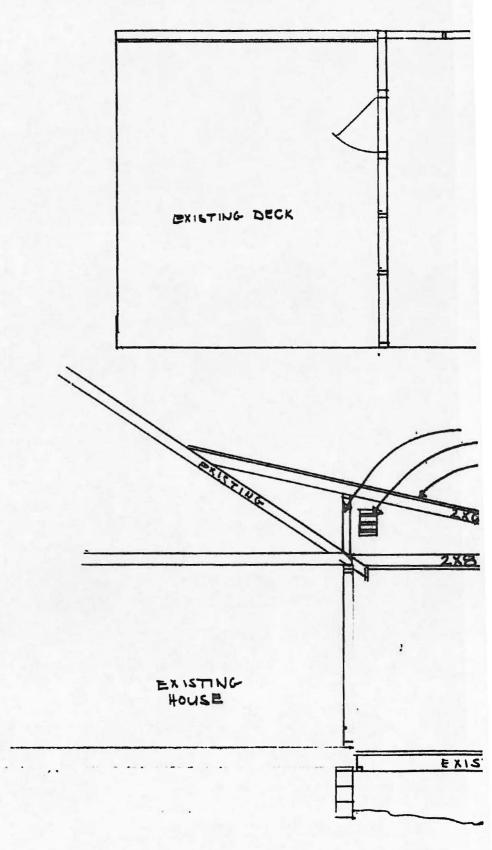


APPLICATION FOR BUILDING PERMIT

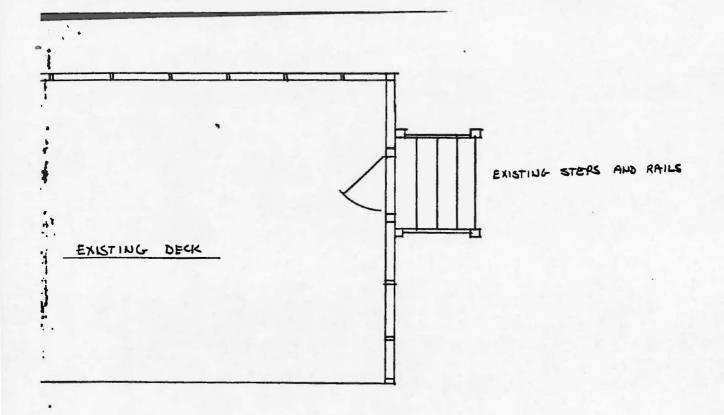
101 Mounts Bay Road P.O. Box JC Williamsburg, VA. 23187-3627 (804) 253-6626

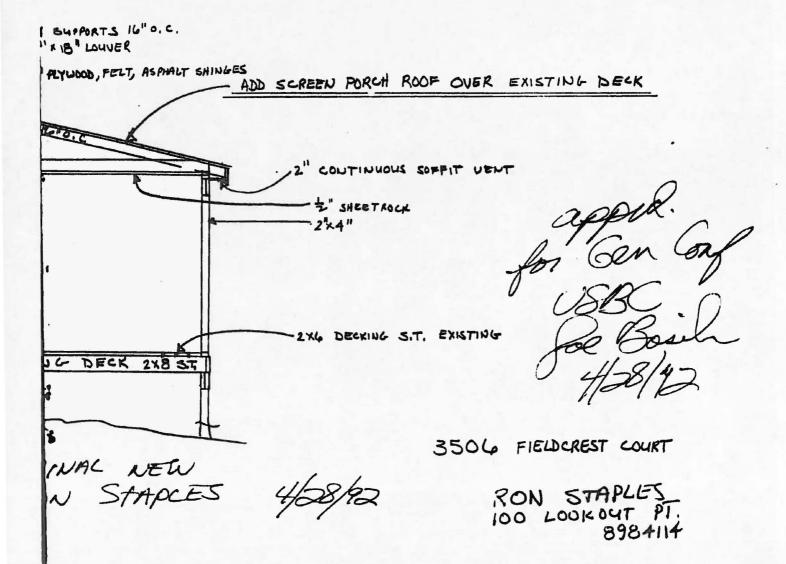
Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

CONTRACTOR INFORMATION License #185 98 Company NameRONSTAPLES Phone #8384114 Signature	OWNER INFORMATION Name JAMES LAND! Address 3506 FIELDC: 657 COURT Phone # 229 3995 Signature Agent Brill Q Stark
DESCRIPTION OF WORK NUSTRUL ROOF + SCREEN-IN	PORCH OUTE EXISTING DECK
Site Plan #	Plat Plan Submitted Yes No X
LOCATION OF WORK Real Estate Tax Map # (45-2) (5-7) Street Address 3506 PIELD CREST COURT	ZonedSubdivision
BUILDING INFORMATION	
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OFFICE US	BEONLY
Permit # Lot Width L/A PETCHAN Lot Depth Front Property Line Right Property Line Left Property Line Rear Property Line	Structure Used As ESTOCKE Use Group Occupancy Load Type Construction Zoning Approved Zoning Disapproved
PERMIT FEE Date Plan Reviewed 4/28/92	PLAN REVIEW FEELINE NO



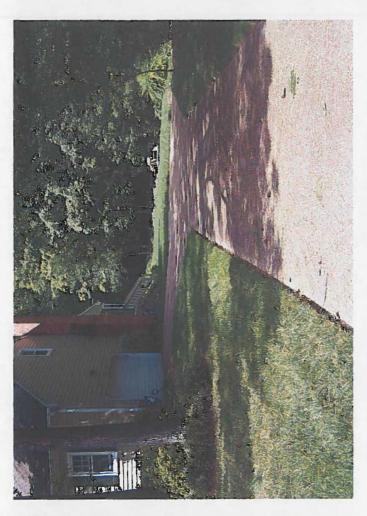
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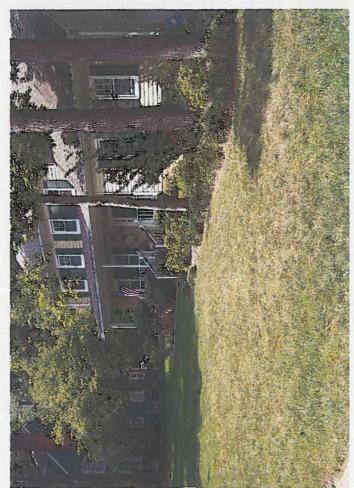


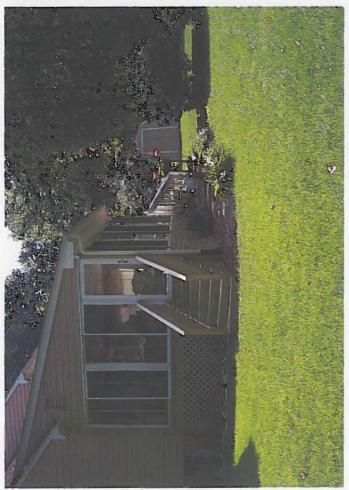


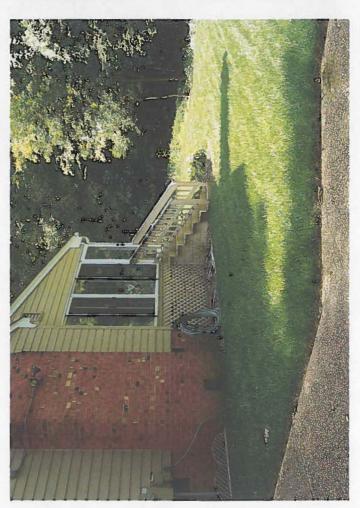
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39 SIGN, EX	TERIOR		49 ELEVATOR, CONVEYOR		59 WATER - INDIVIDUAL WELL			
TYPE OF MAPROVEMENT	60 DESCRIPTION AND CODE				VALUATION OF WORK			
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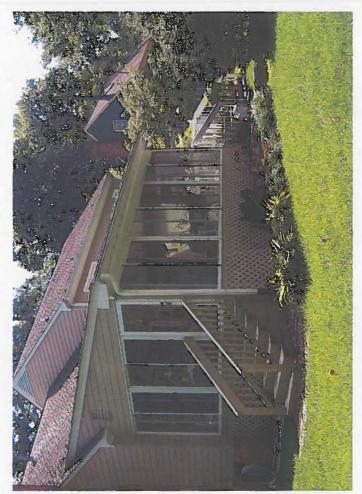




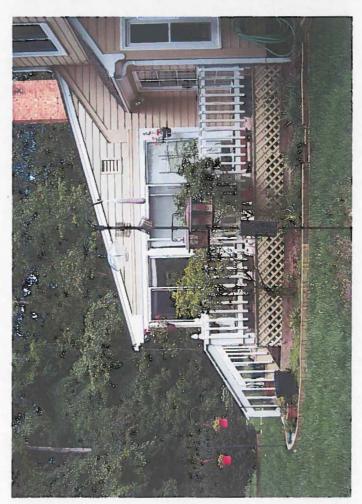












Concerning our neighbors, Walter and Kathryn Felton's home at 3506 Fieldcrest Court, Williamsburg, Virginia:

We have no objection to their converting their existing sun porch into a small bedroom and bath and extending the area a few feet on the side of the driveway. The extension on the side of the driveway will be within legal bounds.

We understand that the back of the existing sun porch does extend over the rear set-back line, but this porch was there when the house was purchased in 1996. The foundation of the sun porch was not built to meet appropriate standards, and the rebuilding will update the foundation appropriately for the land in this area.

We support their application for a variance to allow for this renovation.

Michele Cauchwaig 3504 Fieldcrest 220-1711 William EWalloce 545-2633; 3512 Fieldewest C

Laurence Leenin

229-9743 3507 Fieldcrest Court

Roph Stephens 3502 Fullcreat Court

RESOLUTION ZA-0008-2013

GRANTING A VARIANCE ON JCC RE TAX PARCEL NO. (4520500007)

WHEREAS, Walter S. Felton, Jr. and Kathryn A. Felton, property owners has appeared before the Board of Zoning Appeals of James City County (the "Board") on October 3, 2013 to request variances on a parcel of property identified as JCC RE Tax Parcel No. (4520500007) and further identified as 3506 Fieldcrest Court (the "Property") as set forth in the application ZA-0008-2013; and

WHEREAS, the Board has listened to the arguments presented and has carefully considered all evidence entered into the record do move to grant variances to: (1) section 24-238 (b), Yard Regulations, of the James City County Zoning Ordinance to reduce the required 35' rear yard setback to 23' to allow for continued placement of the existing deck and porch; as shown on Physical Survey of Tax Parcel # (4520500007) and dated 07/08/1996 which is attached hereto, made part hereof and incorporated into this resolution.

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of Zoning Appeals of James City County by a majority vote of its members FINDS that:

- 1. The strict application of Chapter 24 of the Code of James City County (the "County Code") would produce undue hardship.
- 2. The hardship is not shared generally by other properties in the same zoning district and the same vicinity.
- 3. Authorization of the variance will not be of substantial detriment to adjacent property and that the character of the district will not be changed by the granting of the variance.
- 4. By reason of the exceptional narrowness, shallowness, size or shape of the Property, or where by reason of exceptional topographic conditions or other extraordinary situation or condition of the Property, or of the condition, situation, or development of property immediately adjacent thereto, the strict application of the terms of Chapter 24 of the Code of James City County (the "County Code") would effectively prohibit or unreasonably restrict the utilization of the property.
- 5. Granting the variance will alleviate a clearly demonstrable hardship, as distinguished from a special privilege or convenience sought by the applicant.
 - 6. The variance will be in harmony with the intended spirit and purpose of Chapter 24 of the County Code.
- 7. The condition or situation of the Property is not of so general or recurring a nature as to make reasonably practicable the formulation of a general regulation to be adopted as an amendment to the ordinance.
- 8. In authorizing the variance, the following conditions regarding the location, character and other features of the proposed structure or use which have been determined to be in the public interest are imposed: no further encroachment is permissible.

RESOLUTION ZA-0008-2013

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TT:	
Secretary	Chair, Board of Zoning Appeals
	October 3, 2013

WITHIN THE FEMA *THIS PROPERTY LIES DEFINED FLOOD ZONE X AS NOTED ON COMMUNITY-PANEL NUMBER 510201 0040 B. EFFECTIVE DATE FEBRUARY 6, 1991. 10' UTILITY LOI 6 HAND LAND SURV EASEMENT VA. PWR TRANSF ST. \$19°31'56"E -124.99' **JRF** 15' B/1 N/E 20 .98.74 ב *LOT 7 FIELDCREST (17,600 SF. 0.404 AC. STORY | 26' x ! DECK E E 3506 10 FIELDCRE 105.74 B/L 35, 15' B/L A AC&P IRF IRF 124.99' N19°31'56"W LOT 8 THE WOODSON CONPANY SURVEYING & MAPPING 5251-18 JOHN TYLER HIGHWAY 8359, WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA 23185 1-800-308-6143 PLAT OF SURVEY, LOT 7, FIELDCREST, SECTION 1
FOR CONVEYANCE TO: WALTER S. JR., & KATHRYN ANN FELTON

SCALE 1"=20"

.1111 V R 1996

JAMES CITY COUNTY, VIRGINIA

.10 6640

RFF - PR42/84

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS September 5, 2013

Mr. Marvin Rhodes called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

A. Roll Call

Present: Others Present:

Mr. Marvin Rhodes Mr. Jason Purse, Zoning Administrator

Mr. David Otey, Jr.

Mr. John Rogerson, Senior Zoning Officer

Mr. Stanbar Bodies Professor Administrators

Mr. Stephen Rodgers
Ms. Christy Parrish, Proffer Administrator
Mr. Ron Campana, Jr.

Mr. Rhodes gave information on the purpose of the Board of Zoning Appeals.

B. Old Business

There was no old business.

C. New Business

ZA-0007-2013 8251 Croaker Road

Mr. Otey stated that he has a business relationship with the applicant and that he intend on abstaining from the discussion and vote.

Mr. Rogerson presented his staff report:

Mr. Michael J. Hipple has applied for variances to: (1) Section 24-217(a), Yard Regulations, to reduce the left side setback from 15' to 10' to allow the continued placement of the existing dwelling; and (2) Section 24-215(a), Setback Requirements, to reduce the required front yard setback from 50' to 30' to allow the construction of a 510 square foot addition to the front of the existing dwelling. This property is currently zoned A-1, General Agriculture and can further be identified as JCC RE Tax Map No. 1430100021.

According to James City County Real Estate records the existing dwelling has one bedroom, it was built in 1951, it is 680 square feet in size and the lot is .25 acres. Mr. Hipple would like to put an addition on the existing house. He is not able to put the addition on the rear of the house because of the location of the septic tank and drain field so his only other option is to add the addition to the front of the house. The existing house currently encroaches into the required 15' side yard setback by 5' and the existing house encroaches into the required 50' front yard setback by 1.9'.

The parcel is located at the convergence of the Cedar Point Lane and Croaker Road rights-of-way. The

right-of-way extends approximately 41 feet from the existing edge of pavement to the property line. The 2009 Comprehensive Plan recommends widening Croaker Road between Richmond Road and Rose Lane (in front of the JCC Library); however, no improvements are envisioned for this portion of the road. The well shown on the survey dated May 21, 2013 is right on the front property line. However, there is an additional 41' from the well in the front yard to the edge of Croaker Road. So, when looking at the attached photographs it appears that almost half of the maintained front yard in within VDOT's right of way.

An unnecessary hardship exists when the strict application of the terms of the ordinance would effectively prohibit or unreasonably restrict the use of the property. Staff finds, because of the extensive right-of-way that limits the development of the front of this property, there is an undue hardship in this case. This hardship is not generally shared by other properties in the A-1, General Agriculture zoning district since this lot is .25 acres in size and the minimum lot area currently in the A-1, General Agriculture zoning district is 3 acres. Staff acknowledges that the property owner acquired this lot in good faith and the authorization of this variance will not be of substantial detriment to the adjacent property and the character of the district will not be changed by the granting of the variance. Staff recommends the Board of Zoning Appeals approved both variance requests for this case.

Mr. Rodgers asked if the existing septic field could be move.

Mr. Rogerson said that the septic field could be moved at some expense.

Mr. Rodgers asked about the location of the existing overhead wires and if there was any issue with the distance from the overhead wires and the proposed addition to the front of the house

Mr. Rogerson stated that that the addition would be close to the overhead power lines but if the power company wanted to upgrade the overhead wires it would be the County's preference to put the wires underground.

Mr. Rodgers asked about the relationship of the adjacent dwellings and the distance to the edge of pavement. He stated that the dwellings to the right were currently even with the existing dwelling located at 8251 Croaker Road and once the addition was built on the house it would be closer to the road than the other houses in the area.

Mr. Rodgers asked if there was any concern by the adjacent property owner about this situation.

Mr. Rogerson said that all adjacent property owners were notified and none of them had called with additional questions or concerns.

Mr. Rhodes asked if the applicant was the owner of the property.

Mr. Rogerson stated yes.

Mr. Rhodes asked if the side yard setback was grandfathered since the house was built in 1951.

Mr. Rogerson stated yes and then explained that since we were coming before the Board for the variance

to the front setback that he included the side yard setback into the variance request.

Mr. Rhodes then asked about the shed and why that was not included into the variance application.

Mr. Rogerson said that he did not notice that the shed did not meet setbacks until after the public hearing as had went to the paper.

Mr. Rhodes asked if the shed was movable since it does not meet the current setback requirements.

Mr. Rhodes stated that the GIS map does not match up with the survey.

Mr. Rogerson explained that GIS was only a tool and the survey is likely more correct.

Mr. Rhodes asked about the usage of the right side of the property by the adjacent property owners and if there was an issue with eminent domain.

Mr. Rogerson asked if Mr. Rhodes was talking about adverse possession.

Mr. Otey stated that he did not think adverse possession was an issue here.

Mr. Rhodes asked if staff had a map of where the existing drain field was located.

Mr. Rogerson stated that he did not but maybe the applicant did.

Mr. Rhodes said he did not have any further questions.

Mr. Rhodes opened the public hearing

Mr. Hipple the property owner introduced himself.

Mr. Hipple explained that the septic tank and drain field was directly behind the house and near the shed. He said there is not enough room to relocate the drain field on the lot.

Mr. Hipple explained that he wants to put the addition on the house and sell it to his pastor's daughter and her new husband. But the house is too small to start a family in.

Mr. Hipple explained that the perspective owners had been to the adjacent property owner to discuss their plans and there were no objections from any of them.

Mr. Hipple said the shed is 4'8" from the property line and is an original structure it has a concrete and cinder block base. He would have to look at whether or not it could be move. He said that the drain field is located very close to the shed so the Health Department might not let him move it over to meet the required setbacks because of the septic lines.

Mr. Rodgers asked about the power lines again.

Mr. Hipple said he was not sure about the power line but would look into it before he starts construction.

Mr. Hipple again explained that he did not even know that half of the front yard was in the right of way until he got the survey done. He said that once he submitted the plans to the County that is when he realized that there might be a problem.

Mr. Rhodes suggested we include the shed in the variance request to clear all of the issues up while we are here.

Mr Purse stated that as the Zoning Administrator we could bring the shed into compliance with an Administrative Variance since the shed was not included in the public hearing ad. That would keep us from re-advertising for the public hearing.

Mr. Rhodes asked if there was anyone else that would like to speak.

Mr. Ben Rothwell introduced himself and said he and his wife are the ones that will be moving into the house. He stated that he spoke to the neighbors and got some of them to sign a letter saying that they did not have any objection to the proposed addition. Mr. Rhodes suggested that Mr. Rothwell provide to staff the letters that he got signed by the adjacent property owners so staff could include them in the case file.

Mr. Rhodes closed the public hearing

Mr. Campana stated that since the house was an original structure he had no objection to granting the variance.

Mr. Rhodes said he could support the variance.

Mr Rodgers made a motion to approve the variances as requested.

Mr. Campana seconded to motion.

On a roll call vote the variance requests were approved 3-0 in favor with Mr. Otey abstaining from the vote.

D. Minutes

June 6, 2013

Mr. Rhodes asked if there were any corrections need for the minute from the June 6, 2013 meeting.

Mr. Campana said the minutes from the June 6, 2013 meeting seemed accurate.

Mr. Otey made a motion to approve the minutes

Mr. Rodgers seconded the motion.

The minutes were approved by a voice vote 4-0.

E. Matters of Special Privilege

Mr. Rhodes asked what the status of the County email accounts for the Board members was.

Ms. Parrish explained that the Board members now have email accounts and that she would go over the procedure for activating those accounts after the closes of the meeting.

Ms. Parrish said since Mr. Geib was not present the Board would discuss having applicants sworn in at the next meeting.

F. Adjournment

There being no ruriner	ousniess, the meeting was augourned	
Marvin Rhodes	Jason Purse	_
Chairman	Secretary	

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned