

Vergennes Township Zoning Board of Appeals

March 22, 1999

A meeting of the Vergennes Township Zoning Board of Appeals was held at 6:00 PM, March 22, 1999, at the Vergennes Township Hall. Present were Chairman Howard, and members Baird, Schreur and Tap. Minutes of the January 19, 1999 meeting were approved with a motion by Schreur, seconded by Baird.

Mr. and Mrs. John Otis, who plan to build a home at 11591 Lally St. in the RL district, were present requesting a variance on their proposed side line setback. They would like to place the house 5 feet, 2 inches from the West side lot line, instead of the required 10 feet. They presented pictures of similar lake home sites, which have been obtained for the township file. They also said that the neighbors have no objections to their proposed location.

Howard questioned the possibility of a smaller footprint. Mr. Otis replied that they had tried, but that a few feet made a lot of difference in the various plans they worked with. Several members expressed concern about neighboring structures in the future being too close. Schreur and Tap had both contacted fire department personnel and felt 20 feet should be the minimum distance between structures for fire safety. Tap proposed that a variance could be contingent on an agreement from the neighbor on the West. Baird felt that asking the neighbor to "give up" part of their building envelope was unfair.

Motion by Schreur, seconded by Tap, to grant the variance as requested, pending receipt of an agreement with the neighbor to the West, to be recorded on said neighbors deed, that they build future structures no less than 20 feet from the house at 11591 Lally. If no agreement can be reached, the applicant can return to the Zoning Board of Appeals at no additional charge. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45.

Mari Stone
Recorder