MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS OF HENRICO COUNTY, HELD IN THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING IN THE GOVERNMENT CENTER AT PARHAM AND HUNGARY SPRING ROADS, ON THURSDAY NOVEMBER 17, 2016 AT 9:00 A.M., NOTICE HAVING BEEN PUBLISHED IN THE RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH OCTOBER 31, 2016, AND NOVEMBER 7, 2016.

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Members Present:

Dennis J. Berman, Vice Chairman

Gentry Bell Helen E. Harris

William M. Mackey, Jr.

James W. Reid

Also Present:

Jean M. Moore, Assistant Director of Planning

Benjamin Blankinship, Secretary Paul M. Gidley, County Planner R. Miguel Madrigal, County Planner

Sally Ferrell, Account Clerk

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Mr. Berman -Welcome to the November 17, 2016 meeting of the Henrico County Board of Zoning Appeals. I ask you all to please stand and join us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Please be seated. Our Board secretary, Mr. Blankinship, will now read our rules.

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Mr. Blankinship -Good morning, Mr. Chair, members of the Board, ladies and gentlemen. The rules for this meeting are as follows: Acting as secretary, I'll announce each case. And as I'm speaking, the applicant is welcome to come down toward the podium. We will then ask everyone who intends to speak to that case to stand and be sworn in. Then a member of staff will give a brief introduction to the case. Then the applicant will have the opportunity to present their case. Then anyone else who wishes to speak will have an opportunity to speak. After everyone has had a chance to speak, the applicant, and only the applicant, will have an opportunity for rebuttal.

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After the Board has heard each case, they will continue to the public hearing on the next case. They will render all of their decisions at the end of the meeting. So if you wish to hear their decision on a specific case, you can either stay until the end of the meeting, or you can check the Planning Department website—we usually get it updated within the hour after the end of the meeting—or you can call the Planning Department later today.

- This meeting is being recorded, so we ask everyone who speaks to speak directly into the microphone on the podium and state your name. Please spell your last name just to make sure we get it correct in the record.
- Mr. Chairman, I'm not aware of any deferrals or withdrawals, and it looks like we 38 have all five members. So I believe we are ready to proceed. 39
- Mr. Berman -Thank you, Mr. Secretary. Let's now call our first 41 42 request.
  - CUP2016-00028 DARRYL R. AND SANDRA R. KEMP request a conditional use permit pursuant to Section 24-95(i)(4) of the County Code to allow accessory structures in the front and side yards at 7815 Walkenhut Drive (WALKENHUT ESTATES) (Parcel 768-751-7766) zoned One-Family Residence District (R-3) (Brookland).
- Mr. Blankinship -Would everyone who intends to speak to this case 50 please stand and be sworn in? Raise your right hands please. Do you swear the 51 testimony you're about to give is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth 52 so help you God? 53
- Mr. Kemp -I do. 55

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- Mr. Blankinship -Thank you. Mr. Madrigal, you may begin. 58
- 59 Mr. Madrigal -Thank you, Mr. Secretary, Mr. Chair, members of the Board, good morning. 60 61
  - Before you is a request to allow the installation of a carport in the front yard of a one-family dwelling. The subject property is located in the Walkenhut Estates subdivision, which was approved in 1979. The lot in question is 11,180 square feet in area and is improved with a two-story, 2,800-square-foot dwelling with open parking, which was originally constructed in 1982.
  - The applicants purchased the property in 1989 and since then made several additions to the home, incrementally adding over 1,200 square feet to the residence. In 2002, the applicants obtained a variance to reduce the side yard setback in order to build an attached garage onto the south side of the dwelling. If you look at the photo here, the former garage was here. The applicants would now like to install a detached metal carport in the front yard.
  - The property is zoned R-3 and is designated as Suburban Residential 2 on the Comprehensive Plan. The existing residence is a permitted use in an R-3 district and is consistent with the Land Use Plan. Carports are allowed as an accessory use to a one-family dwelling when located in a rear yard and require a conditional use permit when proposed in a front or side yard.

While the Board typically receives requests for accessory structures in the side yard, it only occasionally receives a request to have one in the front yard. In this case, the applicants wish to place an 18x21-foot metal carport in the front yard of a standard-sized lot. The existing home has a 44-foot front yard setback. Once the carport is situated and provides the required 10-foot separation from the residence, the front yard will be reduced to 13 feet, which will significantly impact the curb appeal of the home and deviate substantially from the existing development pattern of the neighborhood. If approved, this would set a negative precedent with potential detrimental impacts on adjacent property and the neighborhood.

The applicant has stated that locating the proposed carport in the northern side yard is not a viable option due to the limited amount of existing space and would necessitate the removal of an existing structure. The northern side yard is currently 21 feet wide and would need to be at least 31 feet wide in order to accommodate the detached carport and provide necessary setbacks. An attached carport in the side yard is also not a feasible option since it would have to meet principal building setbacks of 12 and 30 feet for the least and sum of side yards. Another variance would be required to further reduce the side yard setbacks to 3 and 10 feet respectively. That would be to accommodate the attached carport.

In conclusion, the applicant's request stems from the elimination of an existing garage and converting it to living space. Although carports are allowed as an accessory use, they should be visually and physically unobtrusive. If this isn't possible, then they should contribute to the aesthetic quality of the home and comply with the required setbacks. In this case, the proposed carport would be the most prominent feature on the lot. The proposed design and location would significantly detract from the curb appeal of the home, adjacent property, and surrounding neighborhood. The proposed carport would also exceed any existing projection on this block and detract from the streetscape. Alternatively, the applicants have sufficient room to place the proposed carport in the rear yard.

Based on these reasons, staff recommends denial of the applicant's request. This concludes my presentation. I'll be happy to answer any questions.

Mr. Bell - Mr. Madrigal, if they put the carport in the backyard, where would the driveway go?

Mr. Madrigal - They could put the driveway basically on this side of the lot. They have 21 feet here between the property line and the house, so they would go through the side here towards the back. But again, that would necessitate the removal of a tree and a fence. There's a propane tank here, which they probably have enough area to go around it. But they could relocate that.

Mr. Bell - The picture you're showing in the handout of the 18x21-foot garage, is that actually the structure they propose to put up there?

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127	Mr. Blankinship -	I think he means carport photo, Miguel.
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129	Mr. Madrigal -	Oh, the carport photo? This one here?
130	** 5 "	
131	Mr. Bell -	Is that the actual one?
132	Mr. Madrigal	I'm accuming so you. That's what they sireled an what
133 134	Mr. Madrigal - was submitted.	I'm assuming so, yes. That's what they circled on what
135	was submitted.	
136	Mr. Bell -	Thank you.
137		,
138	Mr. Berman -	Mr. Madrigal, is an awning an acceptable structure,
139	attached?	
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141	Mr. Madrigal -	It's the same thing as an attached carport, essentially.
142	Are you talking about an e	extendable awning, like a cloth awning?
143	Mr. Blankinship -	I think if it was something that was not permanent,
144 145	•	ed, that would not be considered a structure.
146	extended and then retract	ed, that would not be considered a structure.
147	Mr. Madrigal -	Yes, I guess it would be okay.
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149	Mr. Berman -	Okay, thank you.
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151	Ms. Harris -	Mr. Madrigal, that propane tank that's on the side there,
152	what is that used for?	
153	Mr. Madrigal -	I have no idea.
154 155	Mir. Madrigar -	Thave no idea.
156	Ms. Harris -	Okay.
157		
158	Mr. Madrigal -	I think you'd have to ask the applicant that.
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160	Mr. Berman -	Any further questions for Mr. Madrigal? Okay. We
161	would like to now hear fro	m the applicant.
162	Ma Kama	Cood marning
163 164	Ms. Kemp -	Good morning.
165	Mr. Berman -	Good morning. Can you please state your name and
166	spell it, please?	TITE MONTHS. Can you ploude state your hame and
167	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
168	Ms. Kemp -	My name is Sandra Kemp. The last name is spelled K-
169	e-m-p.	
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171	Mr. Berman -	Thank you.
170	·	Thank you

Ms. Kemp - The question about the propane tank, the propane tank is used for the sunroom that has a propane heater that's used three seasons of the year.

Around June of this year, we had a real bad storm in the area, and it damaged the three trees in our yard. We had no problem with shade. We were satisfied with the situation. But we had to take the trees down because they were hazardous to the home. So we searched around and we came up with the idea of some kind of structure. The heat in the car this summer reached 106. And I do have a medical condition that requires that I stay out of the heat. So I would like something to cover my car, whatever kind of structure. But I do need some kind of cover for the car.

 I do not believe that this structure which is—you saw the picture of it. The color is brown. It would match the color of the building. It would protrude slightly in the community, as he said. There's no other one like that, but there are two other carports like that in the community. One abuts the house, and that's obvious on that street. Another one sits in the driveway. So it's not like it's the only one in the community and it's really an eyesore; it's not.

As far as the backyard, that would be a costly proposal. We have a tree that's very large. And I've had estimates. We had the three trees that were taken down. They cost us around \$2,000. The same company would take that tree down for \$4,000. We would have to remove the enclosure, and the gas tank, and also two fences. One is metal and one is picket. And then there's a little decking on the side. And we have two rock gardens in the backyard. So we would have to rearrange our backyard. But if that's the only option, I would go for that. But I would prefer the one in the front or maybe an awning or some structure to give us shelter for our vehicles.

Mr. Berman - Ms. Kemp, approximately what is the cost of the proposed carport?

Ms. Kemp - Based on the one we had put up in Powhatan at our other property, it ran about \$2,000.

Mr. Berman - So we have discussed some other options. Obviously, the side yard doesn't sound very good. And that's a beautiful shade tree. We'd hate to lose that one as well, let alone the expense. We talked about the possibility of an awning. I don't know how much they are.

213 Ms. Kemp - Yes, I've seen those.

Mr. Berman - A remote start from your house to cool the car off and even to heat it in the winter is \$500 or less. There are solar-powered fans that can go in the car that will cool it. There are umbrellas. There's another shade tree that

219 220	through.	and there are a for or other options that you could work				
221 222 223 224 225 226 227 228	With respect to your observations of other carports in the neighborhood, up and down Walkenhut, specifically 7807 and 7808, I did see two other accessory structures. However, they were, as you stated, to the side of the dwellings and not in the front. So my main concern is the curb appeal, as stated by Mr. Madrigal. Would you be opposed to any of those options or researching other options other than putting an accessory structure in your front yard? You don't have to make that decision today. I'm just suggesting.					
229 230 231	Ms. Kemp - would probably go for the	I would like some kind of structure. So if all else fails, I backyard option.				
232 233	Mr. Berman -	Okay, thank you. I have no other questions.				
234 235 236	Ms. Harris - to place a carport?	Ms. Kemp, you do have plenty of space in the backyard				
237 238 239 240		I need some specifications on that. I know they said de, the adjacent property. But there is the back property, y feet are required for that.				
241 242	Mr. Blankinship -	That would also be three feet.				
243 244 245	Ms. Kemp - it.	So I'd have to have someone go out there and measure				
246 247	Ms. Harris -	What type of tree is it that you don't want to remove?				
248 249 250 251 252		I plan to remove it in the future anyway because it's just ther patterns that we're having, I'm afraid that it will fall jacent home. So that tree will be removed eventually				
253 254 255	Ms. Harris - I'll share with you the pers	I had mine taken down, and it not cost me \$4,000, so on's name.				
256 257	Ms. Kemp -	Okay.				
258 259	Ms. Harris -	Thank you.				
260 261	Ms. Kemp -	Thank you.				
262 263	Mr. Berman -	Any further questions for the applicant?				

you could plant. It seems that there are a lot of other options that you could work

264	Mr. Bell -	How did the awning idea sound to you?
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266	Ms. Kemp -	I've seen some awnings, but the only thing about
267	•	ickyard at one time. And they're like others made out of
268	•	me, if they have any cotton or polyester, they deteriorate.
269		every four or five years, unless they have some that are
270	made out of aluminum.	
271		
272	Mr. Bell -	Thank you.
273		
274	Mr. Berman -	If there are no further questions, thank you very much.
275		
276	Ms. Kemp -	Thank you.
277		
278	Mr. Berman -	Is there anybody else here who wishes to speak in
279	support of this request or a	inyone against the request? Okay. Hearing none, as Mr.
280	Blankinship stated, we w	ill make a motion on this request after all the other
281	requests are presented too	lay. For now Mr. Secretary, can we call the next request.
282		
283		the public hearings, the Board discussed the case
284	and made its decision.	This portion of the transcript is included here for
285	convenience of reference	e.]
286		
287	Mr. Berman -	Do I hear a motion?
288		
289	Mr. Bell -	I move that we deny the request based on one, it would
290	•	thout a conditional use permit or a variance to the code.
291	And two, there are other	options. I sympathize with the medical condition, and
292	that's what we have to add	dress first and foremost. And we do have options at this
293	point that we can look at.	One of them would be, like was pointed out, where you
294		where you cool the car up from inside your house and
295	then go out and get in the	cool car. You have the awning situation, which in and of
296	itself presents problems, b	out it is a temporary solution. And the fact that a garage
297	can be put in the backya	rd. You put all of them together, and once she goes
298	through those, hopefully sh	ne'll find an answer. But at this point, I have to move that
299	it's denied. I also agree wi	th the reason that was stated in the report which deals
300	with the curb appeal as we	ell. So I make a motion that we deny it.
301		
302	Mr. Berman -	Mr. Bell has made a motion of denial. Do I hear a
303	second?	
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305	Ms. Harris -	I second the motion. I concur with everything that
306	•	believe that it would be more pleasing to the neighbors
307		this case. We don't want to create an eyesore and a lot
308	-	hat if we follow the code on this, I think everybody will
309	eventually be happier.	

Mr. Berman -	Ms. Ha	arris ha	s sec	conded	the	motion.	ls	there	any
further discussion? Hearing	g none,	all in fa	avor o	f denia	I of t	his appli	cati	on, sig	nify
by saying aye. Any oppose	ed? Nor	ie oppo	sed. F	ive aye	es. Ti	he motio	n pa	asses	and
the request is denied.									

After an advertised public hearing and on a motion by Mr. Bell seconded by Ms. Harris, the Board denied application CUP2016-00028, DARRYL R. AND SANDRA R. KEMP's request a conditional use permit pursuant to Section 24-95(i)(4) of the County Code to allow accessory structures in the front and side yards at 7815 Walkenhut Drive (WALKENHUT ESTATES) (Parcel 768-751-7766) zoned One-Family Residence District (R-3) (Brookland).

Affirmative: Bell, Berman, Harris, Mackey, Reid 5
Negative: 0
Absent: 0

## [At this point, the transcript continues with the public hearing on the next case.]

Mr. Blankinship - That is the end of the conditional use permit portion of the agenda. The last two cases are both variances and they are companion cases. They are currently one lot. They're one piece of property, and the desire is to divide it. So I'll call them together, if you like. But then we get ready to make a motion and vote, they will have to be handled separately. They are VAR2016-00020 and VAR2016-00021.

VAR2016-00020 OLIVIA V. GOIN AND R. CAROLE TARR, CO-EXECUTORS request a variance from Section 24-95(b)(5) of the County Code to build a one-family dwelling at 5507 Chamberlayne Avenue (CLUB COURT) (Parcel 785-750-7749) zoned One-Family Residence District (R-3) (Fairfield). The lot width requirement and total lot area requirement are not met. The applicants propose 6,500 square feet lot area and 50 feet lot width, where the Code requires 8,000 square feet lot area and 65 feet lot width. The applicants request a variance of 1,500 square feet lot area and 15 feet lot width.

VAR2016-00021 OLIVIA V. GOIN AND R. CAROLE TARR, CO-EXECUTORS request a variance from Section 24-95(b) of the County Code to build a one-family dwelling at 5505 Chamberlayne Avenue (CLUB COURT) (Parcel 785-750-7749) zoned One-Family Residence District (R-3) (Fairfield). The lot width requirement and total lot area requirement are not met. The applicants propose 6,500 square feet lot area and 50 feet lot width, where the Code requires 8,000 square feet lot area and 65 feet lot width. The applicants request a variance of 1,500 square feet lot area and 15 feet lot width.

Mr. Blankinship - Would everyone who intends to speak to this case please state and be sworn in. All raise your right hands, please. Do you swear the testimony you're about to give is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth so help you God? Thank you. Mr. Gidley, you may begin.

Mr. Gidley - Thank you, Mr. Secretary. Good morning, Mr. Chairman, members of the Board.

As the secretary mentioned, these two variance requests concern the same property off of Chamberlayne Avenue in the Club Court neighborhood.

 Today's case involves the estate of Louise L. Farmer and consists of lots 19 and 21. The Farmers acquired lot 19 back in 1951 and by itself, lot 19 lacked adequate lot width and lot area to build a home. This is one of these older neighborhoods were people typically put together two lots or a lot and a half, something like that, in order to meet the requirements to build a home.

What happened here is the Farmers accordingly acquired the adjacent lot, which is lot 21, in 1959. Taken together, the two lots met the lot width and lot area requirements, so the Farmers went ahead and constructed a home on the property in 1960. The property has remained in this configuration since this time, and currently complies with both the lot area and lot width requirements of the Zoning Ordinance.

My understanding is the Farmers have passed away. And their heirs, rather than selling the property and home as one, wish to divide the property into two separate lots. As noted, however, neither lot by itself complies with the lot area and lot width requirements, which is why the two were combined in the first place. Since dividing the property would place both lots in violation of the Zoning Ordinance, the heirs have applied for two variances today.

The Club Court subdivision was recorded in 1923, prior to the adoption of the Zoning Ordinance. As a result, the initial homes built in this subdivision could be built on 50-foot-wide lots. After the Board of Supervisors adopted lot width and lot area requirements in 1945, more than one lot was required to build a home to meet these standards. This is the case with the property today, where you see the home here and the second lot down here. And it's also the case immediately next door at 5501 Chamberlayne, which consists of two lots. And then you have the home here and a decent size side yard right here.

The lot on the opposite side, up here at 5509 Chamberlayne, was granted a variance in 1988. However, unlike today's property, this was an isolated lot. It did not have additional land associated with it or the ability to acquire additional lot area. If you look at it carefully, you can see why. Here's this property that received the variance, and you had a home here, the applicant's home that was built in '60.

And this home was built in the 1930s. So they really were landlocked and had no ability to make any reasonable use of the property at all. So they were a good candidate for the variance that was granted.

And the evaluation. When I saw this case, it reminded me of one I worked on earlier, one this Board also heard back in 2006. This was on La Von Drive, which is three streets to the north of property today. I put both plats up here, today's request and the one on La Von Drive because there are a lot of similarities. I would note the scale is different on these two, and so all of these lots look tiny here. In reality, they are actually larger than the property we are dealing with today. The ones today, each lot is 6,750 square feet, whereas over here you can see each lot is 7.354 square feet. So the ones on La Von are actually larger than today's lots.

The similarities are many. Like today's case, the one on La Von Drive had a combination of R-3-zoned exception lots. It had a home on one side of the property with a large open yard on the other side. The applicant in the La Von case proposed to divide the property into two parcels. Again, one containing the existing dwelling, just like today, and the other containing a buildable lot that was being proposed.

In the La Von Drive case, unlike today, both lots actually met the lot width requirements, but they did not met the total lot area requirements. Therefore, they came in and applied for two variances on the La Von case in which they didn't meet the lot area requirements.

After a public hearing on the case, the BZA on a 3 to 2 vote granted variances for both lots. What divided the Board at the time seemed to be the question of how do we view this property. Is this one property with a home on it, which would be a home on a third of an acre, roughly, which is a reasonable use? Or do you view the part over here as its own lot, which could not be built on absent a variance? And the three in the majority felt that was the approach to take.

Ultimately, the question was answered differently by the Circuit Court when these variances were appealed. The judge in that case ruled it's the entire property you look at, that it's been like this since 1967 and is in compliance with the Zoning Ordinance. So you have to look at the entire property, not at the individual smaller lots here that are being proposed.

The Court based its decision on two cases made by the Supreme Court of Virginia. One was Cherrystone where a developer had a number of undersized lots, and the developer wanted variances for each of these undersized lots. And the Court said no, what you do is you combine these undersized lots until you meet the standards of the ordinance and then you put a home on that lot.

The other case was out of Fairfax County, Virginia. You had an applicant who owned a lot with an older home on it that was somewhat decrepit, who wanted to

divide the property. He did not have enough lot width to create a second lot. The court said that is not a hardship warranting a variance. You basically meet the requirements to divide the property or you don't. And if you don't, then that's not a hardship, and you're not entitled to a variance.

So based on these cases, the Circuit Court here in Henrico overturned both of the variances. The Court noted again the entire parcel, the whole thing taken as one property complied with the Zoning Ordinance, as is the case today, and that the home on the property provided a reasonable use. And because of that, there was no justification for the variances to have been granted in the first place.

If you look at today's code, essentially what they were saying is the inability to divide the property does not constitute a hardship, which is one of the criteria today for a variance. And the second is reasonableness of the Zoning Ordinance. And they said the Zoning Ordinance provided a reasonable use of the property in the form of this other house here. Again, you basically had a third of an acre and you had a home on it, which is a reasonable use.

As you know, even if the applicant were to meet the main criteria for a variance, there are five subtests. As Mr. Tokarz noted in the training he provided to this Board, all five subtests must be met for a variance to be granted. I'm going to spare you from going over all five of the subtests, but I would like to touch on the first one for the record.

The first one requires the property interest for which a variance is being requested be acquired in good faith and any hardship is not created by the applicant. The existing property, again, consists of two lots acquired in good faith by the Farmers that when combined enabled a home to built in compliance with the Zoning Ordinance. The desire of the heirs today to take a legally conforming property and now divide it, despite lacking adequate lot width and lot area to do so, is by definition a self-imposed condition. As a result, this subtest is not met by the applicant.

In conclusion, when the home was built in 1960, two lots had to be combined to constitute a buildable parcel. In the similar La Von Drive case, the Henrico County Circuit Court viewed the entire parcel as one property rather than the individual lots. The Court noted that an existing residence was there, and that provided a reasonable use, and that the inability to divide the property did not constitute a hardship.

Finally, as I noted earlier, it's a self-imposed condition because the property today complies with the code and it's the desire to divide that is the self-imposed condition, a violation of the first subtest.

Based on the failure of the applicants to meet this subtest, along with the decision of the Henrico County Circuit Court in the La Von Drive case, staff recommends a denial of this request.

If you have any questions, I'll be happy to entertain those.

498 Mr. Berman - Any questions? I do have a question. Is there any configuration for lot 21 that would allow for a home to be built?

Mr. Gidley - Let me zoom in here if I can.

503 Mr. Berman - As in a smaller home.

Mr. Gidley - In and of itself, you had to combine these to allow the home to be built. Now interestingly enough, prior to 1960, this was zoned R-2A, which required a larger lot. That meant you had to put together two lots. In 1960, the Board of Supervisors came back and looked at the County as a whole, including this neighborhood. The Board of Supervisors decided to zone it to a more intensive designation of R-3 so instead of two lots, you could get by with a lot and a half being combined.

At the time, they could have gone R-4 and legalized each lot in and of itself, but they didn't do that. And I suspect the reasoning behind that was the neighborhood had already been in existence since the 1930s, so there was some established pattern here. And I suspect they felt if they went too dense, that could be a problem for some of the existing homes and the existing pattern.

So to your question, you can do a lot and a half today, Mr. Berman. I don't have a plat for them, but next door they have a lot here that's 50 feet in width. And so they could take half of lot 21 and then this lot next door, assuming they have the flexibility to do that next door. And again, I don't have survey for that. But if they did that, then lot 19 and half of lot 21, in accordance with the R-3 zoning, would provide a legal lot for the existing home. And then the half a lot here and the whole lot over here—lot 23, I believe it is—would provide another lot, another building lot here. If it were me, that's an option I would pursue if I were the applicants.

Mr. Berman - Is lot 23 vacant?

530 Mr. Gidley - Here's lot 23 here. They may have some encroachment over here; I'm not sure. It's an aerial and it's not scientifically exact. When we were out there, it was an open yard. I think there was a dog or two out there. So the potential exists where maybe it is available. But again, absent a survey, I couldn't state that definitively.

536 Mr. Berman - Okay. The reason why I ask is if you drive down that street without knowledge of the lots, etcetera, and you look at the character of the

neighbors across the street, the homes are of similar size and distance from each 538 other. It looked like another home would fit nicely in an available parcel. That's why 539 I asked. 540 541 The other question is are you able to add on to the existing home? 542 543 Yes sir. As was the case up in Fairfax, which is one of Mr. Gidley -544 the state Supreme Court decisions I noted, where the home on the property was 545 an older home, the Court did note that could be removed and a brand new home 546 and a much large home could have been constructed on that property. So in this 547 case today, given the age of the home and the size, it may be a better use of the 548 property to take down that home and build a larger one, since you have all this 549 area to do so. So that would be an option, yes. 550 551 Mr. Berman -Okay. Thank you, Mr. Gidley. 552 553 554 Mr. Gidley -Yes sir. 555 Ms. Harris -Mr. Gidley, in the report we see that this side of the 556 block contains seven homes, two of which are on a 50-foot-wide lot. And then the 557 other five houses are all built on lots that meet or exceed those lot width and the 558 lot area requirements. Can you point out on the map which houses we're talking 559 about? 560 561 Yes ma'am. It would be these two to the north. As I Mr. Gidlev -562 noted here, this one was actually built in 1937, which is prior to the requirements 563 for lot width and lot area. So they were able to build on a 50-foot-wide lot back then 564 in the pre-war period. And then the one next door is the one that received the 565 variance. And again, the reason for that is you had the home right here that was 566 built in '37, and then the home on the property today, which was built in 1960. So 567 they were landlocked. They had a lot with no reasonable use, and they had no 568 ability to acquire additional land. So a variance made sense in that case, and that 569 was granted in '08. So those are the two properties. 570 571 The other properties like the one immediately next door here contain two lots or. 572 like the one up here, they contain a lot and a half. Which again, after the Board of 573 Supervisors rezoned it to a more favorable category, you could get by with a lot 574 and a half. That's what was done up here. 575 576 Ms. Harris -How close is that La Von property to the subject 577 property? 578 579

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Mr. Gidlev -

Ms. Harris -

580

581 582

583

the east. I'm not sure how exactly how far to the east.

Okay.

La Von Drive is three streets to the north and then to

584		
585	Mr. Gidley -	But it's the same general area, same R-3 exception
586	zoning.	bat ito the dame general area, dame it o exception
587	g.	
588	Ms. Harris -	Thank you.
589		
590	Mr. Gidley -	Yes ma'am.
591		. ••
592	Mr. Berman -	Any other questions for Mr. Gidley?
593		,, q, .
594	Mr. Mackey -	Mr. Gidley, lot 23 that backs up to these other two lots?
595	,	,
596	Mr. Gidley -	Yes sir, on the side?
597	, <b>,</b>	
598	Mr. Mackey -	Yes. You say we're not aware if that is available.
599	,	,
600	Mr. Gidley -	I'm not aware. I mean it's generally open now, as
601	shown on the aerial, but I'	
602	,,	,,
603	Mr. Mackey -	Those two lots look kind of small. It could be possible
604	that they're backyards for	·
605	,,	
606	Mr. Gidley -	This is a side yard here, actually.
607	,	, , ,
608	Mr. Mackey -	No, not that one. Could you go back to the aerial?
609	•	
610	Mr. Gidley -	Yes sir.
611	-	
612	Female -	[Off microphone.] There's an alley there.
613		
614	Mr. Mackey -	There is?
615		
616	Female -	[Off microphone.] Yes.
617		
618	Mr. Berman -	That was off mike. It was stated from the audience
619	there's an alley there.	
620		
621	Mr. Gidley -	Here's the property today in yellow.
622		
623	Mr. Mackey -	That would be 23?
624		
625	Mr. Gidley -	Nineteen is where the house is, twenty-one is next
626	door. And then 23 is right	here. And this is a side yard to this house.
627		
628	Mr. Mackey -	And those are two separate houses.
629		

630	Mr. Blankinship -	A house and a garage.
631 632	Mr. Mackey -	I house and a garage? Okay.
633	Mr. Cidlov	And this is their side yand. The front would be an
634 635	Mr. Gidley - Chamberlayne and the bad	And this is their side yard. The front would be on
636	onambenayne and the bar	or where the garage is.
637	Mr. Mackey -	Okay. Thank you.
638	Ç	,
639	Mr. Gidley -	And then the side yard here.
640		
641	Mr. Berman -	Okay, with no further questions for Mr. Gidley, thank
642	you very much, sir.	
643	Mr. Gidley -	Yes sir.
644 645	Wir. Gidley -	res sir.
646	Mr. Berman -	Would the applicant please approach?
647	Wil. Delitial	vvodid the applicant picase approach:
648	Mr. Blankinship -	Ma'am, come on to the podium if you would.
649	The state of the s	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
650	Mr. Berman -	I'm sorry; I didn't hear what you said.
651		•
652	Mr. Goin -	I have nothing to say.
653		<b>_</b>
654	Mr. Berman -	Okay. The applicant—
655	Mr. Goin -	It's all book soid so I don't know that I sould add
656 657	anything to it myself.	It's all been said, so. I don't know that I could add
658	arrything to it mysen.	
659	Mr. Berman -	All right, thank you.
660		7 m 1911, tildin y 50.
661	Mr. Mackey -	I just had one question. Do you know if lot 23 available?
662		
663	Mr. Goin -	Lot 23 is part of—and I'm Bobby Goin, and I represent
664	the executors of the estate	
665		
666	Mr. Berman -	I'm sorry. Has he been sworn in?
667	Mr. Dlankinahin	Van
668 669	Mr. Blankinship -	Yes.
670	Mr. Berman -	Thank you.
671	Wil. Bellian -	Thank you.
672	Mr. Goin -	Of course when we filed this, it was done because it
673		at all. But it was a land hardship, and we don't have
674		ises on. We thought it was doable and had no inkling of
675		n came into play. Nor were we aware of anything

concerning previous lots on La Von and having a legal transaction involved in it. Otherwise, we would not have gone to the expense of surveying the property and filing two variances. However, the lot next door is doable if it's available. But I personally don't even know the neighbor and don't know whether they'd want to sell part of it.

The lot as it is and the ones across the street have already been addressed previously. With a house on the vacant lot that's the subject of what we're talking about, would be very similar to the ones across the street. But it would be on a 50-foot lot like the subdivision was originally cut out to be. And I'm familiar with subdivisions like that; I grew up in one that had 25-foot lots. What do you build on a 25-foot lot? However, what you're saying, it could be done.

I don't know what the case is going to be as far as approval or disapproval, but we would ask that it be approved, of course, because we've gone to the trouble to ask for it. And the other thing is the down the road if you deny this.

But this was done in good faith based on the information from the Planning and the Zoning folks. I was kind of taken aback when I got the package. It all of the other stuff in there about legal proceedings. I don't know that we can add anything to it.

Mr. Bell - And as you probably know, that creates problems for us, too, because we have to go by those legal proceedings.

Mr. Goin - Exactly. And if I was sitting up there, I would say hey, we don't want to get sued. And I don't want to get sued either. We've had enough expense with this estate just with the will people. With that being said, I don't really see that I can advance anything that's going to help get it approved. I would like to see that happen for the estate.

707 Mr. Berman - Mr. Goin?

Mr. Goin - Yes sir.

711 Mr. Berman - Can we just address you with a couple more quick 712 questions?

714 Mr. Goin - Sure.

716 Mr. Berman - Ms. Harris?

Ms. Harris - Yes. With the area that we're looking at that's on the screen, Mr. Goin, you see on Hawthorne Avenue there seems to be more lots that are 50 feet. Why? Can you see that? It's at the top of your screen. I'm just wondering.

	722 723	Mr. Goin -	Are you talking about the ones to the right?
	724		· ···· y ···· ························
	725 726	Ms. Harris -	Yes, to the right.
	727	Mr. Goin -	Now what's your question?
	728		
	729 730		It seems as though this is going to be a trend in this lots are available. So what I'm saying is if we approve
	731 732	this case, I think we'll have lots in that area.	similar cases like it because you have so many 50-foot
	733		
	734	Mr. Goin -	I'm not sure how many you've got. You've got some, it
	735	looks like. But it looks like	most of those may not be 50-foot lots. I'm not sure. I
	736		street, directly, are 50-foot lots. And it's a mixed bag
	737		s already been said that some of them are a lot and a
	738		double lot. Some of them are bigger than that, like the
	739		ct property, the subject lot. That looks bigger than some
	740	of the others that are doub	le lots. It's an issue. It would be an issue for you guys.
	741	Mr. Daman	Themle you Ma Hamia Ma Cain is your and social
	742	Mr. Berman -	Thank you, Ms. Harris. Mr. Goin, is your end result
	743 744	wanting to have two dwelling	ngs or is a larger single dwelling an option?
	744	Mr. Goin -	The idea was the value of the property is increased for
	746		rs. That, obviously, is one of the things the executors
	747		it it, are they doing their due diligence to sell the property
	748		it's a buildable lot, it's a lot more valuable than it is as
	749		ng that due diligence and with the information we got
	750	from the Planning area, it lo	poked like it was probably doable. But we weren't aware
	751	of all the things on La Von	Avenue.
	752		
	753	Mr. Berman -	I do want you to know that the County will be able to
	754		ner information to do the lot and a half solution. They'll
	755	help you with ownership in	formation.
	756	Mar Carlo	TI. I.
	757	Mr. Goin -	Thank you.
	758	Mr. Borman	Any other questions for Mr. Coin? Thank you air la
	759 760	Mr. Berman -	Any other questions for Mr. Goin? Thank you, sir. Is to speak in favor or—please approach. Good morning.
	761	, ,	mike and give us your name and its spelling, please.
	762	n you could speak into the	Trince and give us your flame and its spennig, please.
	763	Ms. Hanson -	Good morning. My name is Heather Hanson. H-a-n-s-
	764		erlayne Avenue. The lot next door to it is absolutely not
	765		worked for it; I've paid for it myself as a single woman.
	766		ant another house crammed right up next door to me. I
ı	767		the neighborhood. I've lived there all my life. It's quiet

and charming. There are big trees and open places for kids to play. If we build every single square inch of it, it's no better than an apartment.

I really don't want somebody looking in my bedroom window simply because their bedroom window is right across from it. I'm absolutely not willing to give up my side yard. It had belonged to my grandparents before they passed away, and it's mine now. And I'm really, really not in favor of building yet another house crammed all up next to each other.

1

The houses on Hawthorne Avenue are much, much closer together. They're also—I'm trying to think of a nice way to say it. But they're also of lesser quality than the houses on the bigger lots. The people that live there, most of them are rentals. Or at least some of them are rentals. They're not as well taken care of as the houses where people own them and take pride in them. I think it would be a detriment to the neighborhood to start cramming houses in one on top of the other.

Mr. Berman - Thank you, Ms. Hanson. Does anybody have any questions? Thank you very much. Is there anybody else who wishes to speak on this application? Yes, please approach. Hand it to Mr. Blankinship. If you could please speak into the mike and give us your name and its spelling.

Ms. Sutherland - My name is Ann Sutherland. It's spelled S-u-t-h-e-r-l-a-n-d. I moved into the house at 5607 Chamberlayne, which is in the next block up when I was six months old. So now that I'm over 65, I've been there off and on for a long time. And I know the neighborhood quite well.

When the Farmers sought to build their house in the 1960s, or the early '60s, my father and others opposed the plans as they were given to them. And as a consequence, they were able to get the Farmers to have to purchase the two lots to build their house. I found out this morning that the County had changed the lot size, so maybe that was part of it. But I think that was also what was available.

One of my concerns is—and I'm not sure how to function with this. To the left of Hawthorne are 42 lots that are buildable. They're now set up as 50 foot lots, it appears. And my concern is if you okay this what will happened to those 42.

Mr. Blankinship - Do you want to zoom out?

05

806 Mr. Berman - And when you do so, can you please show us where 807 Ms. Sutherland lives?

Ms. Sutherland - I'm in the next block up. You can see now that he's brought it up on the screen all of those lots have yet to be developed. And would you be setting a precedent for the future. We don't want small houses there.

One of the things that I have given to you all is this. These are houses that were 813 built on Sibley in the last couple of years. And the smallest one is 1,100 square 814 feet. Sibley intersects with Chamberlayne, so these are a block and a half from the 815 proposed building site. 816 817 One of the things I don't think anybody has mentioned this morning is that the 818 existing house at 5507 is a one-bedroom house. And I don't know about you, but 819 that's not a high-demand item. To me it makes more sense to make an addition to 820 that house of say 500 square feet and bring the house up to the level of the majority 821 of the houses in the neighborhood. 822 823 I've put together a list of the houses that are built on 50-foot lots. If you'll notice, 824 only ten have been done since 1955. On the second page, you have all the houses 825 that are less than 1,000 square feet. And again, those are all, for the most part, 826 either landlocked houses or older houses. The largest houses, I've given you a list 827 of five. Adding 500 square feet to the current house would not put it out of the 828 range of the other houses in the area. 829 830 Club Court, when the first dispute came about, there were a lot of undeveloped 831 lots. And I think the County changing to R-3 is one of the reasons why we were not 832 833 inundated with a lot of small houses. 834 835 I hope you will deny this request because I think it will have an adverse affect on the neighborhood for now and then later on down the road, if anybody ever gets 836 all the lots together for the remaining properties in Club Court. Thank you. 837 838 Thank you, Ms. Sutherland. Does the Board or staff 839 Mr. Berman have any further questions? 840 841 Ms. Sutherland, look at the second page of the handout 842 Ms. Harris that shows houses less than 1,000 square feet. 843 844 845 Ms. Sutherland -Yes. 846 Ms. Harris -847 For example, the first one, 5422 Chamberlayne Avenue, It's lot 8. 848 849 850 Ms. Sutherland -Lot 8. It was built in 1954. 851 Ms. Harris -852 Okay. So that would be a 50-foot lot? 853 Ms. Sutherland -Yes it would. It didn't change until the 1960s. 854 855

Ms. Harris -

856

857858

feet, you're talking about the actual house rather than the lot size.

Okay. So when you say houses less than 1,000 square

859	Ms. Sutherland -	Correct.
860 861 862	Ms. Harris -	Okay.
863 864	Ms. Sutherland -	Are there any other questions?
865 866	Ms. Harris -	No, thank you.
867 868	Mr. Berman -	Thank you very much. Thank you for your research.
869 870 871 872 873 874 875 876	the east that you pointed been submitted to the Co the Zoning Ordinance, the in order to meet the req proposed. So I can assure	I just wanted to allay one of Ms. Sutherland's concerns. and we share your opposition to the request. The lots to out have been acquired, and a development plan has bunty that is currently under review. In accordance with a developer is being required to combine a lot and a half uirements of the ordinance for each of the lots being the Ms. Sutherland the Zoning Ordinance will be enforced by you for appearing today.
878 879 880 881	Mr. Berman - on this application? Hea covered both of the variar	Thank you, Mr. Gidley. Anybody else wishing to speak ring none, Mr. Secretary, do we go into the—we just noes.
882 883 884	Mr. Blankinship - will have separate votes.	Yes sir. We combined the two public hearings, but we
885 886 887 888	Mr. Berman - We now will move into the agenda, let's start with CU	Very good. So that concludes our application session. ne motion portion of today's proceedings. Going by the JP2016-00028.
889 890 891 892		the public hearings, the Board discussed the case This portion of the transcript is included here for ee.]
893 894 895	Mr. Berman - the Board?	Moving on to VAR2016-00020. What is the pleasure of
896 897 898 899 900 901 902 903 904	When the case was appear had an existing residence divide a property did not here. And if the case were the same results. So I do	I move that we deny the variance for 5507 Ve do have a precedent for this case, this type of case. aled to the Circuit Court, the Court did note that the parcel e that provided a reasonable use and that the inability to constitute a hardship. We could have a split vote right e appealed again to the Circuit Court, we'd probably get n't see the point of creating another case that would be act that we do have a precedent. This is why my motion

905			
906	Mr. Berman -	Ms. Harris has a motion to deny. Do I hear a	second?
907			
908	Mr. Mackey -	Second. I base my second on the same argui	
909	there had already been a	n case litigating this. And I think it falls right in t	the same
910	category. I believe it wou	ld be also overturned at the Circuit Court level	if it went
911	that far.		
912			
913	Mr. Berman -	Mr. Mackey has seconded the denial. Is the	here any
914	further discussion? Hear	ring none, all in favor say aye. Any oppose	d? None
915	opposed. The motion of o	lenial carries.	
916	•		
917	After an advertised public	hearing and on a motion by Ms. Harris second	ed by Mr.
918	Mackey, the Board denie	d application VAR2016-00020, OLIVIA V. GOIN	NAND R.
919	-	KECUTORS request for a variance from Sec	
920	95(b)(5) of the County Co	ode to build a one-family dwelling at 5507 Cham	berlayne
921	Avenue (CLUB COURT)	(Parcel 785-750-7749) zoned One-Family R	esidence
922	District (R-3) (Fairfield).	,	
923	, , ,		
924			
925	Affirmative:	Bell, Berman, Harris, Mackey, Reid	5
926	Negative:		0
927	Absent:		0
928			
929			
930	Mr. Berman -	Moving on to the companion case, VAR201	6-00021.
931	What is the pleasure of th	•	
932	·		
933	Ms. Harris -	I also want to request that we deny this case	for some
934	of the same reasons. Wha	at I didn't say before that I need to say now is we	
935		way from constructing properties in this commur	
936		Gidley say. There are quite a few of them, and	-
937		are 50 feet and a half, in other words, 75 fee	
938	· ·	. So we can see the trend is moving away from	
939	_	s. I think that's a good thing, so that's my motion	
940		3,	
941	Mr. Berman -	We have a motion from Ms. Harris for denial.	This is for
942	5505 Chamberlayne Aver		
943			
944	Mr. Bell -	I second it.	
945		·	
946	Mr. Berman -	Mr. Bell has seconded the denial. Any	/ further
947		e, all in favor of the denial signify by saying	
948	<u> </u>	opposed. Motion to deny carries.	, <b>-</b> - • • • • •
949		PETTER Month to doing dumou.	

950 951 952 953 954 955 956 957	After an advertised public hearing and on a motion by Ms. Harris seconded by Mr. Bell, the Board <b>denied</b> application <b>VAR2016-00021</b> , <b>OLIVIA V. GOIN AND R. CAROLE TARR, CO-EXECUTORS</b> request for a variance from Section 24-95(b) of the County Code to build a one-family dwelling at 5505 Chamberlayne Avenue (CLUB COURT) (Parcel 785-750-7749) zoned One-Family Residence District (R-3) (Fairfield).				
958 959 960 961 962	Affirmative: Negative: Absent:	Bell, Berman, Harris, Mackey, Reid	5 0 0		
963 964 965 966	Mr. Berman - approval of the minutes. D	This concludes the motions. We are now moving I hear a motion?	ng on to		
967 968 969	Ms. Harris - think Mr. Baka was presid	We have a few corrections. On the very first ing, not Mr. Bell, right?	page, I		
970 971	Mr. Berman -	Yes ma'am.			
972 973 974 975	Ms. Harris - think that "t" before "or" wa 1714?	So we need to change that. And also on line is probably a typographical error. Do you see that			
976 977	Mr. Berman -	Page 38?			
978 979 980	Ms. Harris - "tor." And then also on line	Do you see it? I think that should be "or" rathe 2320. Do you see that?	er than		
981 982	Mr. Berman -	Page 51?			
983 984 985	Ms. Harris - it at all." Mr. Blankinship, v	I don't think Mr. Blankinship said, "I don't think it what do you think you said? Do you see that line			
986 987	Mr. Blankinship -	"I don't think it would affect it at all," maybe?			
988 989	Ms. Harris -	Or it's affected.			
990 991 992	Mr. Blankinship - and get it correct.	Oh, okay. We can go back and listen to the re	cording		
993 994	Ms. Harris -	Okay. Those are the only corrections that I see	<b>:</b> .		

995 996	Mr. Berman - Ms. Harris. Do we have a	Any other corrections prior to the motion? Thank y motion?	⁄οu,
997 998	Mr. Bell -	I move that we accept the minutes as corrected.	
999 1000	Mr. Berman -	We have a motion from Mr. Bell.	
1001	Mr. Mackey -	Second.	
1003 1004 1005 1006 1007	Mr. Berman - further discussion. All tho opposed. The motion carr	Seconded by Mr. Mackey. Any further discussion? se in favor signify by saying aye. Any opposed? No ies.	
1008 1009 1010 1011 1012	<del>_</del>	l, seconded by Mr. Mackey, the Board <b>approved</b> the October 27, 2016, Henrico County Board of Zon	
1013 1014 1015 1016 1017	Affirmative: Negative: Absent:	Bell, Berman, Harris, Mackey, Reid 5 0 0	
1018 1019	Mr. Berman - Mr. Blankinship?	Onto new business, election of the office	ers.
1020 1021 1022 1023 1024 1025 1026	done in similar circumstatelection of officers the following	Yes, Mr. Chair. Since we have had our chairm of month, I went back and looked at what the Board I ances. The last time that happened there was a repowing month. So if you'd like to proceed in that directions for the office of chair.	has าew
1027 1028	Mr. Bell - the position that's open at	I move that we continue with our vice chair as chair this time.	· for
1029 1030 1031 1032 1033	Mr. Blankinship - any further nominations? be in order.	All right. Mr. Bell has nominated Mr. Berman. Are the lf not, a motion to close the floor to nominations wo	
1033 1034 1035	Mr. Mackey -	I move that we close the floor to nominations.	
1035 1036 1037	Mr. Blankinship -	Is there a second?	
1037 1038 1039	Ms. Harris -	Second.	

1040 1041 1042 1043	Mr. Blankinship - Ms. Harris to close the flo aye. All opposed say no.	All right. Mr. Mackey has made a motion, second to nominations for the office of chair. All in f	
1044 1045 1046 1047 1048	Affirmative: Negative: Absent:	Bell, Berman, Harris, Mackey, Reid	5 0 0
1049 1050 1051 1052	Mr. Blankinship - being the only candidate,	All right, nominations are closed. And Mr. you are elected by acclamation. Congratulation	
1052 1053 1054	Mr. Berman -	Thank you.	
1054 1055 1056 1057	Mr. Blankinship - vice chair.	The floor is now open for nominations for the	office of
1057 1058 1059 1060 1061	Ms. Harris - For vice chair, I think he's handle this.	Mr. Blankinship, I move that we nominate Mr. s been on the Board long enough that he can	•
1062 1063 1064 1065	Mr. Blankinship - there any further nomina would be in order.	All right. Ms. Harris has nominated Mr. Mactions? If not, a motion to close the floor to non	•
1066 1067	Mr. Bell -	So moved.	
1068 1069	Mr. Blankinship -	Mr. Bell. Is there a second?	
1070 1071	Mr. Berman -	I second.	
1072 1073 1074 1075	Mr. Blankinship - nominations for the office	And seconded by Mr. Berman to close the of vice chair. All in favor say aye. All opposed s	
1076 1077 1078 1079 1080	Affirmative: Negative: Absent:	Bell, Berman, Harris, Mackey, Reid	5 0 0
1081 1082 1083	Mr. Blankinship - nominated, you have bee Chair, I will turn the gavel	All right. Mr. Mackey, being the only c n elected vice chair by acclamation. Congratulat back over to you.	
1084 1085	Mr. Berman -	Thank you everyone. We are adjourned.	

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	1098

Dennis Berman Chairman

Benjamin Blankinship, AIOP Secretary