

IN RE: PETITION FOR ADMIN. VARIANCE

S side of Dixie Drive; 95 feet W of the c/l
of Southland Court
9th Election District
5th Councilmanic District
(323 Dixie Drive)

David Brown and Kate Knott
Petitioners

* BEFORE THE
* DEPUTY ZONING
* COMMISSIONER
* FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY
* **Case No. 2010-0054-A**

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FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

This matter comes before this Deputy Zoning Commissioner as a Petition for Administrative Variance filed by the legal owners of the subject property, David Brown and Kate Knott for property located at 323 Dixie Drive. The variance request is from Section 1B02.3.C.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) to permit enclosing portion of the open porch on side of existing dwelling to become a powder room and coat closet addition with a side setback of 4 feet 6 inches in lieu of the required 10 feet. The subject property and requested relief are more particularly described on Petitioners' Exhibit No. 1. The existing dwelling has a tiny, unusable coat closet on the entry level and a very small powder room located adjacent to the kitchen area. Petitioners propose to renovate the current kitchen. They wish to incorporate the current powder room space into the area of the kitchen. Then they want to replace the powder room and provide a useable coat closet on the entry level. Therefore, they desire to enclose a portion of the existing side porch.

The Zoning Advisory Committee (ZAC) comments were received and are made part of the record of this case. The comments indicate no opposition or other recommendations concerning the requested relief.

The Petitioners having filed a Petition for Administrative Variance and the subject property having been posted on August 29, 2009 and there being no request for a public hearing, a decision shall be rendered based upon the documentation presented.

The Petitioners have filed the supporting affidavits as required by Section 32-3-303 of the Baltimore County Code. Based upon the information available, there is no evidence in the file to indicate that the requested variance would adversely affect the health, safety or general welfare of the public and should therefore be granted. In the opinion of the Deputy Zoning Commissioner, the information, photographs, and affidavits submitted provide sufficient facts that comply with the requirements of Section 307.1 of the B.C.Z.R. Furthermore, strict compliance with the B.C.Z.R. would result in practical difficulty and/or unreasonable hardship upon the Petitioners.

Pursuant to the posting of the property and the provisions of both the Baltimore County Code and the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations, and for the reasons given above, the requested variance should be granted.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, by the Deputy Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County, this 23rd day of September, 2009 that a variance from Section 1B02.3.C.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) to permit enclosing portion of the open porch on side of existing dwelling to become a powder room and coat closet addition with a side setback of 4 feet 6 inches in lieu of the required 10 feet is hereby GRANTED, subject to the following:

1. The Petitioners may apply for their building permit and be granted same upon receipt of this Order; however, Petitioners are hereby made aware that proceeding at this time is at their own risk until such time as the 30 day appellate process from this Order has expired. If, for whatever reason, this Order is reversed, the Petitioners would be required to return, and be responsible for returning, said property to its original condition.

Any appeal of this decision must be made within thirty (30) days of the date of this Order.

SIGNED
THOMAS H. BOSTWICK
Deputy Zoning Commissioner
for Baltimore County

THB:pz