

**GREEN LAKE COUNTY  
BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT  
Meeting Minutes – December 21, 2007**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Board of Adjustment was called to order by Board Chair Ahonen at 9:00 a.m., in the County Board Room, Courthouse, Green Lake, WI. The requirements of the open meeting law were certified as being met.

Present: Donald Ahonen, Roger Ladwig (Alternate 2), Charles Lepinski (Alternate 1) Shirley Parker  
Absent: Jill Ladwig  
Also present: Al Shute, County Surveyor/Land Development Director  
Matt Kirkman, Code Enforcement Officer  
Carole DeCramer, Board Secretary  
Kate Worth, Court Reporter  
Jeff Haase, Assistant Corporation Counsel

Charles Lepinski (Alternate 1) was seated in Jill Ladwig's absence.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion by Parker/Lepinski, unanimously carried, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion by Parker/ Lepinski, unanimously carried, to approve the minutes of the October 19, 2007, meeting. Motion carried.**

**Audio Tape is available for verbatim discussion:**

**RECESS FOR FIELD INSPECTION**

Time: 9:08 a.m.

**PUBLIC HEARING MATTERS**

Board reconvened at 9:59 a.m.

Board Secretary Carole DeCramer read the Rules of Order.

**See Transcript of Proceedings for verbatim testimony:**

The Board of Adjustment received a letter from Attorney Steve Sorenson, applicant/agent for Item I, requesting that the variance request be postponed to a date to be determined.

**Item I: Owner:** Daniel N. & Joan M. Ambrosino **Applicant/Agent:** Attorney Steven R. Sorenson, Sorenson Law Office **Site Address:** W2081 Irving Park Rd, Irving Park Plat Lot 2 CSM 2860, Located in part of Government Lot 3 of Section 29, T16N R13E, Town of Brooklyn **Explanation:**

The property owners are requesting a variance from Section 350-15.A(2)(e) of the Green Lake County Zoning Ordinance to allow the height of a detached garage to exceed 15 feet.

**Item II: Owners:** Tom & Clare Borah **Applicant:** Gary Kenton **Site Address:** N5560 Old Oak Ln, Lot 12 and the west 50 feet of Lot 13 of the Irving Park Plat, located in part of Government Lot 3 of Section 29, T16N R13E, Town of Brooklyn **Explanation:** The property owners are requesting a variance from Section 338.14.A. of the Green Lake County Shoreland Protection Ordinance to allow an open fence within 75 feet of the OHWM of Green Lake.

a. Public Hearing

Gary Kenton, N6109 Honeysuckle Lane, Green Lake – Applicant, on behalf of Mr. and Mrs. Borah, speaking in favor of the request.

Chris Ronnow, N5568 Old Oak Lane – Adjoining property owner speaking against the request.

Close public hearing.

b. Board Discussion & Deliberation

Kirkman – Reminded the Board that they each have a copy of a DNR letter opposing the request.

c. Board Decision

**Motion by Parker/Lepinski to approve the variance request. Ahonen – nay, Lepinski – nay, Parker – nay. Motion denied.**

**Findings:**

**Ahonen – There is adequate land area around the property where there could be a fenced in play yard for the children and pets without intruding into the 75’ setback. It does not seem to be unnecessarily burdensome because of the size of the land area or property. We could not find a hardship that was existing here. There is a steep bank, but the people who had purchased the property within the last year and a half to two years were aware of that at the time. It seems that they have not met any of the requirements indicating a hardship that would suggest that we would approve this request. It does not seem to be in the public’s best interest being that it would be a new structure in the 75’ setback.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT – None**

**PUBLIC APPEARANCES – None**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**a. 2008 Calendar**

**Motion by Lepinski/Parker, unanimously carried, to approve the 2008 calendar. Motion carried.**

## **BOARD DISCUSSION**

Haase – It is now on record that the two appeals have been dismissed.

Ahonen – A local building contractor, Stan Arnetveit, has been in my office several times talking about ordinances that sets the 15' height limitation on garages. I don't know if he has talked to Planning & Zoning about this, but I feel that, as the architecture of the new homes change, the roofs have gone back to greater heights and there is no other way to grant those than through a variance. I think there will be more and more of this happening. Has anyone put in any time on reworking the height limitation?

Shute – No, because the Planning & Zoning Committee has not directed staff to do that. Mr. Arnetveit and/or his group need to go before the committee and discuss this. The priority for the committee and staff right now is wind energy.

Parker – There is a rumor that the Town of Green Lake and the Board of Adjustment are being sued in regard to the port-a-potty decision.

Haase – The applicants are appealing the board's decision.

Kirkman – The seating arrangement for the board of adjustment may work better if the board utilizes the same bench that is used by the county board chair, and county and deputy clerks. With the present arrangement, it becomes somewhat hazardous with microphone cords stretched across the floor.

After discussing this further, the board said that they would be agreeable to the new seating arrangement.

## **NEXT MEETING DATE**

March 20, 2008

## **ADJOURN**

**Motion by Parker/Lepinski, unanimously carried, to adjourn. Motion carried.**

Time: 11:15 a.m.

Recorded by,  
Carole DeCramer  
Board of Adjustment Secretary

## **APPROVED ON:**

**March 20, 2008**