



**Board of Appeals on Zoning
November 1, 2023
Minutes**

I. **Call to Order** - Meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Nash at 6:00 p.m.

II. **Roll Call** – Cassi Zimmerman took roll.

Members Present: George Copeland, Jamie Forbes, Bruce Gale, Jack Nash

Members Absent: None

Staff: Bob Gollin, Cassi Zimmerman, Amy Lusk, City Attorney

III. **Approval of Minutes** – Wednesday, September 6, 2023.

Motion by Board Member Gale, seconded by Board Member Forbes to approve the meeting minutes for the September 6, 2023, meeting. 4 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent. Motion approved.

IV. **Approval of Agenda** – Wednesday September 6, 2023

Motion by Board Member Forbes, seconded by Board Member Gale to approve the meeting agenda for November 1, 2023, meeting. 4 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent. Motion approved.

V. **New Business**

a. **Resignation of Commissioner Browning and Nomination and Election of Chair**

Vice Chair Nash announced the resignation of Commissioner Browning from the Board of Appeals on Zoning who has backed away from public service for many years. He stated that a new Chair would need to be nominated and approved.

Motion by Commissioner Nash, seconded by Board Member Copeland, to nominate Board Member Jamie Forbes as chairperson. Ms. Forbes accepted the nomination. 4 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent. Motion approved.

b. **Case #J23-0204 Public Hearing on variance request on the fence height 1903 Durand.**

Chair Forbes opened the public hearing and asked for a description of the proposed variance request. Staff Gollin introduced the project and explained that the request is to allow for a variance on the fence height to exceed the 6 ft high requirement and allow for an 8 ft high fence for 1903 Durand submitted by the American Outlaw Association. David Oberdorf, 1471 Calumet Court, Bay City MI, and president of the American Outlaw Association, presented the need for the fence height. He explained that they are a motorcycle club, and the fence will permit the necessary safety and security for the area. He added that there is a bus stop that was recently installed next to the property and the fence would screen the school children from the activities inside the fence.

Reginal Jackson, 121 N Woodbridge, Apt 2-7, spoke in support of the fence height for safety reasons. Staff Gollin stated that he received a phone call from David Reed, 1821 N Mason, who was in favor of the fence and felt it would be an improvement. Chair Forbes called for additional comments, no further comments were given.

Motion by Board Member Nash, seconded by Board Member Gale to close the public hearing. 4 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent. Motion approved.

Motion by Board Member Gale, seconded by Board Member Copeland to approve the variance request on the fence height at 1903 Durand Street.
There was no discussion by the board members.

Ayes:

- **Copeland – Community has expressed approval of the fence.**
- **Forbes – The fence continues the continuity and the visual appeal for the neighborhood.**
- **Gale – The fence is physically attractive and appealing.**
- **Nash – Provides safety and added that the area is made up of mixed use between residential and commercial and the fence will physically enhance the area.**

Nays: None

Absent:

Motion approved.

VI. Public Comment – None

VII. Old Business - None

VIII. Adjournment

Motion by Board Member Nash, seconded by Board Member Gale to adjourn the meeting at 6:13 pm. 4 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent. Motion approved.

Prepared and submitted by

Robert Gollin
Urban Planner
City of Saginaw