

MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP
ZONING HEARING BOARD

Diane Beresford, Chairperson

Christian A. Davis, Vice Chair

John Kelley, Secretary

John Rayer

Jacquelyn S. Goffney

Lawrence G. Strohm, Jr. Solicitor

Minutes of the Zoning Hearing Board

The regular meeting of the Middletown Township Zoning Hearing Board was held on Wednesday, March 26, 2014, beginning at 7:00 PM in the Township Building, 27 N. Pennell Road, Lima, PA

Members Present: Diane Beresford, Jacquelyn Goffney, John Kelley

Staff Present: Larry G. Strohm, Jr. Solicitor, Meredith F. Merino, Zoning Officer.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the February 26, 2014 meeting were approved as submitted by a vote of 3-0.

New Business: Case 2014-03: An application of Taria Avery, 13 Carriage Drive, for a variance from the Permitted Uses of the R-1 zoning district in order to permit the parking of three commercial vehicles at the property associated with Applicant's mobile pet grooming business. Charles G. Miller, Esquire entered an appearance on behalf of Middletown Township in opposition to the application. Applicant presented testimony and numerous exhibits in support of the application, noting the presence of commercial vehicles parked on other properties in the neighborhood. During Mr. Miller's cross examination of Ms. Avery a 5 minute recess was called by Ms. Beresford in order that Mr. Miller could review the exhibits presented by the applicant. During the recess, Mr. Kelley left the meeting due to illness, and as a consequence there was no longer a quorum of the board present. A discussion followed regarding whether or not the hearing should be continued. Following the discussion, and over the objection of Ms. Avery, the board granted the Township's motion to continue the hearing to the board's April 23 public meeting. Prior to concluding the hearing for the evening, Ms. Avery requested a poll of the members of the audience to determine their position on the application in the event that they would not be able to attend the next hearing. Six residents identified themselves as in favor of the application; one resident identified himself as opposed to the application.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

The next meeting of the Zoning Hearing Board is scheduled for Wednesday, April 23, 2014 beginning at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jacquelyn S. Goffney, Acting Secretary