

MINUTES

Valdosta-Lowndes Zoning Board of Appeals

Valdosta City Hall Annex Multi-Purpose Room

300 North Lee Street, Valdosta, Georgia

November 6, 2018

2:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Paul Alvarado
Nathan Brantley
Victoria Copeland
Nancy Hobby

John D. Holt
John "Mac" McCall
Gretchen Quarterman
Allan Strickland

MEMBERS ABSENT

<None>

STAFF PRESENT

Carmella Braswell
Tracy Tolley
Debra Tulloch

VISITORS PRESENT

Victor C. Bivins
Larry Eidson
Shannon McGee
Michelle McKeithen

Agenda Item # 1: CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Strickland at 2:30 p.m. and it was determined that a quorum of members was present. Chairman Strickland thanked everyone for coming and reviewed the meeting procedures with those in attendance today.

LOWNDES COUNTY CASES

Agenda Item # 2: VAR-2018-18 — McGee Property (McGee Property)

Chairman Strickland announced the case. Mrs. Tulloch presented the case. Mrs. Tulloch stated that the applicant was asking for a variance to Table 4.01.01(G) of the ULDC as it pertains to the standards for lot area, width, and impervious surface coverage. The properties do not meet lot area or lot width requirements. The subject properties are located at 5143 and 5149 Griffin Drive and are both one acre in size. The applicants were advised to go the variance route rather than the rezoning route. The TRC is recommending approval with no conditions as the request does not appear that it will cause substantial detriment to the public good.

Chairman Strickland asked if there were any questions. Mrs. Hobby asked why the applicant did not rezone the property. Mrs. Tulloch stated that staff recommended the variance route.

There being no further questions from the Board, Chairman Strickland asked if anyone would like to speak on behalf of the application. Ms. Shannon McGee, 6 Cherry Point, Valdosta, stated that her grandfather bought the two parcels, with no idea they would be required to get variances to build at a future point. Ms. McGee stated there was a mobile home on the property, but her grandfather removed the mobile home, and that he had been paying taxes on the property for years. Mr. Larry Eidson, 5143 Griffin Dr., Hahira, stated he had paid taxes on the property all this time, and never knew there might be a problem. Ms. McGee stated she had sold her house in April, with the desire to build a house on this property in order to take care of her grandparents. Chairman Strickland stated there was often nothing to bring issues like the variance requirement to the property owner's attention until a permit was applied for, or a plat submitted.

Chairman Strickland asked if there as anyone to speak in opposition. No one spoke. Chairman Strickland asked staff f there was any contact to the office. Mrs. Tulloch stated that the property owner to the north of this property was at the meeting for a moment, but needed to return to work, but wanted staff to relay to the Board that he had moved his daughter in the area in hopes that the area would remain spacious.

There being no further discussion or questions, Chairman Strickland called for a motion. Mr. McCall made a motion to approve the request as presented, citing criteria "d." Mrs. Quarterman seconded the motion. The motion was called and carried with a vote of 7 to 0.