

Town of Red Hook
Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting Minutes (Draft)

March 14, 2018

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm by ZBA Chair Nick Annas.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Nick Annas, Jim Hegstetter, Chris Carney, Kate Karakassis

Members Absent: Chris Klose

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

Minutes from February 14, 2018

At 7:04pm Chairman Nick Annas asked for a motion to accept the February 14, 2018 ZBA Minutes. Kate Karakassis so moves, and Jim Hegstetter seconds. Chairman Annas notes there is a correction, as he was not marked absent. Anne Rubin notes the correction. All present vote in favor of accepting the corrected minutes.

Planning Board Minutes/ Comments from the Chair:

There are no Planning Board comments at this time, however Chairman Annas comments on a February 13th Town Board Meeting, in which the Town Board voted to reduce the ZBA from 7 to 5 members. Chairman Annas further noted there are only two other ZBAs in the state with 7 members. He informs the Board Kate Karakassis was made a full, voting member, Kris Munn resigned, and Tim Ross' tenure was not renewed. Chairman Annas further states he wants to ask Tim Ross to be an alternate, as his procedural and history of land use knowledge are unequalled on the Board. Chairman Annas states he will write a letter to this effect to the Town Board.

Public Hearing (continued from 1/10/18)

Appeal 17-08, Charles Simmons, Director of Physical Plant, Bard College, representing Bard College, application for an area variance to use an existing residence as a small office, for the John Cage Trust, as part of the Bard College Educational Use, on a parcel of 5.04 acres. Section 143-82 A of the Town of Red Hook Zoning Law requires 25 acres for an Educational Institution in the RD3 Zoning District. The subject property is located at 15 Whalesback Road, in the RD3 Zoning District.

At 7:07pm Chairman Annas asks for a motion to continue the public hearing for appeal 17-08 Bard College, to the May 09th, 2018 ZBA meeting, in order to give the Planning Board time to complete the SEQR process, without which, the ZBA cannot vote on the requested variance. Chris Carney so moves, and Kate Karakassis seconds. All present are in favor.

Jim Hegstetter notes Tim Ross has served the ZBA since its inception, and wants to state for the record he is shocked Mr. Ross was not invited to continue on the ZBA, and that there seems to be no indication from the Town Board as to why this happened. Mr. Hegstetter also wants to state for the record his appreciation for Mr. Ross as former chairman and Board member, and also his disappointment at this outcome.

At 7:12pm Chairman Annas asks for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jim Hegstetter so moves and Kate Karakassis seconds the motion. All present are in favor, and the meeting is adjourned.