

North Little Rock Building and Housing Board of Adjustment Minutes June 11, 2019

The North Little Rock Building and Housing Board of Adjustment meeting was called to order by Chairman White at 9:29 am in the Community Planning Conference Room B. Roll was called and a quorum was found to be present. A quorum being three members present.

Members Present

Brad Hughes
Gardner Burton
Jeremy White, Chairman

Member Absent

Gladys Webb

Staff Present

Donna James, City Planner
Allison Austin, Secretary
Shannon Carroll, City Clerk Office, 300 Main Street
Marie Benarde Miller, Deputy City Attorney, 120 Main Street

Others Present

Timothy Hopson, 1120 Bishop Lindsey Ave, NLR, AR 72114
Reedie Ray, 1120 Bishop Lindsey Ave, NLR, AR 72114

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Gardner made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting of December 11, 2018.

Mr. Hughes seconded the motion. There was no dissent.

Administrative:

Mr. Hughes made a motion to excuse Mrs. Webb from the meeting.

Mr. White seconded the motion. There was no dissent.

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Mr. Hughes made a motion to elect Mrs. Webb as Chair of the Sign Board.

Mr. White seconded the motion. There was no dissent.

Mr. Gardner stepped up to be Vice-chair of the Sign Board.

Mr. Hughes seconded the motion. There was no dissent.

Public Hearings

Sign Board 2019-02: To allow a wall sign without direct street frontage and to allow the wall sign to exceed 24 square feet in sign area for an existing Church located at 1120 Bishop Lindsey Avenue and 628 North Hickory Street, North Little Rock, AR 72114.

Mr. White swore in Elder Timothy Hopson, Pastor and Reddie Ray representing New Calvary Temple Church of God in Christ.

Ms. James introduced the item and provided a presentation to the Board, which included photos of the area, a photo of the location of the proposed wall sign and a graphic of the proposed wall sign. Ms. James stated staff was supportive of the wall sign without street frontage but not of the request to allow the additional square footage for the wall sign. She requested if the Board approved the request they also include in the motion for approval the conditions as presented in the staff report.

Mr. Hopson and Mr. Ray stated the Church would like signage on the side of the building facing 628 North Hickory Street to improve visibility of the Church for the congregation members and visitors.

Mr. White asked Ms. James for staff's opinion.

Ms. James stated staff was supportive of the sign placement without street frontage but felt the size of the sign should comply with the square footage allowed in the ordinance. She stated staff felt the size should be reduced from 32 square feet to 24 square feet.

Mr. Hughes asked Ms. James to show the picture showing the location of the sign.

Mr. Burton asked if the sign would be lit.

Mr. Ray stated the sign would be lit.

Mr. Burton stated he was concerned the lighting would bother the residents living in the homes adjacent to the wall the sign was to be placed.

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Mr. Ray stated the area was already well lit with streetlights. He stated the streetlights were very bright and the Housing Authority also had security lights which were very bright. He stated with the Housing Authority security lights there was no need for the streetlights.

Mr. Burton asked the applicant if they were willing to put a timer on the lighting of the sign to go off at night around 9:00 or 10:00 pm.

Mr. Ray agreed. He stated the Church's existing sign was on a timer and the security lights for the Church were also on a timer.

Mr. Burton also asked if they were agreeable to reduce the size of the sign from 32 square feet to 24 square feet.

Mr. Ray agreed to reduce the size of the sign as recommended by staff.

Mr. Hughes made a motion to approve the request with the amendments of placing a timer on the lighting of the sign and decreasing the square footage.

Mr. Burton seconded with no dissent.

Public Comment/ Adjournment

Mr. Hughes made a motion to adjourn at 9:41 am with no dissent.

Passed: _____ RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Jeremy White, Chairman