

Mayor & Council of Berlin

10 William Street, Berlin, Maryland 21811 Phone 410-641-2770 Fax 410-641-2316 www.berlinmd.gov

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Town of Berlin Board of Appeals

Pursuant to the requirements of §108-191 of the Code of the Town of Berlin, notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be conducted by the Berlin Board of Zoning Appeals in the Mayor and Council Chambers of Berlin Town Hall, 10 William Street, Berlin, Maryland on

WEDNESDAY, September 13th, 2023 @ 5:30PM

- 1. Approval of Minutes August 23th, 2023
- 2. Eric Davis Requesting Conditional Use for 534 Bay Street project Assateague Landing Apartments

Any questions regarding the above agenda items shall be directed to the Berlin Department of Planning and Zoning at 410-641-4143.

Any persons having questions about the above-referenced meeting or any persons needing special accommodations should contact Dave Engelhart at 410-641-4143. Written materials in alternate formats for persons with disabilities are made available upon request. TTY users dial 7-1-1 in the State of Maryland or 1-800-735-2258 outside Maryland.

Town of Berlin Board of Zoning Appeals August 23, 2023

Chairman Joe Moore called the meeting of August 23, 2023, to order at 5:30PM. Members present were Joe Moore, Doug Parks, Woody Bunting, and Bob Palladino. Staff present were Planning Director Dave Engelhart and Administrative Asst. Kate Daub.

Chairman Joe Moore called for a motion to approve the minutes from the April 12th, 2023, meeting if there is no corrections or additions. Mr. Bob Palladino made the motion to approve the minutes from the April 12th, 2023, meeting. Mr. Woody Bunting seconded the motion, and it was unanimously accepted by the board. Chairman Joe Moore called for a motion to approve the agenda. With members all in agreement the agenda was approved.

Chairman Joe Moore called for the next item on the agenda 10345 Old Ocean City Blvd requesting a Special Exception to Section 108-671 and Section 108-670. Chairman Joe Moore asked Planning Director Dave Engelhart to explain what the application was about. Mr. Dave Engelhart stated the application was received from Ms. Kim Skeeter of 10345 Old Ocean City Blvd and she is requesting a special exception. The property is located in the B-2 Shopping District, and it has a non-conforming single-family home on the parcel. It has been a residence since zoning was adopted in the town of Berlin. The home was in existence prior to 1977 and at this stage the home would be called non-conforming. He stated the home is in such a state of disrepair and beyond rehabilitation for even just to repair it. Ms. Kim Skeeter purchased the home and was not aware of the extent of the damage, severe foundation and floor joist damage. Mr. Engelhart stated section 108-671 and 108-670 of the Town code detail the non-conforming uses can be repaired. The property will continue to be a non-conforming use with 60% or less of damage for it to be repaired. Ms. Skeeter is here to ask for a special exception to demo the home so she can build a new home.

Chairman Joe Moore swore in the applicants. Ms. Kim Skeeter of 10345 Old Ocean City Blvd and Mr. Clay Reister representing Burley Building Company to answer any questions you may have about the site and the condition. Chairman Joe Moore asked Mr. Reister if he had prepared the exhibits they have. He replied he had. Chairman Joe Moore asked him what he wanted to tell them about the property and what he wants to do. Mr. Clay Reister stated the goal is to secure her variance so she can have a residence on the site. They have advised her the structure is not worth saving. The problem is the foundation was never dug in on a footing just block and it's eroding, the foundation has had a lot of insect and water damage. At some point the previous owners put vinyl siding on and just left it opened around all the windows, so water poured in and the frame of the house is rotten, which is a loss to her. Mr. Clay Reister stated the cost today far more exceeds 40%. Chairman Joe Moore asked if he was aware of the code if it exceeds more than the 40% percent of the building. Chairman Joe Moore stated if the foundation had to be replaced it would be more cost effective to replace the building. Mr. Reister agreed.

Chairman Joe Moore stated to Mr. Clay Reister his job was to give them evidence to see if they would allow for the replacement of the building. If it is less than 40% of fair market value, they can consider that is where the code provided that they have to go. Chairman stated you have to

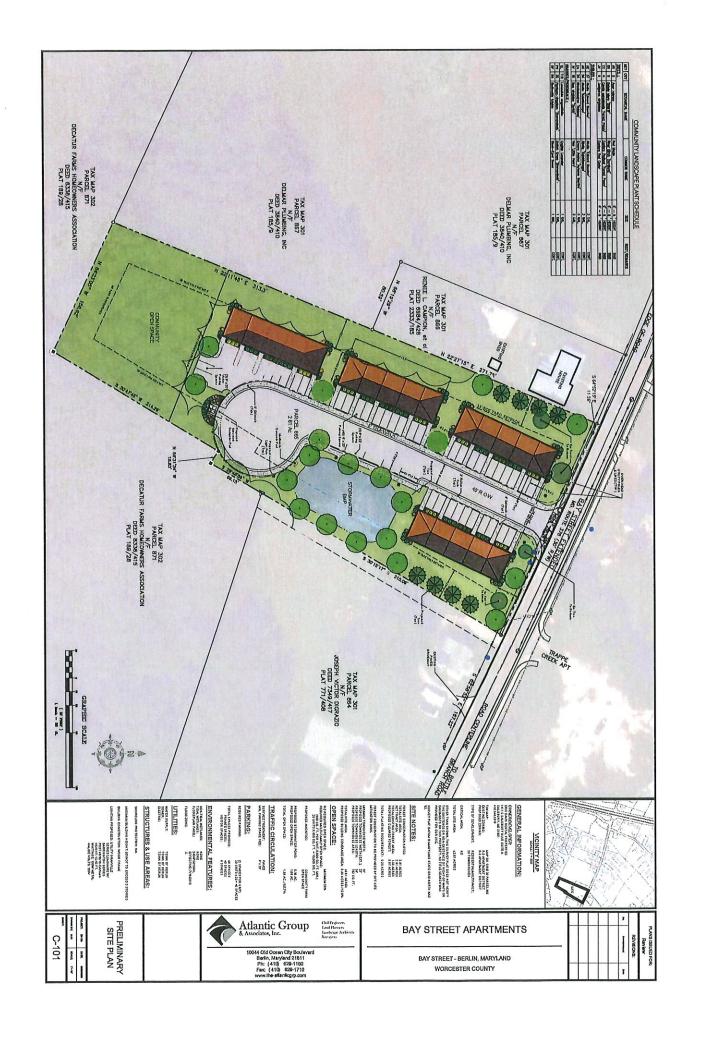
tell the board whether this fits within the fair market value he asked could you repair it for less than 60% of fair market value. Mr. Reister stated 60% of the current value might cover what they must do. Mr. Bob Palladino asked when the house was built. The Planning Director Dave Engelhart replied in the 1940's. Mr. Reister stated there were some out buildings on the property that have been removed. He stated the house next to Ms. Skeeters is her brother's house and the next house belongs to Mr. Thomas Messino. Mr. Bob Palladino asked Ms. Kim Skeeter if she lives in the home now. She replied no. Mr. Reister stated the other houses are residential homes next to hers. Chairman Joe Moore stated the other homes are non-conforming as well but used as residences. Mr. Woody Bunting stated they have always been residential even prior to the zoning code. Chairman Moore stated as long as it's not detrimental to the neighborhood and it had been there since he was a kid. Chairman Joe Moore asked if there were any more questions from the board. There was none. Mr. Reister told the board that they were willing to adjust the plans to meet the rules and setback lines. They are even offering to move the house to much flatter land to get it back from the road. Put a new structure there to clean the area up. Chairman Joe Moore stated if the board considers it than you would go to Planning Commission for site plan approval. Planning Director Dave Engelhart replied not for residential.

Chairman Joe Moore asked if anyone else would like to speak for or against the applicant. Chairman swore in Mr. John Gulyas the brother of Kim Skeeter he lives at 10343 Old Ocean City Blvd. He stated across the street there are houses and they want to put a new house there. Mr. Dave Engelhart replied those houses are not within town limits they are in the county. He stated the dog food place is not in town either. Mr. Engelhart stated this was rezoned in 1977 when it became B-2 along there.

Chairman Joe Moore called for a motion. Mr. Woody Bunting made the motion to approve the application mainly because it had always been a residence. It should remain a residence, he liked the idea of the house being moved back and making it more conforming along a state road. Mr. Bob Palladino seconded the motion, and it was unanimously accepted by the board.

Respectfully Submitted,

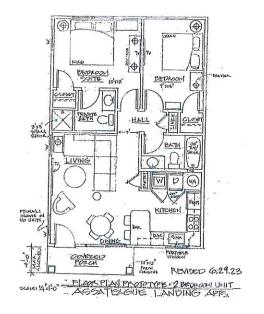
Dave Engelbert











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	ASSATEAGUE LANDING APARTMENTS	BAY STREET - BERLIN, MARYLAND	WORGESTER COUNTY
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	ARCH. ELEVATIONS & FLOORPLANS		
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