

**DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD  
MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR HEARING  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2022  
DRAFT**

A regular meeting of the Barre City Development Review Board held in person and video conference was called to order by Chair Linda Shambo (Ward I) at 7:03 pm. In attendance, participating on video or in person were Board Members Vice Chair Jeffrey Tuper-Giles, Ward I Ward II member Sarah Helman; Ward III member Katrina Pelkey; and At-Large members Michael Hellein, and Jessica Egerton. Also in attendance was Janet Shatney, Planning Director. The Chair determined a quorum was present.

**Absent:** Ward II member David Hough; At-Large member Ulysse “Pete” Fournier.

**II. Adjustments to Agenda:** None

**III. Visitors and Communications:** None

**IV. Old Business:**

**Consideration of August 4, 2022 Decisions:**

- Motion to approve the minutes made by Helman and seconded by Egerton, **motion carried.**

**Consideration of August 4, 2022 minutes:**

- Motion to approve the decision made by Helman and seconded by Hellein with street name corrections, **motion carried.**

The Chair stated that anyone wishing to speak or be on record must sign in on the sheet at the clipboard, and would be sworn in when testimony was to be given.

**V. New Business:**

**James & Gail MacDonald, 11 Hilltop Avenue.** Seeks approval for a dimensional variance from the side and rear property lines for a deck and spa room; R-8 Zoning District.

James MacDonald was sworn in, introduced his wife Gail, and William Duprey, a former neighbor. Mr. MacDonald gave a visual presentation:

- Have ongoing health issues, and employers allow them both to work from home
- Doctor’s recommendation is therapy, specifically water therapy
- Was completing water therapy at the RehabGym, but was getting cost prohibitive
- Stated the builder, Eric Smith of Precision Builders in NH had stated no permits were needed
- Barre City Electrical Inspector Rob Strachan had showed up and noted the needed building permit
- The rear of the entire structure is 6 ½ feet from the rear property line, shorter on the side
- There is a sun deck area (flat surface) for yoga and sun, with a spa room built around a swim spa, on a concrete pad and insulated.

To be approved at the 01/05/2023 Hearing

Board comments and/or questions were as follows:

- Both Egerton and Helman noted a very detailed application.

There was no one there from the public to comment on the record. The MacDonalds were thanked by the Board and all visitors retired from the Chambers.

#### **VI. Other Business – Election of Officers**

- Chair Shambo opened the floor to nominations for Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary
- Tuper-Giles nominated Shambo as Chair with Egerton seconding; motion by Tuper-Giles and seconded by Egerton for Shambo as Chair, **motion carried.**
- Egerton nominated Tuper-Giles as Vice Chair with Hellein seconding; motion by Egerton and seconded by Hellein for Tuper-Giles as Vice Chair, **motion carried.**
- Tuper-Giles nominated Shatney as Secretary, seconded by Shambo; motion by Helman and seconded by Tuper-Giles for Shatney as Secretary, **motion carried.**

#### **VII. Roundtable**

- Shambo noted that for this future agenda item, it will say “as needed”
- Tuper-Giles said the Park looks great and the poles with the decorations are very nice
- Pelkey noted a great Craft Show at the Auditorium held after Thanksgiving
- Helman echoed Pelkey, and said that Merry Barre was great with a nice, short parade; and recognition that the Coin Drop coming up is by the City Councilors for Christmas for Kids

A short discussion occurred about the hearing time of 7 pm, as Shambo polled the members as to their preferences; some thought 6:30 pm would be good but it was largely agreed that 7 pm works for the applicants, so there is no change in the time of the meetings.

#### **VIII. Executive Session – not needed**

**IX. Deliberative Session:** Motion by Tuper-Giles and seconded by Helman to enter Deliberative Session at 7:36 pm with Planning Director invited in, **motion carried.**

Motion by Helman and seconded by Tuper-Giles to leave Deliberative Session at 7:46 pm, **motion carried.**

Motion by Tuper-Giles to approve the Variance request as presented, seconded by Hellein, **motion carried.**

**X. Adjourn:** The hearing adjourned at 7:49 pm on motion by Tuper-Giles and seconded by Helman, **motion carried.**

The open portions of this hearing were recorded on the video meeting platform.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet Shatney, Planning Director