

Development Processing County Office Building 111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204

April 25, 1996

C. Victoria Woodward, Esquire Woodward, Butler & Skullney, L.L.C. 403 Allegheny Avenue Towson, MD 21204

> RE: Zoning Verification 15605 Dark Hollow Road 5th Election District

Dear Ms. Woodward:

The issues addressed in your letter were brought to Mr. Jablon's attention and after discussion and review, the following conclusions were made regarding 15605 Dark Hollow Road.

The property known as 15605 Dark Hollow Road is currently zoned R.C.-2 and is .573 acres. Assuming that this and neighboring properties have been under separate ownership since the inception of the RDP regulation (Bill 100-70), this is a legal building lot.

The property was created legally in 1959 under the old R-6 zoning requirements. The required R.C.-2 building setbacks must be met. The one acre lot size mentioned in the R.C.-2 regulations is not a factor, as this lot was not created after November 25, 1979. The R.C.-2 zone does not decline in density, but in rights of subdivision and building rights. This lot clearly has one building right from a zoning standpoint.

I trust that the information set forth in this letter is sufficiently detailed and responsive to the request. If you need further information or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 887-3391 (FAX - 887-5708).

Very truly yours,

Planner I

Zoning Review

CAM: rye





Permits and Licenses
County Office Building
111 West Chesapeake Avenue
Towson, Maryland 21204
(410) 887-3900
Fax: (410) 887-2824

November 1, 1995

Mrs. R. Jean Curtis 15437 Dover Road Upperco, MD 21155

> Re: Hearing On Undersized Lot (15605 Dark Hollow Road) 5th Election District 3rd Councilmanic District R. Jean Curtis Owner/Applicant

Dear Mrs. Curtis:

Please be advised that an appeal of the above-referenced case was filed in this office on October 31, 1995 by Mr. Redmond C. S. Finney. All materials relative to the case have been forwarded to the Baltimore County Board of Appeals, "Board".

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact the Board at 887-3180.

Sincerely,

Director

Department of Permits and Development Management

AJ:nmn

CC: Mr. John Nischwitz Mr. Edward Finney

Mr. Ernest Levering People's Counsel

APPEAL

Hearing on Undersized Lot (15605 Dark Hollow Road) 5th Election District - 3rd Councilmanic District R. Jean Curtis - Owner/Applicant

Notice of Hearing Request for Hearing on Undersized Lot

Certificate of Posting

Petitioner(s) and Protestant(s) Sign-In Sheets

Petitioner's Exhibits: 1 - Site Plan to Accompany Hearing on Undersized Lot

2 - Site Plan of Proposed House Front

Elevation

3 - History of 15605 Dark Hollow Road

17 Photographs and a Photograph Key Plan for 15605 Dark Hollow Road (Not Marked as Exhibits)

Letter to Arnold Jablon from Ernest D. Levering dated September 18, 1995.

Deputy Zoning Commissioner's Order dated October 5, 1995 (Approved)

Notice of Appeal received on October 31, 1995 from Mr. Redmond C. S. Finney

cc: Mr. John Nischwitz, 103 Fitz Court (T-2), Reisterstown, MD 21136

Mr. Redmond Finney, 15601 Dover Road, Upperco, MD 21155 Mr. Edward Finney, 15507 Dover Road, Upperco, MD 21155

Mr. Ernest Levering, 15627 Dark Hollow Road, Upperco, MD 21155

Mrs. R. Jean Curtis, 15437 Dover Road, Upperco, MD 21155 People's Counsel of Baltimore County, M.S. 2010

Request Notification: Timothy M. Kotroco,

Deputy Zoning Commissioner

Arnold Jablon, Director of PDM

10 BI/95 Ochby 22, 1995 Boltmore County Department of Rennets Development Processing Courty Office Builday 111 W. Desupenhe avenue lowson, bougland 2/204 Notice is berely given of the undersymped is desire to appeal to decision by the july Director to allow the proposed impovements on the Unlessed lot at 15605 Dans Hollow Road this appeal falls within the thirty-day regularient. Lucely yours, Oldmind Co. France 15601 Dove Room OCT 3 1 1995
PDM Maryland 21155

IN RE:

HEARING ON UNDERSIZED LOT (15605 Dark Hollow Road)

5th Election District 3rd Councilmanic District

R. Jean Curtis Owner/Applicant * BEFORE THE

* DEPUTY ZONING COMMISSIONER

* OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

*

* * * * * * * * *

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

This matter comes before the Deputy Zoning Commissioner pursuant to a request for public hearing filed by the adjoining property owner, Ernest Levering, to determine the appropriateness of a building permit application for the proposed development of the subject undersized lot, known as 15605 Dark Hollow Road, by R. Jean Curtis, Owner/Applicant. Mrs. Curtis seeks to develop the property with a single family dwelling in accordance with the site plan and front elevation drawings submitted with the application and marked into evidence as Petitioner's Exhibits 1 and 2.

A hearing on the matter was held on October 2, 1995 at 9:00 AM in Room 118 of the Old Courthouse. Appearing at the hearing in support of the building permit application were R. Jean Curtis, Owner/Applicant, and her consultant, John Nischwitz. Appearing in opposition to the application were Redmond Finney and his son, Edward Finney, both of whom reside nearby on Dover Road. Mr. Levering was unable to attend the hearing; however, he wrote a letter of opposition, dated September 18, 1995, which has been incorporated into the case file.

As noted above, this matter comes before me, pursuant to Section 304 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) which addresses development of undersized lots. Unlike the vast majority of cases which are heard by the Zoning Commissioner's Office, the matter is not before

ORDER RECEIVED FOR FILING

this Deputy Zoning Commissioner as a Petition for Special Hearing, Special Exception or Variance. Thus, none of the requirements and standards which regulate those zoning Petitions as found within the B.C.Z.R. are applicable. Pursuant to Section 304.4 of the B.C.Z.R., I am only required to make a determination as to whether a proposed dwelling on the subject undersized lot is appropriate.

In support of the application, Mrs. Jean Curtis offered testimony and evidence which revealed that the subject property consists of 0.573 acres, zoned R.C.2, and is located on the east side of Dark Hollow Road near Dover Road in Upperco. Given its R.C. 2 zoning classification, the property does not meet minimum lot size requirements contained within the applicable regulations. Mrs. Curtis testified that the subject property was conveyed as a gift to her and her husband by her husband's family many years ago. She testified that her husband's great uncle, Mr. Charles Armacost, owned a farm which bordered Dark Hollow and Dover Roads and consisted of approximately 130 acres in size. Testimony indicated that Mr. Armacost conveyed the subject parcel to Mr. & Mrs. Curtis in 1959 for the purpose of building a single family residence thereon. Mrs. Curtis submitted into evidence as Petitioner's Exhibit 1 a site plan of the property, which was drawn in 1959, as well as a building contract for a single family dwelling to be constructed on the subject property, also dated 1959. Mr. & Mrs. Curtis intended to build a house on the property at that time; however, prior to constructing the dwelling, Mrs. Curtis' father-inlaw passed away, and she and her husband moved in with his mother in order to provide for her care. The property on which that dwelling is located was also carved out of the 130-acre farm by Mr. Armacost and is located at 15437 Dover Road. Apparently Mr. Armacost also conveyed a third lot from

ORDER RECEIVED FOR FILING

the 130-acre farm, and that lot was given to another relative. All of the lots that were carved out of the 130-acre farm were developed with single family dwellings, except for the subject parcel.

From 1959 until the present date, Mrs. Curtis and her husband have owned the subject property and paid taxes on this parcel as an unimproved lot. Mrs. Curtis now seeks to sell this property in order to obtain necessary funds for her to move to Georgia to be closer to her family. She now seeks approval of the property as an undersized lot so that it can be marketed as a buildable lot.

Appearing in opposition to the Applicant's request were Redmond and Edward Finney, who own a farm consisting of some 200 acres on the other side of Dark Hollow Road. The Finneys testified that they actively farm their land and are concerned about development encroaching into that area. They testified that Developers are constantly seeking out property and farms upon which to locate residential developments. They feel that this is just another example of development encroaching into their area and are opposed to the subject lot being approved for a single family residence. The Finneys also object to development of the subject property, given its size. As noted earlier in this opinion, this Office received a letter of opposition from Mr. Ernest Levering who is also opposed to a dwelling being built on this 1/2 acre lot. Incidentally, Mr. Levering is the current owner of the former Armacost farm.

As stated above, Section 304.4 of the B.C.Z.R. dictates that I make a determination only as to whether a dwelling is appropriate on the subject lot. Given the totality of the testimony and evidence presented at the hearing, I find that the subject undersized lot is appropriate for development with a single family dwelling. This is not an example where a

Developer is attempting to create a building lot. Rather, this lot has existed since 1959 and has remained in single ownership since that time. Mrs. Curtis has paid taxes on the property as an unimproved lot since 1959 and should not now be penalized for an undersized lot which was appropriate at the time it was created. Therefore, I believe that a building permit for a single family dwelling on the subject property is appropriate and should be approved. Furthermore, the Office of Planning and Zoning has reviewed this request and have recommended approval of this undersized lot.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED by the Deputy Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County this 5th day of October, 1995 that the property known as 15605 Dark Hollow Road, meets the requirements for approval as an undersized lot, pursuant to Section 304.4 of the B.C.Z.R., and as such, should be APPROVED.

Any appeal of this decision must be made within thirty (30) days of the date of this Order.

TIMOTHY M. KOTROCO

Deputy Zoning Commissioner

for Baltimore County

TMK:bjs

ORDER RECEIVED/FOR FILING
Date
By

Baltimore County Government Zoning Commissioner Office of Planning and Zoning



Suite 112 Courthouse 400 Washington Avenue Towson, MD 21204

October 5, 1995

(410) 887-4386

Mrs R. Jean Curtis 15437 Dover Road Upperco, Maryland 21155

RE: HEARING ON UNDERSIZED LOT (15605 Dark Hollow Road) 5th Election District - 3rd Councilmanic District R. Jean Curtis - Owner/Applicant

Dear Mrs. Curtis:

Enclosed please find a copy of the decision rendered in the above-captioned matter. The building permit application has been approved in accordance with the attached Order.

In the event any party finds the decision rendered is unfavorable, any party may file an appeal to the County Board of Appeals within thirty (30) days of the date of this Order. For further information on filing an appeal, please contact the Permits and Development Management office at 887-3391.

Very truly yours,

TIMOTHY M. KOTROCO

Deputy Zoning Commissioner

for Baltimore County

TMK:bjs .

cc: Mr. John Nischwitz, 103 Fitz Court (T-2), Reisterstown, Md. 21136

Mr. Redmond Finney 15601 Dover Road, Upperco, Md. 21155

Mr. Edward Finney 15507 Dover Road, Upperco, Md. 21155

Mr. Ernest Levering 15627 Dark Hollow Road, Upperco, Md. 21155

File

4451-95

ERNEST D. LEVERING 15627 DARK HOLLOW RD. UPPERCO, MARYLAND 21155 9/21/95 50 63 To 63

September 18, 1995

Mr. Arnold Jablon
Director
Baltimore County Department of Permits
and Development Management
Development Processing
County Office Building
111 W. Chesapeake Ave.
Towson, Md. 21204

Dear Mr. Jablon,

We requested a hearing on the proposed development of an undersized lot at 15605 Dark Hollow Rd. in Upperco. It is our understanding that there is a pending contract for the sale of this lot and that a house is planned for construction. We will not be able to attend the hearing as we will be out of town. I am writing to express our objection to this development.

Our land borders this lot on two sides. As a neighbor, we are extremely concerned and believe that you should not grant any variances to current zoning rules. The lot size is just over one half an acre and as such, is not large enough for a new house. We are also concerned about set back, septic and well issues.

In addition to the zoning issues, we are troubled about what this type of development does to the countryside. The County and the State have spent a great deal of time and money, in cooperation with landowners, in trying to preserve open land. As you know, there are a number of farms in the area which are now in the Agricultural or Environmental Trust programs. We presently have an offer on the table to sell our development rights as part of the Ag Trust program and are waiting to hear if our offer has been accepted. It does not seem appropriate that an undersized lot be allowed for development when so much emphasis is being placed on the preservation of open land throughout the State.

Mr. Arnold Jablon September 18, 1995 Page 2.

We strongly object to a house on this property. We respectively request that our views be taken into consideration during your determination process.

Yours very truly,

Ernest D. Levering







Baltimore County
Department of Permits and
Development Management

Development Processing County Office Building 111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204

September 1, 1995

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR HEARING AND HEARING DATE FOR UNDERSIZED LOT PERMIT

Please note that a formal request for a public hearing to be held before the Zoning Comissioner has been filed with this office. Pursuant to Baltimore County Zoning Regulations, such hearing has been scheduled and will take place as follows:

HEARING ON UNDERSIZED LOT 15605 Dark Hollow Road 5th Election District - 3rd Councilmanic Legal Owners: R. Jean Curtis Applicant: John Nischwitz

HEARING: MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1995 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 118, Old Courthouse, 400 Washington Avenue, Towson Maryland.

Hearing to determine whether the Zoning Commissioner should approve the proposed improvements on an undersized lot.

Arnold Jablon Director

cc:

R. Jean Curtis John Nischwitz Ernest Levering R. Finney 15601 Dover Road, Upperco, Maryland 21155
Cuyet 29, 95
Permits and Development Maryland 21155
Town, Ad. 21204

Cam until the proposed bouse at
15605 Dowl Hollow Rd. I am owner
and resident of 15601 Dove Rd., and
my wife a property is directly

	RECO	MMENDATION FORM		
TO:	Director, Office of Planning and Zoning			8
	Attn: Ervin McDaniel			Permit Number
	County Courts Bldg, Rm 406			
	401 Bosley Av			
	Towson, MD 21204			
FROM:	Amold Jablon, Director, Zoning Administration and D	Development Management		
05.	Undersized Lots	RC-Z		
RE:	Direction 204 2/Politimen County Zerian	Desidetions) effective lune	25 4002: this affici	a la mana dina manana da
tions or	Pursuant to Section 304.2(Baltimore County Zoning and comments from the Office of Planning & Zoning prior			e is requesting recommenda-
uons an				
MINIMUN	APPLICANT SUPPLIED INFORMATION:	NTACT SINCE	1959	1
- ·	DOWN NISCHWITZ, 103 FITZ C	F(TZ) RESTERT	MD.	(410) 833 9365 4
				858 846
□ Lot A	UPPERCO, MD. 21155	Election District 05 C	ooncii District	Square Feet 25,000.
Lot Lo	ocation: N EDW/ (Ida) corner of DARK HOLLOW (street)	2D. 250 feet from NES W	corner of Pour	R RD
	(street)	<u> </u>	(street)	
. I and f	OWNER R JEAN CURTIS	Tax Account Number	05 - 03	077419
rase (WINT R SEAN COETS	IGY WELGER! WEIGHT		
Addre	15437 DOVER ROAD	Telephone	Number (4/0)	1429 4930 H
	UPPERCO, Mo. 21155			848 71116 W
	CHECKLIST OF MATERIALS: (to be submitted for design re	eview by the Office of Planni	ng and Zoning)	
		PROVIDED?		Residential Processing Fee Pai
		VEC	110	Codes 030 & 080 (\$85)
	1. This Recommendation Form (3 copies)	YES		CAL
,	1. 1113 8666 866 866 866 866 866 866 866 866 8			Accepted by A
	2. Permit Application		V	I- ICI A ZACH
				Date 10 AJG 15
	3. Site Pies Property (3 copies)	/		1
	Flobelty (3 copies)			
	Topo Map (available in Rm 206 C.O.S.) (2 copies)	·		
	(please label site clearly)			•
	4. Building Elevation Drawings	~		
	5. Photographs (please label all photos clearly)			
	Adjoining Buildings	V #15-17		
	Surrounding Neighborhood	V =1 - 14		
1				
•	TO BE FILLED IN BY THE	OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ZON	IING ONLY!	
RECOMM	ENDATIONS/COMMENTS:			
TV.	Annual Delanament DAnnual and	itianed an required modificat	ione of the name	to conform with the fallowing
1	pprovei Disepprovei Approval cond	moned ou rednited modificat	ions of the bennit	to conform with the following

Date: Oct 3, 1995

SCHEDULED DATES, CERTIFICATE OF FILING AND POSTING FOR A BUILDING PERMIT APPLICATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 304.2 ZONING ADMINISTRATION AND DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT.

County Office Building 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204

for filing by	on 10 Aug 95
TEV. STATE ISAN	Date ((A)
A sign indicating the proposed Building material fifteen (15) days before a decision (\$50.00 and posting \$35.00; total \$85.00.	ust be posted on the property for can be rendered. The cost of filing i
In the absence of a request for public hear a decision can be expected within approximate demand is received by the closing date, the after the required public special hearing.	mately four weeks. However, if a vali
*SUGGESTED POSTING DATE	20 5 D (15 Days Before C)
DATE POSTED	
HEARING REQUESTED-YESNODATE	The second secon
CLOSING DAY (LAST DAY FOR HEARING DEMAND)	
TENTATIVE DECISION DATE	9 Sept 95 B (A + 30 Days)
*Usually within 15 days of filing	The second second
	Lawrence with publication as
	Washington and the state of the
CERTIFICATE OF POSTING	
District Th	
Location of property: 13605 Dork A	follow Pod
ski ag driv, nelscom meng ad Li proce. Iber suscen ne percen	Thereas Thereasty District or
	Date of Posting: 8/18/85
Signature	
Number of Signs:	
CK/UNDER.LOT (TXTSOPH)	

CERTIFICATE OF POSTING ZONING DEPARTMENT OF BALTIMORE COUNTY Townen, Maryland

District 58	,	1 /	Date of	Posting_	9/8/95
Posted for: 43	dorsie	fot			
Petitioner: R	teon C	Cartis	*****		
Location of property:	15405	Dark Hollow	Rd.		
Location of Signs:	Facing	roodway on	proporty n	fus tr	ig pormit.
Remarks:	ull-1				1 -
Posted by	Signature	*********	Date of return	·	(15/95



TIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND
OFFICE OF FINANCE - REVENUE DIVISION
MISCELLANEOUS CASH RECEIPT

ACCOUNT

ACCOUNT

ACCOUNT

SST. OO

AMOUNT \$ 85.00

PERSIZED

POR:

DISTRIBUTION
WHITE - CASHER
PINK - AGENCY

VALIDATION OR SIGNATURE OF CASHIER
VILLOW - CUSTOMER

would like to regues (a hearing concerning au undersized lot on Dark Hollow Rel near Dover. Rd in apperco, md 21155 My addiverse & Phone number ave: # 833-2305 Mrs. Emes Levening 15627 Dark Hollow Rd Upperco, Md 21155.

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND
OFFICE OF FINANCE - REVENUE DIVISION
MISCELLANEOUS CASH RECEIPT

00.2331

8-31-95

ACCOUNT ROLL

ACCOUNT ROLL

RECEIVED ERNEST LEVERING
FROM:

HEARING REQUEST

DARK HOLLOW ROLL

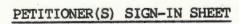
DARK HOLLOW ROLL

VALIDATION OR SIGNATURE OF CASHIER
WHITE-CASHER PINK-AGENCY YELLOW-CUSTOMER

	7538
8-22 85	7-1/520 2028
Can't	.00
100 00	LLARS
, , , , ,	
	\$40 00/00 00



NAME



PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

ADDRESS

R. JEAN CURTIS JOHN NISCHWITZ	15437 DOVER RD UPPERCO MD 2115 103 FITZ CT TO REISTERTOWN
	21131





PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

PROTESTANT(S) SIGN-IN SHEET

NAME	ADDRESS
Redmond Finney	15601 Dover Rd.
	15601 Dover Rd. Upperco, Md. 2115
EDWARD FINNEY	15567 BOVER ROAD UPPERCO MD. 21155
	UPPERCO MU. 21155
	· ·
	-

BALTIMO COUNTY, MARYLAND

OFFICE OF FINANCE - REVENUE DIVISION

MISCELLANEOUS CASH RECEIPT

DATE 11/02/95 ACCOUNT ROO1-7120

AMOUNT \$ 75.00

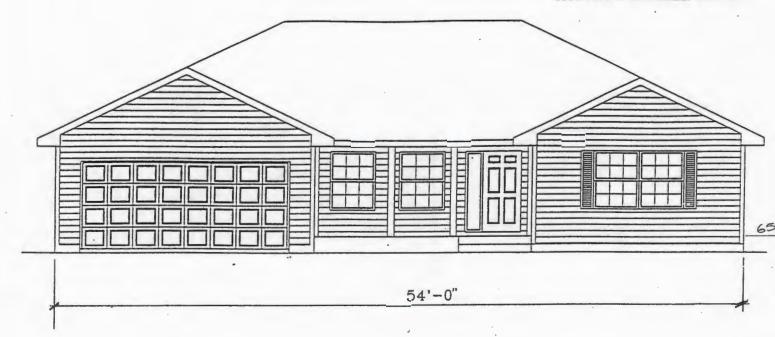
RECEIVED ROMAND C.S. FINNEY

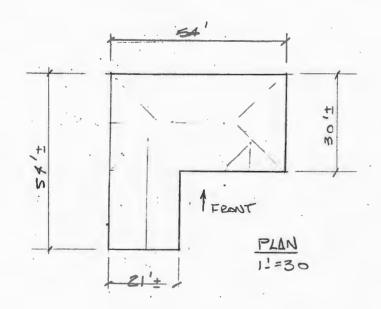
FOR: April Para Zoning Commissiones Older

Slads Dad Hallowell.

MATE CASHIER PINK - AGENCY YELLOW - CUSTOMER

TIMBERLINE I





PROPOSED HOUSE FRONT BLEVATION

