IN RE: PETITION FOR ADMIN. VARIANCE
NE/S Dogwood Road, NW
centerline of Whitestone Road extended
2nd Election District
4th Councilmanic District
(6730 Dogwood Road)

Sophelia L. & Elmer V. Sembly, III Petitioners BEFORE THE

* DEPUTY ZONING COMMISSIONER

* OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

* CASE NO. 05-247-SPHA

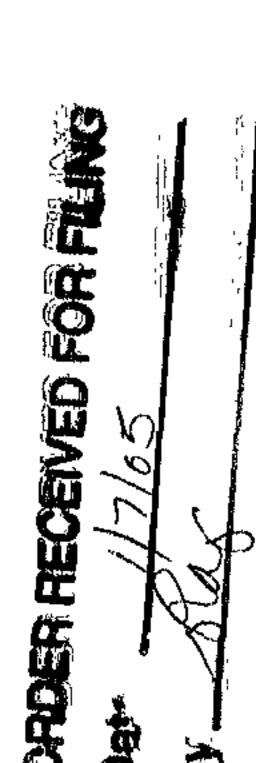
FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

This matter comes before this Deputy Zoning Commissioner as Petitions for Special Hearing and Variance filed by the legal owners of the subject property, Sophelia L. and Elmer V. Sembly. The special hearing and variance requests are for property located at 6730 Dogwood Road in Baltimore County. The special hearing request is filed pursuant to Section 500.7 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.), to allow an amendment to the previously approved site plan from Zoning Case No. 03-151-A. In addition, a variance is requested from Sections 1B01.2C.1. and 1B01.1.B.1.(e) of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations, to permit a proposed church with a 15 ft. front and 15 ft. rear setback in lieu of the required 40 ft. and 30 ft. respectively, and to permit a residential transition area of a minimum of 10 ft. for the church and parking lot in lieu of the required 100 ft. The subject property and requested relief are more particularly described on Petitioners' Exhibit No. 1, the plat to accompany the Petition for Variance.

The property was posted with Notice of Hearing on December 11, 2004, for 15 days prior to the hearing, in order to notify all interested citizens of the requested zoning relief. In addition, a Notice of Zoning hearing was published in "The Jeffersonian" newspaper on December 14, 2004 to notify any interested persons of the scheduled hearing date

Applicable Law

Section 307 of the B.C.Z.R. - Variances.



"The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County and the County Board of Appeals, upon appeal, shall have and they are hereby given the power to grant variances from height and area regulations, from off-street parking regulations, and from sign regulations only in cases where special circumstances or conditions exist that are peculiar to the land or structure which is the subject of the variance request and where strict compliance with the Zoning Regulations for Baltimore County would result in practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship. No increase in residential density beyond that otherwise allowable by the Zoning Regulations shall be permitted as a result of any such grant of a variance from height or area regulations. Furthermore, any such variance shall be granted only if in strict harmony with the spirit and intent of said height, area, off-street parking or sign regulations, and only in such manner as to grant relief without injury to the public health, safety and general welfare. They shall have no power to grant any other variances. Before granting any variance, the Zoning Commissioner shall require public notice to be given and shall hold a public hearing upon any application for a variance in the same manner as in the case of a petition for reclassification. Any order by the Zoning Commissioner or the County Board of Appeals granting a variance shall contain a finding of fact setting forth and specifying the reason or reasons for making such variance."

Section 500.7 of the B.C.Z.R. Special Hearings

The Zoning Commissioner shall have the power to conduct such other hearings and pass such orders thereon as shall in his discretion be necessary for the proper enforcement of all zoning regulations, subject to the right of appeal to the County Board of Appeals. The power given hereunder shall include the right of any interested persons to petition the Zoning Commissioner for a public hearing after advertisement and notice to determine the existence of any non conforming use on any premises or to determine any rights whatsoever of such person in any property in Baltimore County insofar as they may be affected by these regulations.

Zoning Advisory Committee Comments

The Zoning Advisory Committee (ZAC) comments are made part of the record of this case and contain the following highlights: A ZAC comment was received from the Bureau of Development Plans Review dated December 7, 2004. In addition, a ZAC comment was received from the Office of Planning dated December 10, 2004, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

<u>Interested Persons</u>

Appearing at the hearing on behalf of the requested special hearing and variance relief were Ronald Dorsey, Annie Dorsey, Daisha McNair, Theresa Minor, and Elmer Sembly, III and Lynn Sembly, Petitioners. Joseph Larson from the consulting firm that prepared the site plan presented the Petitioner's case. Sharon Neal attended the hearing as an adjacent property owner

and interested citizen. People's Counsel, Peter Max Zimmerman, entered the appearance of his office in this case.

Testimony and Evidence

The subject property is composed of two parcels shown on Petitioners' Exhibit 1 as Lot A and Lot B, both of which are zoned DR 5.5 and vacant. Lot A is situated between a paper street known as James Place and Dogwood Road. This lot was the subject of Zoning Case No. 03-151-A in which the Zoning Commissioner granted variances from setback and Residential Transition Area (RTA) requirements so that a 90-seat church could be built on the property. Mr. Larson proffered that while the Petitioners were going through the permit process to build the church, Lot B, which lies to the north across James Place, became available. Lot A rises steeply from Dogwood Road and would have been a difficult project to grade for the church and parking lot. Consequently, the Petitioners purchased Lot B and present a rearranged plan for the church which will now be built on Lot B. The parking lot for the church will be on Lot A and provide 62 spaces. Twenty-three spaces are required.

Lot B is approximately 102 ft. x 120 ft. and consists of 0.28 acres. The same 40 ft. x 90 ft. church is proposed, as approved in the prior case. However, this leaves only 30 ft. beyond the church length dimension (15 ft. on each end) and so the Petitioners can not meet the front yard setback requirement of 40 ft. and rear yard setback of 30 ft. Indeed, if the setback requirements are strictly enforced the church could only be half the presently planned size. Rotating the building 90 degrees makes the setback problem worse as the lot is 102 ft. in width.

Similarly to the prior case, the Petitioners presented many letters of support from nearby property owners. However, Ms. Neal who owns the property to the west of Lot B indicated that she was concerned that the proposed church would adversely affect her use of her property. She wanted significant screening between her property and the church and to move the church away

from her property as far as possible. The Petitioners agreed and Mr. Larson proffered that the Petitioners could move the church an additional 15 ft. to the east. With this change Ms. Neal indicated her support for the project. The Petitioners indicated that property owners on the other side of Lot B would not object to this change.

However, in reviewing the applicable zoning regulations after the hearing, it appears that the most the Petitioners can move the church to the east is 5 additional feet because Section 1B01.2.C.1 a requires a 20 ft. side yard setback. Neither Mr. Larson nor the undersigned Deputy Commissioner realized this fact during the hearing. Having since discovered the problem, Mr. Larson contacted Ms. Neal to explain the situation. He reported in his January 4, 2005 letter, which is now part of the file, that Ms. Neal does not object to the Petitioners' correcting Exhibit 1 to show the sidewalk for the church having a 30 ft. setback from her property rather than the 40 ft. dimension given at the hearing. She would, however, like specific input as to the selection of screening flora and that the screening be setback 10 ft. from the boundary between the properties.

Mr. Larson indicated that Lots A and B are part of the "Richardson Heights" subdivision which was recorded in the Land Records for Baltimore County in 1924 as shown by the subdivision plat Exhibit 4. Lot A is composed of Lots 14 through 18 of Section B of Richardson Heights while Lot B is composed of lots 14 through 18 and lots 1 through 7 of Section A of the same subdivision. He noted that this subdivision was recorded in the Land Records much before the DR zoning regulations were imposed.

In regard to the RTA variance, the Zoning Regulations require a 100 ft. buffer width for the church and parking lot. Lot B (the church) is only 102 ft. wide and so the RTA buffer can not reasonably be provided between the church and the adjoining residential uses. Similarly, the

parking on Lot A can not reasonably be buffered by a 100 ft. strip from adjacent residences as Lot A is only 170 ft. wide.

Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law

I find special circumstances or conditions exist that are peculiar to the land or structure which is the subject of the requests. Lot A has previously been found by the Zoning Commissioner to be unique in a zoning sense. In addition to its odd shape, the land rises sharply from Dogwood Road which is the reason the Petitioners ultimately purchased Lot B because it is somewhat more on grade with the northern part of Lot A. Taking Lots A and B together the shape of the subject property is more irregular than before. In addition, as Mr. Larson points out, the underlying lots of the Richardson Heights subdivision were recorded in the Land Records much before the DR zoning regulations were imposed. It is not as if there is a clean slate to work with such as when new subdivisions are proposed after the Zoning Regulations are imposed. Consequently, I find the subject property unique in a zoning sense.

I also find that strict compliance with the Zoning Regulations for Baltimore County would result in practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship. Lot B is only 120 ft. long and unless the church were to be one half the size previously approved, the front and rear setback requirements can not practically be met.

Furthermore, I find that these variances can be granted in strict harmony with the spirit and intent of said regulations, and in such manner as to grant relief without injury to the public health, safety and general welfare. There will be no adverse impact on the community with proper screening of the church from adjacent properties.

In regard to the RTA variance, the Zoning Regulations require a 100 ft. buffer width for the church and parking lot. Lot B (the church) is only 102 ft. wide and so the RTA buffer can not reasonably be provided between the church and the adjoining residential uses. Similarly, the

parking on Lot A can not reasonably be buffered by a 100 ft. strip from adjacent residences as Lot A is only 170 ft. wide. I find that the proposed 10 ft. RTA area around the church and parking lot will not adversely affect adjoining residential properties if the dense evergreen plantings and privacy fence suggested by the Office of Planning and Ms. Neal are incorporated into the plan.

Having approved the requested variances I will approve the special hearing request to amend the previously approved site plan from Zoning Case No. 03-151-A for the reasons given above.

Pursuant to the advertisement, posting of the property, and public hearing on these petitions held, and after considering the testimony and evidence offered by the Petitioners, I find that the Petitioners' variance and special hearing requests should be granted.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, by the Deputy Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County, this 7 day of January, 2005, that the Petitioners' request for Special Hearing relief pursuant to Section 500.7 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.), to allow an amendment to the previously approved site plan from Zoning Case No. 03-151-A, be and is hereby GRANTED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that the variance relief requested from Sections 1B01.2C.1 and 1B01.1.B.1.(e) to permit a proposed church with a 15 ft. front and 15 ft. rear setback in lieu of the required 40 ft. and 30 ft. respectively and to permit a residential transition area of a minimum of 10 ft. for the church and parking lot in lieu of the required 100 ft., be and is hereby GRANTED, subject, however, to the to the following restrictions which are conditions precedent to the relief granted herein:

1. The Petitioners may apply for their building permit and be granted same upon receipt of this Order; however, Petitioners are hereby made aware that proceeding at this time is at their own risk until such time as the 30 day appellate process from this Order has expired. If, for whatever reason, this Order is reversed, the Petitioners would be

required to return, and be responsible for returning, said property to its original condition;

- 2. Compliance with the ZAC comments submitted by the Office of Planning dated December 10, 2004, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof, including but not limited to providing dense evergreen screening and lighting approved by the Baltimore County Landscape Architect after consultation with Ms. Neal. Said screening shall be set 10 feet onto the Petitioner's property from the boundary between the Petitioner and Neal properties in accord with the agreement between Ms. Neal and the Petitioner shown in Mr. Larson's letter of January 4, 2005 included in the file:
- 3. Compliance with the ZAC comments submitted by the Bureau of Development Plans Review dated December 7, 2004, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof;
- 4. When applying for a building permit, the site plan filed must reference this case and set forth and address the restrictions of this Order.

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

JOHN V. MURPHY

DEPUTY ZONING COMMISSIONER

FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY

JVM:raj

SPORFINED FOR FULLIONS

Zoning Commissioner

Suite 405, County Courts Building 401 Bosley Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204 Tel: 410-887-3868 • Fax: 410-887-3468



Baltimore County

James T. Smith, Jr., County Executive William J. Wiseman III, Zoning Commissioner

January 4, 2005

Mr. & Mrs. Elmer V. Sembly, III 755 Friendship Road Westminster, Maryland 21157

> Re: Petitions for Special Hearing & Variance Case No. 05-247-SPHA Property: 6730 Dogwood Road

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Sembly:

Enclosed please find the decision rendered in the above-captioned case. The petitions for special hearing and variance have been granted in accordance with the enclosed Order.

In the event the decision rendered is unfavorable to any party, please be advised that any party may file an appeal within thirty (30) days from the date of the Order to the Department of Permits and Development Management. If you require additional information concerning filing an appeal, please feel free to contact our appeals clerk at 410-887-3391.

Very truly yours,

John V. Murphy

Deputy Zoning Commissioner

JVM:raj Enclosure

c: Joseph L. Larson
Spellman & Larson
105 W. Chesapeake Avenue
Towson, MD 21204

Daisha McNair 1407 Coldstream Road Baltimore, MD 21221

Sharon F. Neal 6719 Meekins Ave. Baltimore, MD 21207 Ronald & Annie Dorsey 4740 Shamrock Ave. Baltimore, MD 21206

Theresa Minor 3928 Elmora Ave. Baltimore, MD 21213



Visit the County's Website at www.baltimorecountyonline.info



POEH HECEIVED F

R\$U 9|15|98

Petition for Special Hearing

to the Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County

for the property located at	6730 Dogwood	Road	-
	presently zoned		

This Petition shall be flied with the Department of Permits and Development Management. The undersigned, legal owner(s) of the property situate in Baltimore County and which is described in the description and plat attached hereto and made a part hereof, hereby petition for a Special Hearing under Section 500.7 of the Zoning Regulations of Baltimore County, to determine whether or not the Zoning Commissioner should approve

Refer to attached sheet.

Property is to be posted and advertised as prescribed by the zoning regulations.

I, or we, agree to pay expenses of above Special Hearing, advertising, posting, etc. and further agree to and are to be bounded by the zoning regulations and restrictions of Baltimore County adopted pursuant to the zoning law for Baltimore County.

	•		I/We do solemnly declar perjury, that I/we are the subject of this Pe	re and affirm, unde e legal owner(s) of tition.	r the penalties of the property which
Contract Purchaser	/Lessee:	-	Legal Owner(s):	•	-
Name - Type or Print	•	,	Name Type of Rring		
Signature Not appl	icable		Signature Sophelia L. Semb	oly	
Address		Telephone No.	Name - Type or Print	······································	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
City	State	Zlp Code	Signature		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Attorney For Petitio	ner:		755 Friendship R Address Westminster	Road MD	410-840-8455 Telephone No
Name - Type or Print		· -	City	, State	21157 Zlp Code
Signature	······································		<i>Representative to</i> Joseph L. Larson	,	1
ompany	*************************************		Name		
Address		Telephone No.	105 W. Chesapeak Address Towson	e Avenue MD	410-823-3535 Telephone No. 21204
City	State	ZIp Code	City	State	Zip Code
		•	<u>OFFI</u>	CE USE ONLY	
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Sase No. 05-2	47-SP4A		UNAVATI ARI E FOR	HEADTNIG	1

Reviewed By DiT.

Date ____



An amendment to the previously approved Site Plan from Zoning Case No. 03-151-A.



Petition for Variance

to the Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County

for the property located at 6730 Dogwood Road DR 5.5 which is presently zoned ___

This Petition shall be filed with the Department of Permits and Development Management. The undersigned, legaowner(s) of the property situate in Baltimore County and which is described in the description and plat attached hereto an: made a part hereof, hereby petition for a Variance from Section(s)

Refer to attached sheet.

of the Zoning Regulations of Baltimore County, to the zoning law of Baltimore County, for the following reasons: (indicate hardship or practical difficulty)

Argument and reasons to be presented at the hearing.

Property is to be posted and advertised as prescribed by the zoning regulations. i, or we, agree to pay expenses of above Variance, advertising, posting, etc. and further agree to and are to be bounded by the zoning regulations and restrictions of Baltimore County adopted pursuant to the zoning law for Baltimore County.

Contract Purchaser/Lessee: Name - Type or Print Signature Not applicable Telephone No. Address Zip Code State Cay Attorney For Petitioner: Name - Type or Print Signature Company Telephone No. Address State lase No.

POER RECEIVED

I/We do solemnly declare and affirm, under the penalties of perjury, that I/we are the legal owner(s) of the property which is the subject of this Petition.

Legal Owner(s):		,
Elmer V. Semblev.	Ţ	
Name Type or Print		
"Skanature"		
0		
Sophelia L. Sembley	<u></u>	<u></u>
Name - Type or Print	£ .	
Sophelin XX	Semle	
Signature		()
755 Friendship Road	410	0-840-8455
Address		Telephone No
Westminster	MD	21157
City	State	Zip Code
Denverantative to be Co	intactod!	•
Representative to be Co	MICALICAT	
Joseph L. Larson		<u>,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,</u>
Name		
105 W. Chesapeake Av	enue	410-823-3535
Address		Telephone No
Towson	MD	2]204 Zip G ode
City	State	Zip Gode

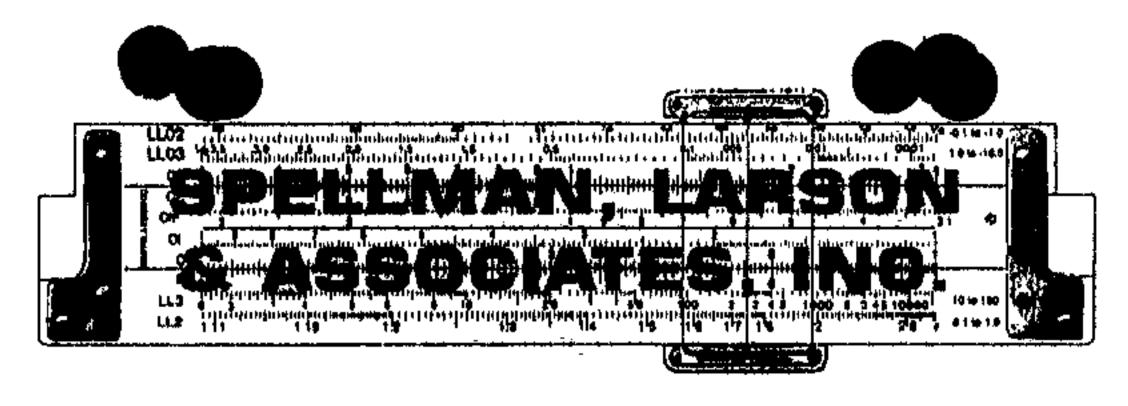
OFFICE USE ONLY

ESTIMATED LENGTH OF HEARING UNAVAILABLE FOR HEARING Date Reviewed By D.T.

VARIANCE PETITION

1B01.218.1., 1B01.1.B.1.a.(1)
To permit a proposed church with a 15' front and 15' rear setback in lieu of the required 40' and 30' respectively and to permit a residential transition area of a minimum of 10' for the church and parking lot in lieu of the required 100'.





ROBERT E. SPELLMAN, P.L.S JOSEPH L. LARSON

CIVIL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS 105 W. CHESAPEAKE AVENUE TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204 TEL (410) 823-3535 / FAX (410) 825-5215

LOT A

DESCRIPTION FOR A ZONING PETITION, SEMBLY PROPERTY, 6730 DOGWOOD ROAD, 2nd ELECTION DISTRICT, BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

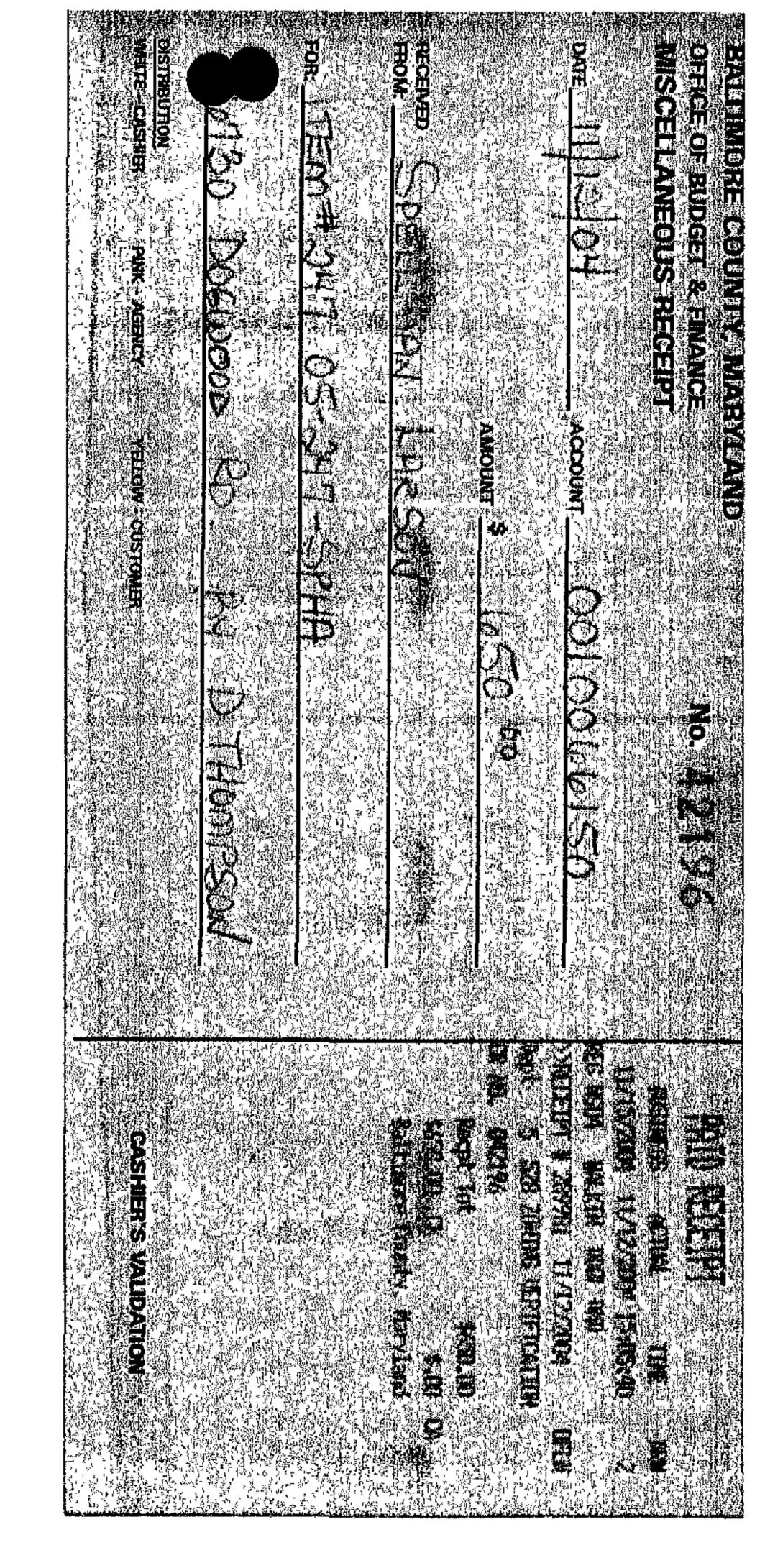
BEGINNING for the same at a point on the north side of Dogwood Road, 45 feet wide, at the distance of 225 feet, more or less, measured along the north side of Dogwood Road from the center line of Featherbed Lane, 30 feet wide, and running thence and binding on the north side of Dogwood Road south 64 degrees 42 minutes east 126.92 feet thence leaving the north side of Dogwood Road and running north 40 degrees 30 minutes east 171.4 feet to the south side of James Place, a 40 foot wide unimproved road and running thence on the south side of James Place north 49 degrees 30 minutes west 170.76 feet thence leaving James Place and running south 40 degrees 30 minutes west 125 feet south 49 degrees 30 minutes east 48.24 feet and south 40 degrees 30 minutes west 79.64 feet to the place of beginning.

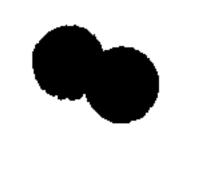
CONTAINING 0.67 acres of land more or less.

October 1, 2004

File#D11010401







The Zoning Commissioner of Baitimore Gounty, by authority of the Zöning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County will hold a public hearing in Towson, Maryland on the property identified herein as follows:

Case: #05-247-SPHA-6730 Dogwood Road
N/east side of Dogwood Road, n/west of centerline of Whitestone Road extended
2nd Election District—4th Councilmanic District
Legal Owner(s): Elmer V, and Sophelia L. Sembly
Spacial Hearing: to allow an amendment to the previously approved site plan from Zoning Case No. 03-151-A. Variance: to permit a proposed church with a 15-foot front rear setback in lieu of the required 40 feet and 30 feet respectively and to permit a residential transition area of a minimum of 10 feet for the church and parking lot in lieu of the required 100 feet.

Hearing: Tuesday, December 28, 2004 at 2:00 p.m. in Room 407, County Courts Building, 401 Bosley Avenue, Towson 21204.

WILLIAM WISEMAN

Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County

NOTES: (1) Hearings are Handicapped Accessible; for special accommodations Please Contact the Zoning Commissioner's Office at (410) 887-4386.

(2) For information concerning the File and/or Hearing, Contact the Zoning Review Office at (410) 887-3391.

JT/12/852 Dec. 14

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION

<u>2004</u>
THIS IS TO CERTIFY, that the annexed advertisement was published
n the following weekly newspaper published in Baltimore County, Md.,
once in each ofsuccessive weeks, the first publication appearing
$\frac{12}{14}$, $\frac{2004}{}$
The Jeffersonian
Arbutus Times
☐ Catonsville Times
☐ Towson Times
Owings Mills Times
☐ NE Booster/Reporter
☐ North County News
S. Wilking

LEGAL ADVERTISING

CEFUICATE OF POSTIN

ATTENTION: KRISTEN MATTHEWS
Date December 14, 2004

RE: Case Number D5-247-SPHA

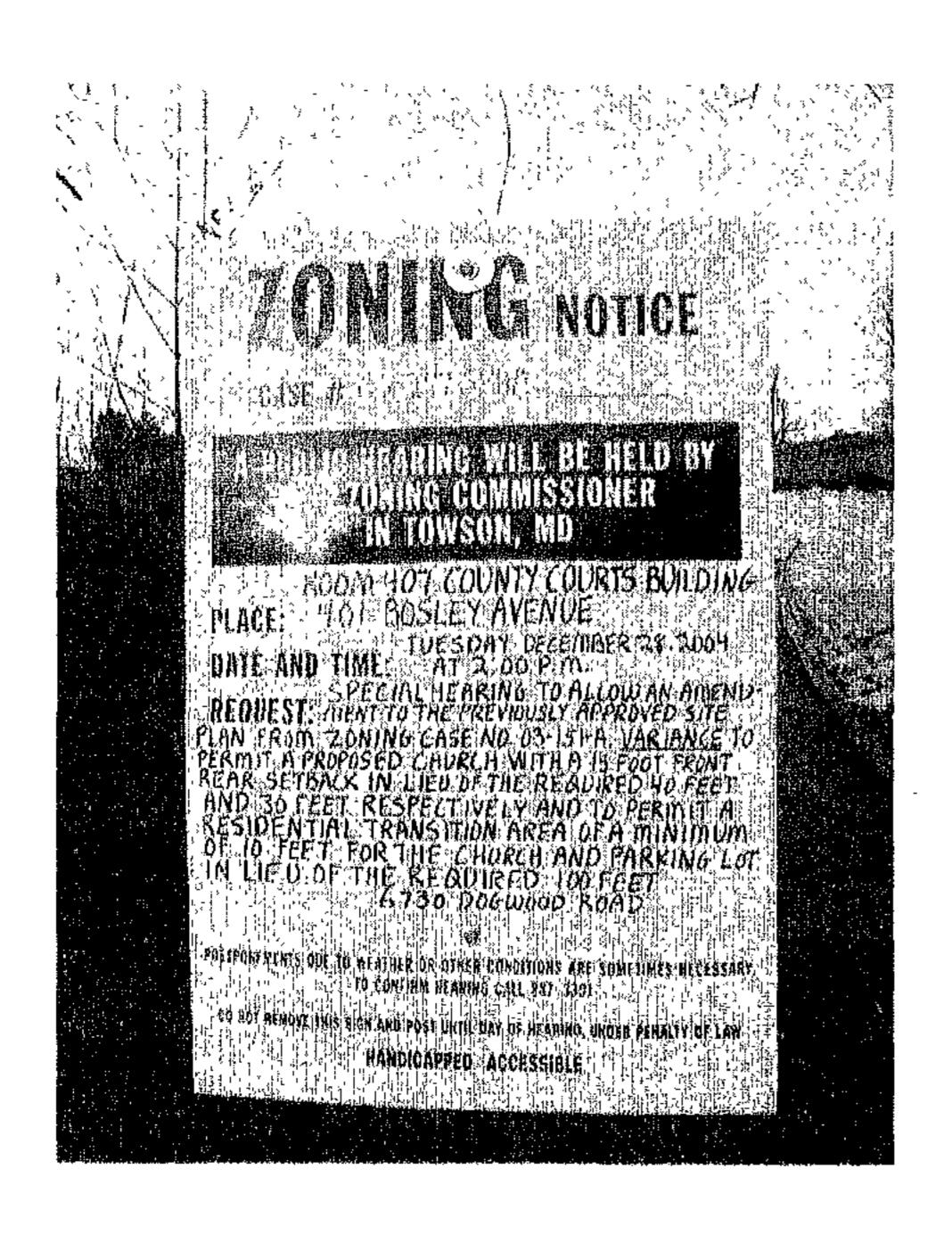
Petitioner/Developer ELMER + SOPHELIA SEMBLY / JOSEPH LARSON

Date of Hearing/Closing DECEMBER 28, 2004

This is to certify under the penalties of perjury that the necessary sign(s) required by law were posted conspicuously on the property located at $6730~\rho b \omega 000~e \rho$.

The sign(s) were posted on

December 11, 2004



(Signature of Sign Poster)

Linda O'Keefe (Printed Name of Sign Poster)

523 Penny Lane (Street Address of Sign Poster)

Hunt Valley Maryland 21030 (City, State, Zip Code of Sign Poster)

410-666-5366 (Telephone Number of Sign Poster)

Department of Permits and Development Management

Director's Office County Office Building 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204 Tel: 410-887-3353 • Fax: 410-887-5708



Baltimore County

James T. Smith, Jr., County Executive Timothy M. Kotroco, Director

November 26, 2004

NOTICE OF ZONING HEARING

The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County, will hold a public hearing in Towson, Maryland on the property identified herein as follows:

CASE NUMBER: 05-247-SPHA

6730 Dogwood Road

N/east side of Dogwood Road, n/west of centerline of Whitestone Road extended 2nd Election District – 4th Councilmanic District

Legal Owners: Elmer V. and Sophelia L. Sembly

Special Hearing to allow an amendment to the previously approved site plan from Zoning Case No. 03-151-A. <u>Variance</u> to permit a proposed church with a 15-foot front rear setback in lieu of the required 40 feet and 30 feet respectively and to permit a residential transition area of a minimum of 10 feet for the church and parking lot in lieu of the required 100 feet.

Hearing: Tuesday, December 28, 2004 at 2:00 p.m. in Room 407, County Courts Building, 401 Bosley Avenue, Towson 21204

Timothy Kotroco

Director

TK:klm

C: Elmer & Sophelia Sembly, 755 Friendship Rd., Westminster 21157 Joseph Larson, 105 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Towson 21204

NOTES: (1) THE PETITIONER MUST HAVE THE ZONING NOTICE SIGN POSTED BY AN APPROVED POSTER ON THE PROPERTY BY MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2 004.

- (2) HEARINGS ARE HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE; FOR SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS PLEASE CALL THE ZONING COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AT 410-887-4386.
- (3) FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING THE FILE AND/OR HEARING, CONTACT THE ZONING REVIEW OFFICE AT 410-887-3391.



Visit the County's Website at www.baltimorecountyonline.info

TO: PATUXENT PUBLISHING COMPANY

Tuesday, December 14, 2004 Issue - Jeffersonian

Please forward billing to:

Elmer Sembly 755 Friendship Road Westminster, MD 21157

410-840-8455

NOTICE OF ZONING HEARING

The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County, will hold a public hearing in Towson, Maryland on the property identified herein as follows:

CASE NUMBER: 05-247-SPHA

6730 Dogwood Road

N/east side of Dogwood Road, n/west of centerline of Whitestone Road extended

2nd Election District – 4th Councilmanic District

Legal Owners: Elmer V. and Sophelia L. Sembly

Special Hearing to allow an amendment to the previously approved site plan from Zoning Case No. 03-151-A. Variance to permit a proposed church with a 15-foot front rear setbackin lieu of the required 40 feet and 30 feet respectively and to permit a residential transition area of a minimum of 10 feet for the church and parking lot in lieu of the required 100 feet.

Hearing: Tuesday, December 28, 2004 at 2:00 p.m. in Room 407, County Courts Building, 401 Bosley Avenue, Towson 21204

WILLIAM WISEMAN

ZONING COMMISSIONER FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY

NOTES: (1) HEARINGS ARE HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE; FOR SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS, PLEASE CONTACT THE ZONING COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AT 410-887-4386.

(2) FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING THE FILE AND/OR HEARING, CONTACT THE ZONING REVIEW OFFICE AT 410-887-3391.





DEPARTMENT OF PERMITS AND DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT ZONING REVIEW

ADVERTISING REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES FOR ZONING HEARINGS

The <u>Baltimore County Zoning Regulations</u> (BCZR) require that notice be given to the general public/neighboring property owners relative to property which is the subject of an upcoming zoning hearing. For those petitions which require a public hearing, this notice is accomplished by posting a sign on the property (responsibility of the petitioner) and placement of a notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the County, both at least fifteen (15) days before the hearing.

Zoning Review will ensure that the legal requirements for advertising are satisfied. However, the petitioner is responsible for the costs associated with these requirements. The newspaper will bill the person listed below for the advertising. This advertising is due upon receipt and should be remitted directly to the newspaper.

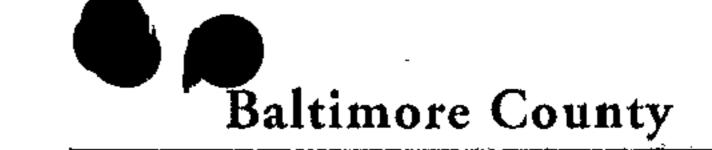
OPINIONS MAY NOT BE ISSUED UNTIL ALL ADVERTISING COSTS ARE PAID.

For Newspaper Advertising:							
Item Number or Case	e Number:	05-247-SP	·HA				
Petitioner:	P. ELMER	CEMBLY					
		Dogwoo	00.				
PLEASE FORWARD	ADVERTISING BILL	. TO:					
Name: Me_E	ELMER CE	NABLY					
Address: 755							
<u></u>	ESTMINST		21157				
Telephone Number:	- ·	340-83455	<u></u>				
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Department of Permits Development Management

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





James T. Smith, Jr., County Executive Timothy M. Kotroco, Director

December 21, 2004

Elmer V. Sembly, III Sophelia L. Sembly 755 Friendship Road Westminster, Maryland 21157

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Sembly:

RE: Case Number: 05-247-SPHA, 6730 Dogwood Road

The above referenced petition was accepted for processing by the Bureau of Zoning Review, Department of Permits and Development Management (PDM) on November 12, 2004.

The Zoning Advisory Committee (ZAC), which consists of representatives from several approval agencies, has reviewed the plans that were submitted with your petition. All comments submitted thus far from the members of the ZAC are attached. These comments are not intended to indicate the appropriateness of the zoning action requested, but to ensure that all parties (zoning commissioner, attorney, petitioner, etc.) are made aware of plans or problems with regard to the proposed improvements that may have a bearing on this case. All comments will be placed in the permanent case file.

If you need further information or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the commenting agency.

Very truly yours,

W. Call Rihall

W. Carl Richards, Jr. Supervisor, Zoning Review

WCR: clb

Enclosures

People's Counsel C: Joseph Larson 105 W. Chesapeake Avenue Towson 21204



Visit the County's Website at www.baltimorecountyonline.info

Fire Department

700 East Joppa Road Towson, Maryland 21286-5500 Tel: 410-887-4500



Baltimore County

James T Smith, Jr., County Executive John J. Hohman, Chief

County Office Building, Room 111 Mail Stop #1105 111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204

November 22, 2004

ATTENTION: Zoning Review planners

Distribution Meeting of: November 22, 2004

Item No.:

227-241, 243, 245-249

Pursuant to your request, the referenced plan(s) have been reviewed by this Bureau and the comments below are applicable and required to be corrected or incorporated into the final plans for the property.

6. The Fire Marshal's Office has no comments at this time.

LIEUTENANT JIM MEZICK Fire Marshal's Office PHONE 887-4881 MS-1102F

cc: File



Visit the County's Website at www.baltimorecountyonline.info



Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Governor Michael S. Steele, Lt. Governor

Robert L. Flanagan, Secretary Neil J. Pedersen, Administrator

Maryland Department of Transportation

Date:

11.22.04

Ms. Kristen Matthews
Baltimore County Office of
Permits and Development Management
County Office Building, Room 109
Towson, Maryland 21204

RE:

Baltimore Count

Item No.

TOT

Dear. Ms. Matthews:

This office has reviewed the referenced item and we have no objection to approval as it does not access a State roadway and is not affected by any State Highway Administration projects.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Larry Gredlein at 410-545-5606 or by E-mail at (lgredlein@sha.state.md.us).

Very truly yours,

Steven D. Foster, Chief

1. J. Hell

Engineering Access Permits Division

My My

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT.

TO:

Tim Kotroco

PDM

FROM:

John D. Oltman, Jr IPO

DEPRM

DATE:

December 10, 2004

SUBJECT:

Zoning Items # See List Below

Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting of November 22, 2004.

X The Department of Environmental Protection and Resource Management has no comments on the following zoning items:

05-229 05-230 05-232 05-234 05-235 05-238 05-239 05-240 05-241 05-242 05-243 05-243 05-244 05-245

05-247

05-248

05-227

Reviewers: Sue Farinetti, Dave Lykens

RECEIVED

DEC 1 0 2004

ZONING COMMISSIONER



BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO:

Timothy M. Kotroco, Director

Department of Permits and Development Management

FROM:

Arnold F. 'Pat' Keller, III

Director, Office of Planning

RECEIVED

DATE: December 10, 2004

DEC 1 3 2004

ZONING COMMISSIONER

SUBJECT:

6730 Dogwood Road

INFORMATION:

Item Number:

5-247

Petitioner:

Elmer Sembley

Zoning:

DR 5.5

Requested Action:

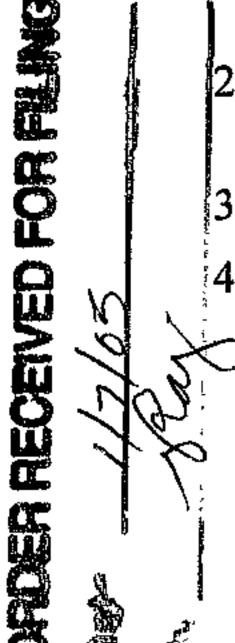
Variance

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Per Section 1B01.1B.1.(6) of the BCZR, a finding shall be conducted relative to new churches or other building for religious worship to determine that "the proposed improvements are planned in such a way that compliance, to the extent possible with RTA use requirement, will be maintained and that said plan can otherwise be expected to be compatible with the character and general welfare of the surrounding residential premises."

The Office of Planning does not oppose the petitioner's request provided the following conditions are met:

- 1. Submit building elevations to the Office of Planning for review and approval prior to applying for a building permit.
- Install a compact dense evergreen screening in conjunction with a 6-foot high wood privacy fence wherever the requested variances adjoin residential property lines.
- Direct all exterior lighting away from all adjacent residential use.
- 4. Limit the height of all exterior lighting to 14 feet.



5. Submit a landscape and lighting plan to Avery Harden, Baltimore County's Landscape Architect for review and approval.

Prepared by:

Division Chief:

AFK/LL:MAC:

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W:\DEVREV\ZAC\5-247.doc

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO:

Timothy M. Kotroco, Director

DATE: December 7, 2004

Department of Permits & Development Management

FROM:

Robert W. Bowling, Supervisor

Bureau of Development Plans

Review

SUBJECT:

Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting

For November 29, 2004

Item No.(247)

The Bureau of Development Plans Review has reviewed the subject-zoning item.

James Place shall be improved as a 30-foot street cross section with curb and gutter across the frontage of lot "B".

The right-of-way for James Place in front of lots A and B shall be deeded over to Baltimore County at no cost at this time.

The means of providing water and sewer service to the church building shall be clearly established.

The minimum drive aisle between perpendicular parking spaces is 22 feet wide.

RWB:CEN:jrb

cc: File

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ZAC-11-29-2004-ITEM NO 247-12092004

PETITION FOR SPECIAL HEARING RE:

AND VARIANCE

6730 Dogwood Road; NE/side Dogwood Rd,*

NW c/line Whitestone Road extended

2nd Election & 4th Councilmanic Districts

Legal Owner(s): Elmer & Sophelia Sembly

Petitioner(s)

BEFORE THE

ZONING COMMISSIONER

FOR

BALTIMORE COUNTY

05-247-SPHA

ENTRY OF APPEARANCE

Please enter the appearance of People's Counsel in the above-captioned matter. Notice should be sent of any hearing dates or other proceedings in this matter and the passage of any preliminary or final Order. All parties should copy People's Counsel on all correspondence sent/ documentation filed in the case.

RECEIVED

NOV 2 4 2004

People's Counsel for Baltimore County

CAROLE S. DEMILIO

Deputy People's Counsel Old Courthouse, Room 47

400 Washington Avenue

Towson, MD 21204

(410) 887-2188

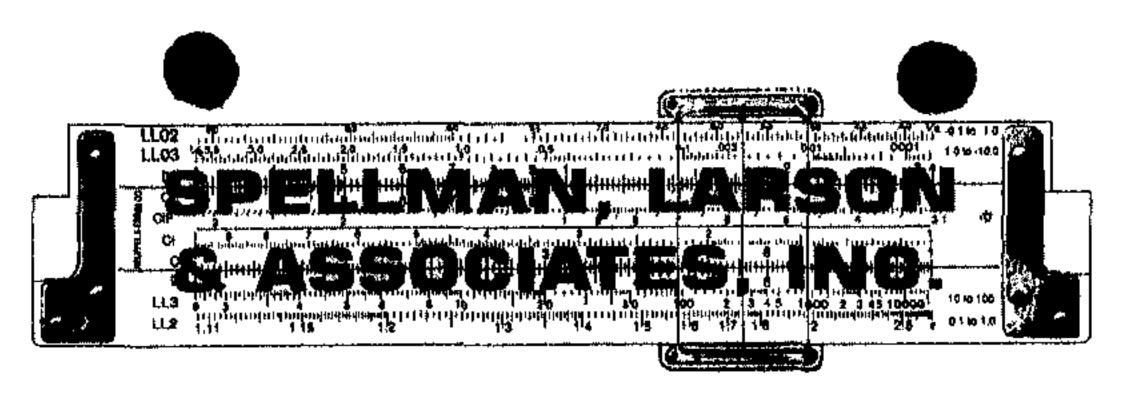
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 24th day of November, 2004, a copy of the foregoing Entry of Appearance was mailed to Joseph Larson, 105 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Towson, MD 21204, Representative for Petitioner(s).

PETER MAX ZIMMERMAN

People's Counsel for Baltimore County





ROBERT E. SPELLMAN, P.L.S. JOSEPH L. LARSON

CIVIL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS

105 W. CHESAPEAKE AVENUE TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204 TEL (410) 823-3535 / FAX (410) 825-5215

Mr. Carl Richards, Supervisor

November 18, 2004

Office of Zoning
Dept. of Permits and Development Management
Baltimore County

Re: Sembly Project

Job No. 202015 6730 Dogwood Road Case No. 05-247 SPHA

Dear Carl,

Zoning Petitions have been filed for the above captioned project for a Special Exception and Variance as identified as Case No. 05-247 SPHA..

I am herein respectfully requesting your consideration and cooperation in setting this Case in for an expedited Hearing date at your earliest possible convenience due to serious time contraints affecting the property.

The project was granted zoning relief previously by Case No. 03-151-A but has been delayed due to an acquisition of a second parcel of property which has required us to re-file for the above mentioned new Zoning Petitions prior to Site Development Plan processing.

We expect no opposition and a very brief hearing as was the situation with the previous Hearing.

The acquisition of the new parcel has caused unfortunate delays but will provide a more functional site development.

The project has enjoyed neighborhood support and for these reasons we are hoping we can obtain your cooperation since the Hearing should be quite brief.

I sincerely appreciate whatever assistance you can afford us.

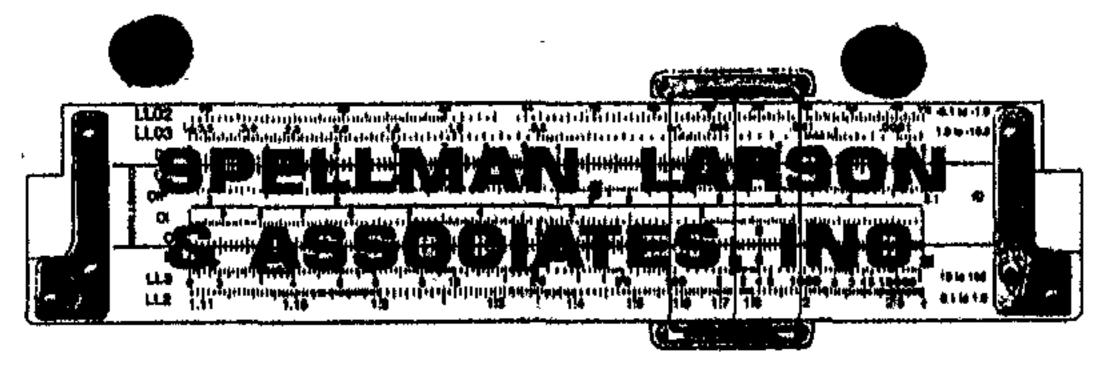
Very truly yours,

Joseph/L. Larson, President

SPELLMAN, LARSON & ASSOC., INC.

cc: Elmer Sembly File#L10080402





ROBERT E. SPELLMAN, P.L.S. JOSEPH L. LARSON

CIVIL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS 105 W. CHESAPEAKE AVENUE TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204 TEL (410) 823-3535 / FAX (410) 825-5215

RECEIVED

JAN 4 2005

Ms. Sharon Neal 6719 Meekins Avenue Gwynn Oak, MD 21207-4134

January 4, 2005

ZONING COMMISSIONER

Re:

6730 Dogwood Road

Zoning Case No. 05-247-SPHA

Dear Ms. Neal,

Pursuant to our meeting at your home on Monday last, I wish to herein confirm the agreement reached regarding the above captioned Zoning Case.

Our meeting was arranged to resolve an issue that arose due to the oversight that I had made at the Zoning Hearing before Deputy Commissioner Murphy regarding relocating the Church Building easterly fifteen feet to be set ten feet off of the easternmost property line of the Sembly Property. Unfortunately upon Deputy Commissioner Murphy's review of this matter he informed this office that the Zoning Regulations for non-residential buildings require a building setback of twenty feet, which would only allow the building shift to be five feet easterly instead of the proposed fifteen feet.

You and I reviewed this issue very thoroughly at our meeting at your home whereby after a lengthy discussion you have agreed to support this building relocation subject to the following conditions.

In order to provide you the proper screening and a comfort level with regard to a buffer between your residence and the Church Building the landscaping along your easternmost property line will consist of a dense tree or shrub buffer of a species to be selected by you. Of course, the species must be in compliance with the Landscape Manual and endemic to the general area. This buffer will be set ten feet off of your easternmost property line into the Sembly Property. Further there will be no fence installed on the Sembly Property along your property line.

In accordance with these conditions you are in agreement with regard to relocating the new building only five foot easterly.

Ms. Sharon Neal January 4, 2005 Re: 6730 Dogwood Road

Page 2

I appreciate your cooperation with regard to this matter and we will keep you informed and be in contact with you when we are in the process of developing our Landscape Design.

Further, and as a courtesy we will within the next couple of days, set the corner markers for your lot on James Place as per our agreement.

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter in any further detail please feel free to contact me at any time.

Very truly yours,

Joseph L. Larson, President

SPELLMAN, LARSON & ASSOC., INC.

cc: Deputy Commissioner John Murphy Elmer Sembly

File#L01040501

IN RE: PETITION FOR VARIANCE

NE/S Dogwood Road, 225' E of the c/l

Featherbed Lane

(6730 Dogwood Road)

2nd Election District

2nd Council District

Elmer V. Sembly, III, et ux Petitioners * BEFORE THE

* ZONING COMMISSIONER

OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

* Case No. 03-151-A

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FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

*

This matter comes before the Zoning Commissioner for consideration of a Petition for Variance filed by the owners of the subject property, Elmer V. Sembly, III, and his wife, Sophelia L. Sembly. The Petitioners request relief from Section 1B01.1.B.1.e(3) and (5), and 1B02.C.1.a of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations to permit Residential Transition Area (RTA) setbacks and buffers of 10 feet each in lieu of the required setbacks of 75 feet and buffers of 50 feet for a proposed parking lot; to allow a church building with setbacks and buffers of 25 feet each in lieu of the required 75-foot setbacks and 50-foot buffers; and, to allow a side street setback of 10 feet in lieu of the required 35 feet. The subject property and requested relief are more particularly described on the site plan submitted which was accepted into evidence and marked as Petitioner's Exhibit 1.

Appearing at the requisite public hearing in support of the request were Elmer and Sophelia Sembly, property owners, and Joseph Larson, a representative of Spellman, Larson and Associates, Inc., the consultants who prepared the site plan for this property. There were no Protestants or other interested persons present.

Testimony and evidence offered revealed that the subject property is an irregular shaped unimproved parcel located on the northeast side of Dogwood Road, not far from the Baltimore Beltway and Security Boulevard in western Baltimore County. The rear of the property abuts an unimproved paper street, known as James Place. As shown on the site plan, the property

contains a gross area of 0.67 acres, more or less, zoned D.R.5.5 and is proposed for development with a small, one-story church building with a capacity of 90 seats. The building will be 90' x 40' in dimension and contain 3600 sq.ft. in area. In addition to the church building, the plan shows a macadam parking area that will provide parking for up to 36 vehicles. A schematic building elevation drawing of the proposed building was submitted into evidence as Petitioner's Exhibit 2. It was indicated at the hearing that the proposed Church, which is nestled within a residential community, will attract residents from the surrounding neighborhood. In fact, several letters of support were received from neighbors and property owners in the vicinity.

Although the D.R.5.5 zone permits churches by right and no parking variance is necessary, variance relief is required from setback requirements. Several of the variances relate to the RTA requirements contained in Section 1B01.1.B of the B.C.Z.R. Those requirements provide increased buffers and setbacks between differing housing types and uses. As noted above, the property is located within a residential neighborhood.

Testimony and evidence offered was persuasive to a finding that the property is unique given its unusual shape and the existence of the paper street immediately to the rear of the property. Indeed, an examination of the site plan shows that the building could not be located on this property is strict adherence to the RTA requirements were required. It is also clear that the proposed use will not be detrimental to adjacent uses. The fact that the proposed building is modest in size and that sufficient on-site parking is provided are persuasive factors.

Based upon the testimony and evidence offered, I am persuaded to grant the relief requested. In sum, I find that the Petitioners have met the requirements of Section 307 of the B.C.Z.R. It is also to be noted that there were no adverse Zoning Advisory Committee ZAC comments from any County reviewing agency. Thus, it is clear that there will be no detriment to the surrounding locale, and that relief can be granted.

Pursuant to the advertisement, posting of the property and public hearing on this Petition held, and for the reasons set forth herein, the relief requested shall be granted.

1) The Petitioners may apply for their building permit and be granted same upon receipt of this Order; however, Petitioners are hereby made aware that proceeding at this time is at their own risk until the 30-day appeal period from the date of this Order has expired. If an appeal is filed and this Order is reversed, the relief granted herein shall be rescinded.

LAWRENCE E. SCHMIDT

Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County

LES:bjs

CASE NAME 6730 Dogod Rd.
CASE NUMBER 05 247-5PHP
DATE /2/28/04

CITIZEN'S SIGN-IN SHEET

E- MAIL					•						i
CITY, STATE, ZIP											
ADDRESS	6719MEEHINS AUE										
NAME	Sharen F. NEAL										

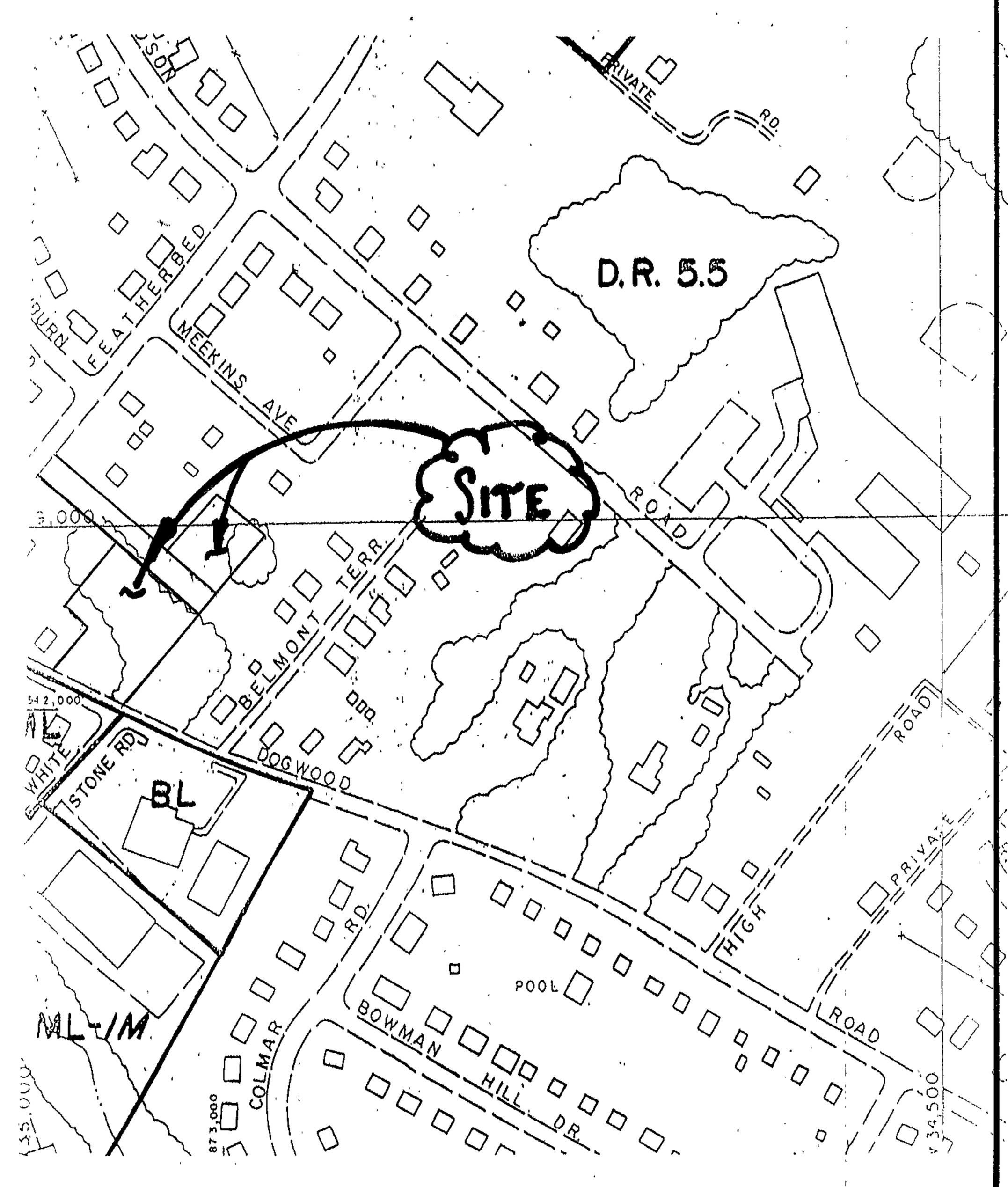
PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

CASE NAME 6/50 Logood RA CASE NUMBER 05-247-SPH

PETITIONER'S SIGN-IN SHEET

E- MAIL														*	
, CITY, STATE, ZIP	10won Md) 21204	1 WESTMINSTER 21157	Westrinster 21157	1864111111 A1206	Baldo mad 21266	Ballo. 118. 21221	J m								
ADDRESS	105 W. Chesapele Ave	Miena	4SS FRIENDSIND RD	4741 Sham Rock ave	4746 ShamRack are	earshe	3728 Elmoca 4.05								
NAME	CASEPH LAZSON	Elmer SEMBLY	Lynn Sembly	Rayled Douse	Annie L. Darson	Daisha manail	THORES Mind								

ZOBING MAPONW-3F



SCALE: 1 200

05-247-SPHA

From: (Print Name(s), Address, Telephone)

Paul Miller 350830Anni	or 01244
Bessie Miller 3508 So Ami)	21244
Byron M. 11er 3508 SOAnn 1 410-655-3609	· ·
To: Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County	
Re: Case # 05-247-SPHA	
To Whom It May Concern:	
I (we) being a resident of the community have a church facility and parking area on the reference	-
Sincerely,	
Faul Millu Signature Da Signature Da	1-19-04 ate 12-19-04 ate

Mail to:

The church in Woodlawn C/o Elmer V. Sembly, III, Minister 755 Friendship Road Westminster, MD 21157

Q & X

From: (Print Name(s), Address, Telephon	ıe)
Dwayne, ward	
7 Van Yerrellet	
Baltimore, MD 21207	
(410) 298-4487	,
To: Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore Coun	ity
Re: Case # 05-247-SPHA	
To Whom It May Concern:	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	have no objection to the development of the ferenced lots (St James & Dogwood Rds.).
Sincerely,	
Signature Signature	12-26-04 Date
Signature	Date
Mail to:	
The church in Woodlawn C/o Elmer V. Sembly, III, Minister 755 Friendship Road Westminster, MD 21157	

From: (Print Name(s), Address, Telephone)
Mrs Debra Tucker & Gregory D. Pinkney
6804 Townbrook Dr. Apt D
64 WNN Oak, MD 21207
443-939-7087
To: Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County
Re: Case # 05-247-SPHA
To Whom It May Concern:
I (we) being a resident of the community have no objection to the development of the church facility and parking area on the referenced lots (St James & Dogwood Rds.).
Sincerely,
Mus Dulie Tvalter 12/19/04 Signature Date
Mr. Gregory D. Pinkney 12/19/04 Signature Date
Mail to:
The church in Woodlawn C/o Elmer V. Sembly, III, Minister 755 Friendship Road Westminster, MD 21157

From: (Print Name(s), Address, Telephone	
Banner Masonry Corp.	#
6729 Dogwood Road	
Baltimore,MD 21207	
410-944-5452	
To: Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore Count	y
Re: Case # 05-247-SPHA	
To Whom It May Concern:	
I (we) being a resident of the community he church facility and parking area on the reference.	
Sincerely,	
Signature George M. Strunge	12/20/04 Date
Signature George M. Strunge	Date
Signature	Date
Mail to:	-
The church in Woodlawn C/o Elmer V. Sembly, III, Minister 755 Friendship Road Westminster, MD 21157	

From: (Print Name(s), Address, Telephone	
DebucaH A. Davis	 ,
6732 Daglows Rd	
Baltimure, Md. 2120	7
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
To: Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County	y
Re: Case # 05-247-SPHA	
To Whom It May Concern:	
I (we) being a resident of the community he church facility and parking area on the refe	
Sincerely,	
Signature Signature	
Signature	Date
Mail to:	
The elements to 337 - 11	

The church in Woodlawn C/o Elmer V. Sembly, III, Minister 755 Friendship Road Westminster, MD 21157

From: (Print Name(s), Address, Telephone)
MELVIU GLADNET
6734 Dogwood Rd
BALTimoire MD. 2/207
To: Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County
Re: Case # 05-247-SPHA
To Whom It May Concern:
I (we) being a resident of the community have no objection to the development of the church facility and parking area on the referenced lots (St James & Dogwood Rds.).
Sincerely,
Mehn Muhmet 12/25/04
Signature Date
Signature Date
Mail to:
The church in Woodlawn

The church in Woodlawn
C/o Elmer V. Sembly, III, Minister
755 Friendship Road
Westminster, MD 21157