

JOHN A. OLSZEWSKI, JR. County Executive

MAUREEN E. MURPHY
Chief Administrative Law Judge
ANDREW M. BELT
Administrative Law Judge
DEREK J. BAUMGARDNER
Administrative Law Judge

March 22, 2024

William and Kathryn McConnell – wdoc1@aol.com 6141 Barroll Road Baltimore, MD 21209

RE: Petition for Variance

Case No. 2024-0039-A

Property: 6141 Barroll Road

Dear Petitioners:

Enclosed please find a copy of the decision rendered in the above-captioned matter.

Pursuant to Baltimore County Code § 32-3-401(a), "a person aggrieved or feeling aggrieved" by this Decision and Order 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 Office of Administrative Hearings at 410-887-3868.

Sincerely,

MAUREEN E. MURPHY Chief Administrative Law Judge for Baltimore County

Mauren E. Murphy

MEM:dlm Enclosure

e: Bruce E. Doak – <u>bdoak@bruceedoakconsulting.com</u>

Asa Roberson — <u>asajroberson@gmail.com</u> Bella — <u>belladebendictis4@gmail.com</u>

Matt Stewart – mstewar6@students.towson.edu

IN RE: PETITION FOR VARIANCE

(6141 Barroll Road)

9th Election District 2nd Council District

William & Kathryn McConnell

Legal Owners

BEFORE THE

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE

HEARINGS OF

BALTIMORE COUNTY

Petitioners CASE NO. 2024-0039-A

OPINION AND ORDER

This matter comes before the Office of Administrative Hearings ("OAH") as a Petition for Variance filed by William and Kathryn McConnell ("Petitioners") for property located at 6141 Barroll Rd., Baltimore (the "Property"). The Petitioners are requesting Variance relief from Baltimore County Zoning Regulations ("BCZR"), §400.1 to permit an accessory structure (garage) to be located in the front yard, and from BCZR, §400.3 to permit an accessory structure (garage) with a height of 17 ft., in lieu of the maximum height of 15 ft.

A public WebEx hearing was conducted virtually in lieu of an in-person hearing. The Petition was properly advertised and posted. The Petitioners appeared at the hearing in support of the Petition. Bruce E. Doak, licensed surveyor of Bruce E. Doak Consulting, LLC prepared a site plan (the "Site Plan"). (Pet. Ex. 1). There were no Protestants or other interested persons who attended the hearing.

Zoning Advisory Committee ("ZAC") comments were received from the Department of Planning ("DOP"), Department of Environmental Protection Sustainability ("DEPS"), and Development Plans Review ("DPR")/Department of Public Works and Transportation ("DPWT") which agencies did not oppose the requested relief.

The Property consists of 2 parcels measuring 3.56 acres +/-, and is improved with a single-family dwelling constructed in 1953 where the Petitioners have lived since 1993. (Pet. Ex. 2). The Property is zoned Density Residential (DR 1). (Pet. Ex. 3). The Property previously had a detached garage located in the front yard which has since been razed by the Petitioners. It is unclear the date which the former garage was constructed and there has not been any previous zoning relief filed for the Property. Petitioners explained that the former garage was leaking through the roof even after they had the roof replaced, and that it had a tarp over it for an extensive period of time. The leak caused extensive damage to the exterior wood on the garage weakening its structural integrity.

The Property is uniquely shaped as shown on the Site Plan and also has extensive steep slopes. (Pet. Ex. 1). As shown on the aerial photograph, the rear yard is not only steep but is wooded with mature trees and abuts Lake Roland. (Pet. Ex. 4). The home and the former garage were constructed on the only flat areas of the Property. Petitioners seek to construct a 520-sf replacement garage in the same location with an additional 2 ft. in height beyond the height permitted in BCZR, §400.3. To construct the replacement garage in the rear yard would require extensive and additional grading as the existing paved driveway already extends to that location. Petitioners also seek the additional 2 ft. in height to match the roof pitch on the home and to prevent ice damming. Architectural renderings show a proposed double, front-loaded garage with windows. (Pet. Ex. 6A-6D). Street view photographs of the Property show the area where the garage is proposed is surrounded by mature Evergreen trees. The adjoining and nearby neighbors provided letters of support. (Pet. Ex. 7).

A Variance request involves a two-step process, summarized as follows:

(1) It must be shown the property is unique in a manner which makes it unlike surrounding properties, and that uniqueness or peculiarity must necessitate

variance relief; and

(2) If variance relief is denied, Petitioner will experience a practical difficulty or hardship.

Cromwell v. Ward, 102 Md. App. 691 (1995).

I find that the Property is unique due its irregular shape and steep slopes. The unique features generate the need to locate the garage in the front yard which is the same location as the former garage. The location is already extensively buffered with mature Evergreen and other trees such that it will be screened from neighboring properties. I find that the Petitioners would suffer a practical difficulty and unreasonable hardship if the proposed location of the garage in the front yard, and additional 2 ft. in height were not granted because they would not be able to construct a new garage to replace the one which was deteriorating. The location of the garage is lower in elevation than the home and therefore I find the additional 2 ft. in height is necessary to match the roof pitch of the home such that the Variance relief will prevent the replacement garage from appearing short and flat as compared to the home. I also find that the requested variance relief can be granted in strict harmony with the spirit and intent of the BCZR and without injury to the health, safety or general welfare, particularly in light of the support of the neighboring property owners.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, this <u>22nd</u> day of March 2024, by the Administrative Law Judge for Baltimore County, that the Petition for Variance pursuant to BCZR, §,400.1 to permit an accessory structure (garage) to be located in the front yard, be, and it is hereby **GRANTED**; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that the Petition for Variance relief pursuant to BCZR §400.3 to permit an accessory structure (garage) with a height of 17 ft., in lieu of the maximum height of 15 ft. be, and it is hereby, **GRANTED**.

The relief granted herein shall be subject to the following:

- 1. Petitioners may apply for necessary permits and/or licenses upon receipt of this Order. However, Petitioners are hereby made aware that proceeding at this time is at their own risk until 30 days from the date hereof, during which time an appeal can be filed by any party. If for whatever reason this Order is reversed, Petitioners would be required to return the subject property to its original condition.
- 2. Petitioners and subsequent owners shall not convert the detached garage into a dwelling unit or apartment. The detached garage shall not contain any sleeping quarters, living area, bathroom facilities or kitchen facilities.
- 3. The detached garage shall not have a separate utility or electric connection and shall connect all electrical to the home.
- 4. The detached garage shall not be used for commercial or industrial purposes.
- 5. The Petitioners and all subsequent owners shall maintain the existing trees, vegetation and landscaping surrounding the detached garage including replacement, when necessary,
- 6. The Site Plan (Pet. Ex. 1), a copy of which is attached hereto, is incorporated herein in its entirety.

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

MAUREEN E. MURPHY Chief Administrative Law Judge

for Baltimore County

Mauren Z. Murphy

MEM/dlm





PETITION FOR ZONING HEARING(S)

	ment of Permits, Approvals and Inspections w of Baltimore County for the property located at:
Address 6/4/ BARROLL ROAD	which is presently zoned PA /
Deed References: 9629 /534	10 Digit Tax Account # 0 9 0 4 0 0 0 / 6 /
Property Owner(s) Printed Name(s) WILL	AM D. MCCONNELL & KATHRYN B. MCCONHELL
(SELECT THE HEARING(S) BY MARKING $\underline{\mathbf{X}}$ AT THE APPRO	OPRIATE SELECTION AND PRINT OR TYPE THE PETITION REQUEST)
	in Baltimore County and which is described in the description nade a part hereof, hereby petition for:
a Special Hearing under Section 500 7 of the 70	ning Regulations of Baltimore County, to determine whether
or not the Zoning Commissioner should approve	The second of Balance of Salan, in the second of the secon
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2. a Special Exception under the Zoning Regulatio	ns of Baltimore County to use the herein described property for
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3. X a Variance from Section(s)	
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SEE A	MACHEO PAGE
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	e zoning law of Baltimore County, for the following reasons: y or indicate below "TO BE PRESENTED AT HEARING". If
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70 BB 7726	SEATED AT THE HEARING
Property is to be posted and advertised as prescribed by the zoning reg	ulations
I, or we, agree to pay expenses of above petition(s), advertising, posting	g, 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	r for Baltimore County. under the penalties of perjury, that I / We are the legal owner(s) of the property
which is the subject of this / these Petition(s).	under the pendities of perjuly, that if we are the regal owner(s) of the property
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Contract Furcinase//Lessee.	
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Zip Code Telephone # Email Address	Zip Code Telephone # Email Address
Attorney for Petitioner:	Representative to be contacted:
	BRUCE E. DOAK
Name- Type or Print	Name - Type or Print COUSULTING LLC
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Signature	Signature
	2
Mailing Address City State	3901 BANER SCHOOLHOUSE KOAD FREE LAND Mo Mailing Address City State
	21053 1 410-419-49061
Zip Code Telephone # Email Address	Zip Code Telephone # Email Address
AND LOUIS - 50000' - D - 1000	BOOAK @ BRUCE & DOAK COHSULTING. COM
CASE NUMBER 3024-0039-4 Filing Date 3 16 10	Do Not Schedule Dates: Reviewer

Zoning Hearing Petitions Being Requested

Case # _ 2024 - 0039 - A

Variance to permit an accessory structure (garage) to be located in the front yard per Section 400.1 BCZR

Variance to permit an accessory structure (garage) with a height of 17 feet in lieu of the required maximum height of 15 feet per Section 400.3 BCZR



Zoning Description

6141 Barroll Road. 3.56 Acres Total
Ninth Election District Second Councilmanic District
Baltimore County, Maryland

Beginning at a point which is the intersection of the centerline end of Barroll Road and the outlines of the subject property, said point being northeasterly 1000 feet, more or less, from the centerline of Hollins Road, thence leaving the end of Barroll Road and running with and binding on the outlines of the subject property, based on a 1992 survey by Purdum & Jeschke, the seven following courses and distances, viz.

- 1) North 04 degrees 55 minutes 38 seconds West 161.64 feet,
- 2) South 87 degrees 40 minutes 38 seconds East 462.86 feet,
- 3) South 03 degrees 14 minutes 11 seconds East 137.20 feet,
- 4) South 09 degrees 22 minutes 55 seconds East 134.10 feet,
- 5) South 72 degrees 38 minutes 54 seconds West 362.11 feet,
- 6) North 53 degrees 32 minutes 09 seconds West 145.91 feet and
- 7) North 04 degrees 55 minutes 38 seconds West 149.58 feet to the point of beginning.

Containing 3.56 acres of land, more or less.

This description is part of a zoning hearing petition and is not intended for any conveyance purposes.

Bruce E. Doak Consulting, LLC 3801 Baker Schoolhouse Road Freeland, MD 21053 410-419-4906 cell / 443-900-5535 office bdoak@bruceedoakconsulting.com

2074-0039-A

OFFICE	E OF BUD	GET AN	MARYLAN D FINANC I RECEIPT	E		No.	229	46	3		
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DEPARTMENT OF PERMITS, APPROVALS AND INSPECTIONS ZONING REVIEW OFFICE

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 legal owner/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 legal owner/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
For Newspaper Advertising:
Case Number: 2024-0039 - A
Property Address: 6141 BARROLL ROAD BALTIMORE Mo 21209
Property Description: 3.56 ACRES AT THE END OF BARROLL ROAD
Legal Owners (Petitioners): William D. MC CONNECC + KATURTH B. MCCONNECC
Contract Purchaser/Lessee:
PLEASE FORWARD ADVERTISING BILL TO:
Name: Bauce E. DOAK
Company/Firm (if applicable): Baves E. Done Consumus LLC
Address: 3801 BAKER SCHOOLHOUSE ROAD
FREELIND Mo 21053
Telephone Number: 4/p - 4/9 - 4906

Real Property Data Search () Search Result for BALTIMORE COUNTY

View Map Vie	View GroundRent Redemption			View GroundRent Registration				
Special Tax Recapture: None								
Account Identifier:	District - 09	Account Numbe	r - 0904000161					
	Ov	vner Informati	ion					
Owner Name: MCCONNELL WIL MCCONNELL KAT			Use: Principal Re		ESIDENTIAL ES			
Mailing Address:	6141 BARROLL RD BALTIMORE MD 21209		Deed Reference:		/09629/ 00534			
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PETITION FOR ZONING HEARING(S) To be filed with the Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections

Address 6/4/ BARROLL ROSD	aw of Baltimore County for the property located at: which is presently zoned PA /
Deed References: 9629 /534	10 Digit Tax Account # 0 9 0 4 0 0 0 / 6 /
Property Owner(s) Printed Name(s) Will	UAM D. MCCONNELL & KATHRYN B. MCCONNE
(SELECT THE HEARING(S) BY MARKING X AT THE APP	ROPRIATE SELECTION AND PRINT OR TYPE THE PETITION REQUEST)
	te in Baltimore County and which is described in the description made a part hereof, hereby petition for:
a Special Hearing under Section 500.7 of the Z or not the Zoning Commissioner should approve	Zoning Regulations of Baltimore County, to determine whether
of flot the Zorling Commissioner should approve	
,	
2a Special Exception under the Zoning Regulati	ions of Baltimore County to use the herein described property for
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B. X a Variance from Section(s)	
SEE	ATTACHED PAGE
of the zoning regulations of Baltimore County to t	the zoning law of Baltimore County, for the following reasons:
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and restrictions of Baltimore County adopted pursuant to the zoning la	ting, etc. and further agree to and are to be bounded by the zoning regulations
Contract Purchaser/Lessee:	Legal Owners (Petitioners):
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Attorney for Petitioner:	Representative to be contacted: Bruce E. Doak
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Zoning Hearing Petitions Being Requested

Case # _ 2024 - 0039 - 4

Variance to permit an accessory structure (garage) to be located in the front yard per Section 400.1 BCZR

Variance to permit an accessory structure (garage) with a height of 17 feet in lieu of the required maximum height of 15 feet per Section 400.3 BCZR



Zoning Description

6141 Barroll Road. 3.56 Acres Total Ninth Election District Second Councilmanic District Baltimore County, Maryland

Beginning at a point which is the intersection of the centerline end of Barroll Road and the outlines of the subject property, said point being northeasterly 1000 feet, more or less, from the centerline of Hollins Road, thence leaving the end of Barroll Road and running with and binding on the outlines of the subject property, based on a 1992 survey by Purdum & Jeschke, the seven following courses and distances, viz.

- 1) North 04 degrees 55 minutes 38 seconds West 161.64 feet,
- 2) South 87 degrees 40 minutes 38 seconds East 462.86 feet,
- 3) South 03 degrees 14 minutes 11 seconds East 137.20 feet,
- 4) South 09 degrees 22 minutes 55 seconds East 134.10 feet,
- 5) South 72 degrees 38 minutes 54 seconds West 362.11 feet,
- 6) North 53 degrees 32 minutes 09 seconds West 145.91 feet and
- 7) North 04 degrees 55 minutes 38 seconds West 149.58 feet to the point of beginning.

Containing 3.56 acres of land, more or less.

This description is part of a zoning hearing petition and is not intended for any conveyance purposes.

Bruce E. Doak Consulting, LLC 3801 Baker Schoolhouse Road Freeland, MD 21053 410-419-4906 cell / 443-900-5535 office bdoak@bruceedoakconsulting.com

2074-0039-A



CERTIFICATE OF POSTING

repruary 23, 2024
amended for second inspection
Re: Zoning Case No. 2024-0039-A Legal Owner: William & Kathryn McConnell Hearing date: March 18, 2024
Baltimore County Department of Permits, Approvals & Inspections County Office Building 111 West Chesapeake Avenue, Room 111 111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204
Attention: Jeff Perlow
Ladies and Gentlemen,
This letter is to certify under the penalties of perjury that the two necessary signs required by law were posted conspicuously on the property located at 6141 Barroll Road .
The signs were initially posted on February 23, 2024.
The subject property was also inspected on
Sincerely,

See the attached sheets for the photos of the posted signs

Bruce E. Doak

MD Property Line Surveyor #531

Bruce E. Doak Consulting, LLC 3801 Baker Schoolhouse Road Freeland, MD 21053 410-419-4906 cell / 443-900-5535 office bdoak@bruceedoakconsulting.com



ZONING HEARING

The Administrative Law Judge of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County, will hold a hearing virtually via WebEx, and/or in-person upon request (see below) for the Property identified herein as follows:

CASE # 2024-0039-A

6141 Barroll Road, Baltimore Maryland 21209 (NE side of Barroll Rd, 525'N of Hollins Lane) Council District 2, Election District 9 Legal Owners: William & Kathryn McConnell

PETITION REQUEST: <u>Variance</u>: To permit an accessory structure (garage) to be located in the front yard per the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (BCZR), Section 400.1 and to permit an accessory structure (garage) with a height of 17 ft. in lieu of the maximum height of 15 ft. per BCZR, Section 400.3

Hearing Date: Monday, March 18, 2024 at 1:30 p.m.

If an in-person hearing has been requested in writing and granted, the bearing section in The Jefferson Building, 108 W. Chesapeake Ave., Hearing Room 208, Toward, AID 2028 School contact the Office of Administrative Hearings a few days prior to the bearing to contact the phone number or email address shown between

Office of Administrative Hearings

105 West Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 103 Towness, Maryland 21200 Phone 4 to 500 New 200

Email: administrative bearings at baltimore constrained, 200

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE







BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Inter-Office Correspondence



TO: Hon. Maureen E. Murphy; Chief Administrative Law Judge

Office of Administrative Hearings

FROM: Jeff Livingston, Department of Environmental Protection and

Sustainability (EPS) - Development Coordination

DATE: February 23, 2024

SUBJECT: DEPS Comment for Zoning Item # 2024-0039-A

Address: 6141 BARROLL RD

Legal Owner: William & Kathryn McConnell

Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting of February 23, 2024.

X The Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability has no comment on the above-referenced zoning item.

Additional Comments:

Reviewer: Earl D Wrenn

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO: Peter Gutwald, Director **DATE:** February 21, 2024

Department of Permits, Approvals

FROM: Vishnu Desai, Supervisor

Bureau of Development Plans Review

SUBJECT: Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting

Case 2024-0039-A

The Bureau of Development Plans Review has reviewed the subject zoning items and we have the following comments.

DPR: No comment

DPW-T: No Exception taken

Landscaping: No comment.

Recreations & Parks: No Greenways affected.

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: C. Pete Gutwald DATE: 2/26/2024

Director, Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections

FROM: Steve Lafferty

Director, Department of Planning

SUBJECT: ZONING ADVISORY COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Case Number: 2024-0039-A

INFORMATION:

Property Address: 6141 Barroll Road

Petitioner: William D. McConnell/Kathryn B. McConnell

Zoning: DR 1 **Requested Action:** Variance

The Department of Planning has reviewed the petition for the following:

Variance(s) -

- 1. Variance to permit an accessory structure (garage) to be located in the front yard per Section 400.1 BCZR.
- 2. Variance to permit an accessory structure (garage) with a height of 17 feet in lieu of the required maximum height of 15 feet per Section 400.3 BCZR.

The proposed site is approximately a 3.56-acre property zoned DR 1. It is surrounded by predominantly residential uses. The site has no previous Zoning history and is not located in a historic district.

The existing land use is currently a residential property zoned DR 1. The requested zoning relief, as said in above request, does not appear to adversely impact the public right-of-way or the surrounding dwellings. The petitioner proposes to raze the existing accessory structure (garage) and erect a replacement. The dimensions of the proposed accessory structure will be 20x26. The height is proposed at 17 feet and the location (front yard) of the dwelling is consistent with what is currently existing. The accessory structure will be a double front-loaded garage. The structure will not be visible from the public right-of-way and is proposed to be sited 10 feet from the shared adjacent property line of 6137 Barroll Road.

The Department of Planning has no objection to the requested relief conditioned upon the following:

- 1. The garage will not be converted into living quarters.
- 2. Coordinate with the Baltimore County Landscape Architect to comply with any additional landscaping requirements.
- 3. All other accessory structure requirements outlined in BCZR Section 400 are met.
- 4. Any additional conditions set forth by the Administrative Law Judge.

For further information concerning the matters stated herein, please contact Brett M. Williams at 410-887-3482.

Prepared by:

Krystle Patchak

Division Chief:

enifer G. Nugent

SL/JGN/KP

Bruce E. Doak, Bruce E. Doak Consulting LLC David Birkenthal, Community Planner Jeff Perlow, Zoning Review Kristen Lewis, Zoning Review Office of Administrative Hearings People's Counsel for Baltimore County





