



TOWN OF NEWTOWN

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of November 5, 2014 at 7:30 pm

Meeting Room #3, Municipal Center, 3 Primrose Street, Newtown CT

*These Minutes are Subject to Approval by the Zoning Board of Appeals*

**Members Present:** Charles E. Annett (Chair), Ross Carley, Alan Clavette (Vice-Chair), Timothy Cronin and Barbara O'Connor (Secretary); **Alternates Present:** Roy Meadows and Herb Rosenthal; **Alternate Not Present:** Jane Sharpe; **Staff Present:** Tammy Hazen, Recording Clerk.

The meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals was called to order by Chairman Annett at 7:32 pm. Ms. O'Connor called the roll.

**DOCKET #14-11** Application of **Newtown Volunteer Ambulance Association Inc.** for a variance of **Section 8.01.671** of the Zoning Regulations to permit a wall sign in excess of 12 square feet in size over the main entrance of the new facility. The property is located at **6 Washington Circle** in the Town of Newtown, CT in an R1 zone.

Ms. O'Connor read the docket and Mr. Annett opened the meeting. Bruce Herring, 2 Taunton Lane, Newtown, CT was present to represent the applicant. Mr. Annett explained the hearing process. Mr. Herring explained their request for a variance to have a larger sign above the entrance. He said it is mainly for safety purposes as they have a facility now to treat people who walk off the street with critical issues as they have a paramedic and EMTs on site 24/7. Board members suggested they also have a sign placed out near the street for clear visibility as the sign over the entrance would not be seen from one direction on Wasserman Way. The height of the lettering will be 12 inches. The board members reviewed the sign regulations. There was no one present to speak in favor or opposition of the request for variance. Mr. Annett then declared the hearing closed.

The board members discussed the application. Mr. Meadows felt this application requires more than 12 square feet for the sign. Mr. Carley said a larger sign is beneficial in this case because of the large set back off the road. Mr. Rosenthal said it is clearly farther from the street; that the adaptive reuse zone has its own regulations and that Planning and Zoning should look at the sign regulations for the campus.

Mr. Clavette said they should install a street sign that can be seen from both directions and that the street number should be placed on the sign. He feels this may be a safety issue. Mr. Rosenthal said there should be special sign requirements (directional signs) for all emergency buildings. After discussion:

Mr. Carley motioned to approve the application due to visibility issues and the sign should be allowed to be placed on the face of the building. Mr. Cronin seconded the motion and the motion passed 4 to 1.

Charles E. Annett .....	"Yes"
Ross Carley .....	"Yes"
Alan Clavette .....	"No"
Timothy Cronin .....	"Yes"
Barbara O'Connor .....	"Yes"

Mr. Clavette motioned to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Carley and the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Tammy Hazen