

Mr. Abitheira called the Regular meeting of the Building Code Board of Appeals to order at 3:00 p.m. on February 4, 2015 in the Lower Level Conference Room of the Troy City Hall.

1. ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Gary Abitheira  
Teresa Brooks  
Andrew Schuster

Absent:

Theodore Dziurman, Chair  
Brian Kischnick

Support Staff Present:

Mitch Grusnick, Building Official/Code Inspector  
Kathy L. Czarnecki, Recording Secretary  
David Roberts, Assistant Fire Chief/Fire Prevention  
Eric Caloia, Fire Lieutenant

Also Present:

Attached and made a part hereof is the signature sheet of those present and signed in at this meeting.

Mr. Grusnick advised the applicants the Board would entertain a request to postpone an item until a full Board is present.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by: Brooks  
Support by: Schuster

**RESOLVED**, To approve the minutes of the January 7, 2015 Regular meeting as submitted.

Yes: All present (3)  
Absent: Dziurman, Kischnick

**MOTION CARRIED**

3. HEARING OF CASES

A. **VARIANCE REQUEST, JAMES R. GIRLING, 3959 NASH** – This property is a double front corner lot. As such it has a required front setback along both Nash and Ogden. An inspection of this property on November 11, 2014 revealed the existing 30” high wood fence in the front setback along Ogden has been modified to a 44” high non-obscuring split rail wood fence. The petitioner is requesting a variance from the Board to allow the altered 44” high fence in the Ogden front setback.

Mr. Grusnick reviewed the new variance request application and refreshed the Board members of the discussion and action taken on the previous submittal in January for the same property. He reported the department received one response to the public hearing notices in support of the variance request.

Mr. Grusnick showed a photograph of the fence that demonstrated the difference of proposed construction materials and color uniformity from the previous application to the application before the Board today.

Mr. Girling brought in material samples. He addressed the painting and split rail construction materials that would blend together the end product in color and uniformity.

Mr. Abitheira opened the floor for public comment. He acknowledged there was no one present to speak and closed the floor.

Moved by: Brooks  
Support by: Schuster

**RESOLVED**, To grant the variance request, based on the following reasons:

1. The applicant has a hardship and practical difficulty.
2. The applicant has made an effort to construct the fence as seamless as possible without dismantling the entire fence.
3. The fence is non-obscuring.

Yes: All present (3)  
Absent: Dziurman, Kischnick

**MOTION CARRIED**

B. **VARIANCE REQUEST, BEAUMONT HOSPITAL, 44201 DEQUINDRE** – For the continued relief of Chapter 7, Section 717.5.5 of the 2012 Michigan Building Code to omit smoke dampers in ductwork penetrating smoke barriers throughout William Beaumont Hospital Troy campus.

Mr. Grusnick reviewed the variance request and requirements of the Michigan Building Code.

Jake Meadows of Jones Lang LaSalle, real estate and development group for Beaumont Health System, summarized the documentation provided with the application and asked the Board’s approval to use quick response sprinkler heads within the facility as an alternative to meet the NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) Life Safety Code and 2012 Michigan Building Code requirement for smoke dampers. Mr. Meadows said the variance request is consistent with two previous requests in 2005 and 2009.

Mr. Schuster disclosed one attorney in his law firm represents Troy Beaumont Hospital but he himself has no personal involvement with the hospital and sees no reason to recuse himself from acting on the matter.

Assistant Fire Chief Roberts and Fire Lieutenant Caloia stated no objections to the variance request.

Mr. Abitheira acknowledged there was no one present from the public to speak on the item.

Moved by: Brooks  
Support by: Schuster

**RESOLVED**, To grant the variance request, for the following reason:

1. The variance would not be contrary to the public interest or general purpose and intent.

Yes: All present (3)  
Absent: Dziurman, Kischnick

**MOTION CARRIED**

4. COMMUNICATIONS

None.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

6. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

7. ADJOURNMENT

The Regular meeting of the Building Code Board of Appeals adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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Gary Abitheira, Acting Chair



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Kathy L. Czarnecki, Recording Secretary

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