IN RE: PETITION FOR ADMIN. VARIANCE * BEFORE THE

(529 Oella Avenue)

1st Election District * OFFICE OF

1st Councilmanic District

Denise A. Angles and William L. Allen * ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

Petitioners

* FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY

* Case No. 2014-0110-A

* * * * * * *

OPINION AND ORDER

This matter comes before the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) for Baltimore County as a Petition for Administrative Variance filed by the legal owners of the subject property, Denise A. Angles and William L. Allen, for property located at 529 Oella Avenue. The variance request is from Sections 400.1 and 1B02.3.C.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations ("B.C.Z.R."), to permit a proposed replacement detached accessory structure (storage shed) to be located in the front yard of the principal dwelling in lieu of the required rear and to have a front yard setback of 10 ft. in lieu of the required 40 ft. The subject property and requested relief are more particularly described on Petitioners' Exhibit No. 1.

It is to be noted that this administrative variance case closed on December 2, 2013 but was not received by OAH until December 19, 2013; the whereabouts of the case file between these dates is unknown.

The Zoning Advisory Committee (ZAC) comments were received and are made part of the record of this case. There were no adverse ZAC comments received from any of the County reviewing agencies.

The Petitioners having filed a Petition for Administrative Variance and the subject property having been posted on November 17, 2013, and there being no request for a public hearing, a decision shall be rendered based upon the documentation presented.

The Petitioners have filed the supporting affidavits as required by Section 32-3-303 of the Baltimore County Code. Based upon the information available, there is no evidence in the file to indicate that the requested variance would adversely affect the health, safety or general welfare of the public and should therefore be granted. In the opinion of the Administrative Law Judge, the information, photographs, and affidavits submitted provide sufficient facts that comply with the requirements of Section 307.1 of the B.C.Z.R. Furthermore, strict compliance with the B.C.Z.R. would result in practical difficulty and/or unreasonable hardship upon the Petitioners.

Although the Department of Planning did not make any recommendations related to the accessory structure height and usage, I will impose conditions that the storage shed not be converted into a dwelling unit or apartment, not contain any sleeping quarters, living area, kitchen or bathroom facilities, and not be used for commercial purposes.

Pursuant to the posting of the property and the provisions of both the Baltimore County Code and the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations, and for the reasons given above, the requested variance should be granted.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, by the Administrative Law Judge for Baltimore County, this <u>20th</u> day of December, 2013, that a Variance from Sections 400.1 and 1B02.3.C.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations ("B.C.Z.R."), to permit a proposed replacement detached accessory structure (storage shed) to be located in the front yard of the principal dwelling in lieu of the required rear and to have a front yard setback of 10 ft. in lieu of the required 40 ft., be and is hereby GRANTED, subject to the following:

The relief granted herein shall be subject to the following:

1. Petitioners may apply for their appropriate permits 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, Petitioners would be required to return, and be responsible for returning, said property to its original condition.

- 2. The Petitioners or subsequent owners shall not convert the subject accessory structure into a dwelling unit or apartment. The storage shed shall not contain any sleeping quarters, living area, kitchen or bathroom facilities.
- 3. The storage shed shall not be used for commercial purposes.

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

____Signed_____
JOHN E. BEVERUNGEN
Administrative Law Judge
for Baltimore County

JEB:dlw