

<b>IN RE: PETITION FOR ADMIN. VARIANCE</b>	*	BEFORE THE
<b>(1611 Hunter Mill Road)</b>		
7 <sup>th</sup> Election District	*	OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE
3 <sup>rd</sup> Council District		
Roy A. & Johanne L. Place	*	HEARINGS FOR
Petitioners		
	*	BALTIMORE COUNTY
	*	<b>CASE NO. 2017-0208-A</b>

\* \* \* \* \*

**OPINION AND ORDER**

This matter comes before the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) for Baltimore County for consideration of a Petition for Administrative Variance filed by the legal owners of the property, Roy A. & Johanne L. Place (Petitioners’). The Petitioners are requesting Variance relief pursuant to § 400.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations, to permit a proposed accessory structure (solar array) located in the side yard in lieu of the required rear yard. The subject property and requested relief is more fully depicted on the site plan that was marked and accepted into evidence as Petitioners’ Exhibit 1.

The Zoning Advisory Committee (ZAC) comments were received and are made part of the record of this case. A ZAC comment was received from the Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability (DEPS) dated February 15, 2017 indicating that “Ground Water Management must review any building permit(s) for a proposed solar array, since the property is served by well and septic.” In addition, a ZAC comment was received from the Bureau of Development Plans Review (DPR) dated February 23, 2017 indicating “If an Administrative Variance is granted, a Landscape Plan is required per the requirements of the Landscape Manual.”

The Petitioners having filed a Petition for Administrative Variance and the subject property having been posted on February 15, 2017, 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 § 32-3-303 of the Baltimore County Code (B.C.C.). 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 § 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.

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, this 10<sup>th</sup> day of March, **2017**, by the Administrative Law Judge for Baltimore County, that the Petition for Variance seeking relief from § 400.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations, to permit a proposed accessory structure (solar array) located in the side yard in lieu of the required rear yard, be and is hereby GRANTED.

The relief granted herein shall be subject to the following:

- 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.
- Petitioners must comply with the ZAC comments from DEPS & DPR; copies of which are attached and made a part hereto.

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