

<b>IN RE: PETITION FOR ADMIN. VARIANCE</b>	*	BEFORE THE
<b>(3505 Houcks Mill Road)</b>		
10 <sup>th</sup> Election District	*	OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE
3 <sup>rd</sup> Council District		
Martha Parsons Nelson	*	HEARINGS FOR
Petitioner		
	*	BALTIMORE COUNTY
	*	<b>CASE NO. 2019-0079-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 owner of the property, Martha Parsons Nelson (“Petitioner”). The Petitioner is requesting Variance relief pursuant to § 400.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (“BCZR”) to permit a swimming pool partly in the side yard of an existing single family dwelling in lieu of the rear yard. The subject property and requested relief is more fully depicted on the site plan that was marked and accepted into evidence as Petitioner’s 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 September 20, 2018, indicating that:

“Ground Water Management must review any proposed permit(s) for a pool. This is especially the case since the plan shows the septic area being adjusted.”

The Petitioner having filed a Petition for Administrative Variance and the subject property having been posted on September 22, 2018, and there being no request for a public hearing, a decision shall be rendered based upon the documentation presented.

The Petitioner has filed the supporting affidavits as required by § 32-3-303 of the Baltimore County Code (“BCC”). 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 BCZR. Furthermore, strict compliance with the BCZR would result in practical difficulty and/or unreasonable hardship upon the Petitioner.

Pursuant to the posting of the property and the provisions of both the BCC and BCZR, and for the reasons given above, the requested variance should be granted.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, this **16<sup>th</sup>** day of **October, 2018**, by the Administrative Law Judge for Baltimore County, that the Petition for Variance seeking relief from § 400.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (“BCZR”) to permit a swimming pool partly in the side yard of an existing single family dwelling in lieu of the rear yard, be and is hereby GRANTED.

The relief granted herein shall be subject to the following:

1. Petitioner may apply for necessary permits and/or licenses upon receipt of this Order. However, Petitioner is hereby made aware that proceeding at this time is at her 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, Petitioner would be required to return the subject property to its original condition.
2. Petitioner must comply with the DEPS ZAC comment, dated September 20, 2018; a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part thereof.

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

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Signed  
JOHN E. BEVERUNGEN  
Administrative Law Judge for  
Baltimore County

JEB:dlw