**IN RE: PETITION FOR ADMIN. VARIANCE** \* BEFORE THE

(1216 Back River Neck Road)

15<sup>th</sup> Election District \* OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE

7<sup>th</sup> Council District

John D. & Michelle Killian \* HEARINGS FOR

Petitioners

\* BALTIMORE COUNTY

\* CASE NO. 2019-0348-A

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

## REVISED 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, John D. and Michelle Killian ("Petitioners"). The Petitioners are requesting Variance relief pursuant to § 400.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations ("BCZR") to permit an accessory use garage in the front yard (prior zoning Case No. 08-0165-A granted an accessory shed in the front yard where the proposed new garage will be located), and for an existing shed to be relocated to the rear yard per site plan. 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. The property is located within a Resource Conservation Area ("RCA") and is subject to Critical Area requirements as noted in the ZAC comment dated June 26, 2019 submitted by the Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability ("DEPS"). 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 June 16, 2019, 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 ("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 Petitioners.

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

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 <u>12<sup>th</sup></u> day of **July**, **2019**, 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 an accessory use garage in the front yard (prior zoning Case No. 08-0165-A granted an accessory shed in the front yard where the proposed new garage will be located), and for an existing shed to be relocated to the rear yard per site plan, 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 DEPS ZAC comment, dated June 26, 2019; a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof.
- Petitioners or subsequent owners shall not convert the garage into a dwelling unit or apartment. The proposed garage shall not contain any sleeping quarters, living area, and kitchen or bathroom facilities.
- The proposed garage 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.

JOHN E. BEVERUNGEN Administrative Law Judge for Baltimore County

JEB:dlw