

**TOWN OF BARKHAMSTED
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
MINUTES OF MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 2009**

Chairman William LeGeyt called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present were Daniel Lamont, Chris Tooker, and Alternate, Paul Duran. Also present was staff secretary, Debbie Brydon and Zoning Enforcement Officer, Rista Holda. Chairman LeGeyt sat Paul Duran for Marcie Patchett.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Application submitted by Jan and Bonnie Dommel, applicant/owners for property located at 6 Birchwood Drive. A variance to Article IV, section 193-28 of the Zoning Regulations, allowing for a reduction by 3.2 feet for a front yard setback for construction of a handicap ramp.

Staff read the legal notice into the record. Jan Dommel was present and presented a survey and pictures showing the location of the handicap ramp. Mr. Dommel explained that the topography in the rear of the house is very rough and not suitable for wheelchair access, in case of a fire. Chairman LeGeyt made a site visit to the home and confirmed Mr. Dommel's testimony. Rista Holda also visited the site and confirmed that the front of the home was the most feasible location.

Jane Schneider, a neighbor was present and had no objection to the ramp. Staff also read two more letters from neighbors that did not object.

Lamont made a motion to close hearing at 7:10 pm, seconded by Tooker and unanimously approved.

PENDING APPLICATIONS:

Application submitted by Jan and Bonnie Dommel, applicant/owners for property located at 6 Birchwood Drive. A variance to Article IV, section 193-28 of the Zoning Regulations, allowing for a reduction by 3.2 feet for a front yard setback for construction of a handicap ramp.

Lamont made a motion to approve the variance, as per written and oral testimony, due to the topography and safety issues, seconded by Tooker.

Rista Holda advised the Board that recent legislature was passed regarding ADA laws for a hardship when applying for a variance. The Board voted unanimously in favor of approving the variance.

Approval of minutes: Lamont moved to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2009, meeting, as presented. Tooker seconded and the motion passed.

Correspondence: Letter read from Selectman, Donald S. Stein regarding the resurfacing of Hillcrest Drive.

Any other business: None

Lamont moved to adjourn at 7:25 p.m. Duran seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Approved _____ Date _____
Marcie Patchett -secretary