## MEETING IS CALLED TO ORDER:

 $\,$  MR. LEVITON: Okay, let me ask you to join me in a salute to our flag.

## SALUTE TO THE FLAG

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MR. LEVITON: Pursuant to section five of the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting of the Manalapan Township Zoning Board of Adjustment was sent and advertised in the Asbury Park Press. A copy of that notice was posted here on the bulletin board outside these doors where public notices are displayed. In addition, a copy of this notice is and has been available to the public and is on file in the office of the municipal clerk. God bless you. Accordingly, this meeting is deemed in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Roll call please.

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## ROLL CALL

MS. MOENCH: Mr. Shalikar?

MR. SHALIKAR: Yup.

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MS. MOENCH: Mr. Weiss? Absent. Mr. Harrington?

MR. HARRINGTON: Yes.

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MS. MOENCH: Ms. Klompus? Not with us tonight. Mr. Mantagas? Not here. Mr. Wechsler?

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MR. WECHSLER: Here.

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MS. MOENCH: Mr. Pochopin?

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MR. POCHOPIN: Here.

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MS. MOENCH: Ms. Levenson?

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MS. BAKER-LEVENSON: Here.

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MS. MOENCH: Ms. Latilla?

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MS. LATILLA: Here.

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MS. MOENCH: Mr. Hughes?

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MR. HUGHES: Here.

MS. MOENCH: Chair Leviton? MR. LEVITON: Here. Okay, we need to accept the minutes from October 16th. Will someone move to do so? MR. WECHSLER: I'll make a motion to accept the minutes. MR. LEVITON: Thank you Mr. Wechsler. Will someone else second that? MR. POCHOPIN: I'll second it. MR. LEVITON: Thank you Mr. Pochopin. ROLL CALL MS. MOENCH: Mr. Shalikar? MR. SHALIKAR: Yes. MS. MOENCH: Mr. Harrington? MR. HARRINGTON: Yes. MS. MOENCH: Mr. Wechsler? MR. WECHSLER: Yes. MS. MOENCH: Mr. Pochopin? MR. POCHOPIN: Yes. MS. MOENCH: Ms. Levenson? MS. LEVENSON: Yes. MS. MOENCH: Ms. Latilla? MS. LATILLA: Yes. MS. MOENCH: Mr. Hughes? MR. HUGHES: Yes. MS. MOENCH: Chair Leviton? 

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MR. LEVITON: Yes. Before we get to our public hearing 1 2 tonight, we need to also memorialize one application. It's number 1917A-EX, counselor. 3 4 5 MR. MARMERO: Sure Mr. Chair. What you have in front of you is an resolution the applicant Ambe Holding, LLC and this application 6 was just for an extension of time. The applicant was granted a minor 7 subdivision variance approval earlier this year. One of the conditions 8 was to timing to a landscape screening and the applicant sought an 9 10 extension of time for that to comply with that condition and the extension of time was - - - as well. 11 12 MR. LEVITON: Thank you very much Mr. Marmero. Okay, will 13 someone move to memorialize? 14 15 MR. SHALIKAR: I'll make the motion. 16 17 18 MR. LEVITON: You are not, oh yes you are. Thank you Mr. Shalikar and will someone second that please? 19 20 MR. POCHOPIN: I'll second it. 21 22 23 MR. LEVITON: Thank you Mr. Pochopin. 24 ROLL CALL 25 26 MS. MOENCH: Mr. Shalikar? 27 28 MR. SHALIKAR: Yes. 29 30 31 MS. MOENCH: Mr. Harrington? 32 MR. HARRINGTON: Yes. 33 34 MS. MOENCH: Mr. Wechsler? 35 36 MR. WECHSLER: Yes. 37 38 39 MS. MOENCH: Mr. Pochopin? 40 MR. POCHOPIN: Yes. 41 42 MS. MOENCH: Ms. Levenson? 43 44 45 MS. BAKER-LEVENSON: Yes. 46

MS. MOENCH: Chair Leviton?

MR. LEVITON: Yes. Alright before we call our application for this evening, I just want to indicate that I am aware that the storm last week interrupted the webinar that the three of you were scheduled to participate in and that it's been subsequently rescheduled and that all three of you missed it for that as well and I want to thank you for it and good stuff. Okay, at this time I will call the Lobzhanidze's. Their application is number ZBE2537. Come on up. Our attorney Mr. Marmero will swear you in. Mrs. Lobzhanidze you'll be doing most of the speaking, but we'll swear in Mr. Lobzhanidze as well. In case he has to contribute.

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MR. MARMERO: Sure, so if you'll both will raise your right hand, I'll swear you in. Do you swear the testimony you provide tonight will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth? Okay.

MR. LEVITON: Thank you. Please sit and be comfortable. Take note of the closeness of the microphone to my own mouth. These proceedings are recorded and then later transcribed and they're sensitive so they'll pick up what you say.

MS. MOENCH: Yup perfect.

MRS. LOZHANIDZE: Can I grab my water?

MR. LEVITON: Oh, get whatever you need, sure.

MRS. LOZHANIDZE: I'm nervous so I need it.

MR. LEVITON: Very good. Does anyone on the dais speak Russian if we need to? How about Georgian? Okay, then we're going to rely on your understanding of English.

MRS. LOZHANIDZE: I'll try my best

MR. LEVITON: And so will we. Okay, before I ask you to tell us about your application, I want to let you know that your case is different from all of the cases that this Board has seen this year. So, there will be opportunities for myself to take and pause and maybe share with the Board things that they haven't seen. Some of our Board members are new. I assure you that these discussions will be purely educational and they won't impact on our decision whatsoever.

MRS. LOZHANIDZE: Okay.

MR. LEVITON: Okay why don't you walk the Board through your application and explain to them what it is you need from us.

MRS. LOZHANIDZE: Good evening, everyone. First of all, I 1 2 want to tell you thank you for giving me minutes to share our story. So, I'm Tamar, his wife, and the house at 195 Pease Road is the first 3 home our family has owned, first time. So, me and my husband purchased 4 this house for our children, parents, and we decided three generations 5 under one roof. So, we were saving long time and we got the key for 6 house. We were very happy and excited to move in and our dream came 7 true, but soon this dream turned into something very different. So, at 8 the beginning we wanted simply safe house for build a future. So, 9 10 before we move in, we decided to do small cosmetic work to feel our own. For example, painting, changing floor, and then we found and 11 uncovered different problems. For example, kitchen floor was 12 absolutely rotten and half of the pad of the floor was - - - away 13 absolute out. Ceiling was wet and was tearing down. Pipes were not 14 15 connected right way. Electricity was wired many times and it was absolutely unsafe. In the middle of the room was like a concrete wall, 16 double walls, windows. When we found the sign of fire damage it was 17 covered up. So, then our dream became a very nervous, anxious because 18 we found absolutely different. We didn't have experience. It was the 19 first time purchase and nobody told us about that. What we want right 20 now I can't count - - - found more. I've had plumbing. It was 21 destroyed. Underneath the kitchen was years collecting the rain water 22 and it was destroying structure and hole beneath the kitchen. 23

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MR. LEVITON: Did you get your home inspected before you closed on it?

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MRS. LOZHANIDZE: Can I translate to him?

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MR. LEVITON: Yeah.

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MR. LOZHANIDZE: Yeah, we inspected everything. I hired another inspection.

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MRS. LOZHANIDZE: Addition, addition inspection.

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MR. LOZHANIDZE: But every paper checked by agent. I believe he thinks he knows everything. He told me some problems, but he says to me only baseboard colors problem and he changed the baseboard colors. Okay, I'm happy.

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 $\,$  MR. LEVITON: Time out, I'm not following him. Maybe you can finish that story.

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MR. LOZHANIDZE: Sorry.

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MR. LEVITON: It's okay.

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MRS. LOZHANIDZE: So, when we did the inspection, when we 1 2 did the inspection after that they mentioned everything's fine there just needs move in only - - - board. 3 4 MR. LOZHANIDZE: Base board. 5 6 7 MRS. LOZHANIDZE: Base board, yes, base board was problem that's all. Absolutely nothing was mentioned there. So that was not 8 only place we could not move. It was not safe, absolutely not safe to 9 10 go there. 11 12 MR. LEVITON: Okay so you bought the house, you moved in, and then you discovered you can't stay there because there are too 13 many problems? 14 15 MRS. LOZHANIDZE: We didn't move in. 16 17 18 MR. LEVITON: You never moved in. 19 MRS. LOZHANIDZE: We never moved in. We tried to do the 20 small cosmetic work, painting and the floor change. That time we found 21 many serious different problems which I counted them. 22 23 MR. LOZHANIDZE: So, I tell him in Georgian I don't want to 24 bother you with my broken English. 25 26 MRS. LOZHANIDZE: So, we didn't know at all, anything the 27 problem we found there. 28 29 MR. LEVITON: Okay, let me just back track a little bit and 30 ask. When did you close on this house? 31 32 33 MRS. LOZHANIDZE: When was the closing? 34 MR. LEVITON: Yes. 35 36 37 MRS. LOZHANIDZE: That was January 16, 2025. 38 MR. LEVITON: Okay, almost one year now. 39 40 MRS. LOZHANIDZE: Almost. 41 42 MR. LEVITON: Are you still living in Avenel? 43 44 MRS. LOZHANIDZE: Yes. 45 46

MR. LEVITON: And you rent in Avenel?

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MRS. LOZHANIDZE: Yes. 1 2 3 MR. LOZHANIDZE: Yes. 4 5 MR. LEVITON: And I believe you testified it's your intention to improve on this house to move in parents and children, 6 7 three generations? 8 MRS. LOZHANIDZE: Yes, two children and then parents, my 9 10 sister. 11 12 MR. LOZHANIDZE: Yes, our parents come here in January. 13 14 MRS. LOZHANIDZE: January, they came. 15 MR. LOZHANIDZE: Because we're thinking buy house and we can 16 17 live together. 18 19 MR. LEVITON: They came from Ukraine? 20 21 MR. LOZHANIDZE: From Georgia. 22 23 MR. LEVITON: From Georgia, okay. So let me define for the record what it is that you seek. First off, their home is a pre-24 existing, non-conformity. It's legal. It's at the zero property line. 25 It should be seventy. In today's world, seventy-five feet setback, 26 front yard setback would be what's required. So, they're currently 27 legal in their pre-existing, non-conformity. So, with that in mind, 28 let's go out and see what you all think. Let's start with Michael. 29 30 31 MR. WECHSLER: Thank you. I have no questions. I will not 32 attempt to pronounce your last name out of respect. 33 34 MRS. LOZHANIDZE: It's okay. 35 36 MR. WECHSLER: I have passed that property since I've lived here probably like ten thousand times. I live near the corner so. I 37 think what you're going to be doing was great for the community and 38 39 for the area. I wish you the best of luck. 40 MRS. LOZHANIDZE: Thank you. 41 42 MR. WECHSLER: And thank you for your time. 43 44 45 MR. LOZHANIDZE: Thank you.

MR. LEVITON: Joshua?

MR. SHALIKAR: I was actually going to have a very similar speech as Michael over here. Passed it probably about ten thousand times as well. I'm actually very excited for what you're going to be doing to that property. I wish you the best of luck. I have absolutely no questions.

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MRS. LOZHANIDZE: Thank you.

MR. LEVITON: Daniel?

MR. POCHOPIN: At first I've seen that you have a two, looks like you have a driveway on the side with a garage. You're going to have in the front. You also have, it's still cut out on the curb to pull in the front also and you plan on leaving it that way, I guess?

MRS. LOZHANIDZE: Yes, and I don't know adding anything else. So, we know that this property - - - So the back is wetlands. It's too close to lot so we're not doing anything, adding, or moving, or change the footprint. We just want to fix everything right first of all to be safe and second floor we can show the picture. Second floor only just enlarge to get more space, more rooms, and then second floor height. Right now, it's a triangle shape to get height which is the standards. Nothing else. Right now, it looks like that.

MR. LEVITON: Okay so just a second. We need to slow down just a little bit. I have seen that picture. It is part of my packet, but I don't know where it is or what it's called.

MS. MOENCH: It was submitted with the application.

MR. LEVITON: The picture that Mr. Lobzhanidze is holding up is submitted. It is part of our packet and it is showing the existing home as it is looking south on Pease Road from north to south. Okay and what is it that you want to say about it? Anything else?

MRS. LOZHANIDZE: And the way to assure that if we do whatever we're planning to do want to do it would be aesthetically pleasing in the neighborhood to look good also, and we want to join this neighborhood as soon as possible and we'd love to be there and hoping that everything will be good.

MR. LEVITON: Okay, let me just back up a second. Dan, she testified about the wetlands in the back and I want to direct your attention to the memorandum written by our administrator Mr. Boccanfuso. Number one he talked about, are you planning on improving anything outside behind the house?

MR. LOZHANIDZE: No.

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MR. LEVITON: So, the answer's no. You don't have to show us.

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 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{MRS}}$  . LOZHANIDZE: No, outside staying. What exactly is the question?

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MR. LEVITON: Yeah.

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MRS. LOZHANIDZE: No, I'll translate him what exactly the question.

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MR. LEVITON: Let the record reflect that they're talking to each other in their native language.

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MRS. LOZHANIDZE: Garden, only if it's possible. Garden and the path that's all because behind is the huge land.

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MR. LEVITON: Okay so number two in his memorandum he talks about you possibly requiring permits from. Brian, do you remember? Oh, permits from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection that you may. I'm assuming that you have not been in contact with that department? You don't have a letter of interpretation from them. You don't know. If that's the reason why the house is situated where it is. It's likely that that's the reason. If there was a buffer in the back that could not be built upon. The home initially needed to be built in the front right on the zero lot line. We don't know though because you have not spoken with them. You don't have a letter of interpretation. So, I need to put on the record that if this Board approves your application, that does not waive or imply D.E.P. approval. You would still need to get that if it's necessary, and no disturbance in the back. I don't even think a garden. I don't know you testified you want to put a garden, but there's no disturbance that can occur without D.E.P. permits. Albert, am I correct about that?

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MR. MARMERO: Yeah, I don't know if a garden - - - Again have to be subject to whatever D.E.P. permits doesn't constrain us on granting an approval or not granting an approval from outside agencies - - an approval from us would be considered - - - D.E.P. and the determination of where those wetlands are located - - -

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MR. LEVITON: So, Applicants need to, according to the law, the New Jersey Municipal Land Use Law, they need to satisfy positive criteria and negative criteria. Albert, they're seeking a C variance, correct? This is bulk?

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MR. MARMERO: Yes.

MR. LEVITON: So, one way you can establish positive 1 2 criteria is by telling this board which you already have that there are wetlands in the back that constrict the way you can build on the 3 property. That's a hardship. A hardship is a C1 variance. The second 4 way you can establish positive criteria is by advancing one of the 5 purposes of the MLUL and you indicated that this would be an aesthetic 6 7 improvement, and that does it. So, you can get to C1 or C2 easily. There's no problem doing that. However, in this case board and here's 8 where it deviates from others that we've seen this year, it's the 9 negative criteria that they may have difficulty establishing. The 10 negative criteria stipulates that what they do doesn't create a 11 substantial hardship to the community. It also says that it can't 12 deviate from the master plan. It can't fly in the face of what the 13 ordinance says and what the township is already directed in the way of 14 15 the law. So, Mrs. Lobzhanidze testified that she's not changing the footprint. That their plan doesn't change the footprint and that's a 16 good thing. That usually matters, but what she is increasing. What 17 this application does increase is the intensity of the use. Right? 18 They're going up and they're putting seven bedrooms up there. There's 19 only one currently in the house downstairs. So, there are going to be 20 a lot of people in the house and that's going to bring more Amazon 21 trucks, more school buses. At a place where there's a light and I grew 22 up around the corner also. I know the area well and I worked at Pine 23 Brook School for a good number of years. It's not unfamiliar to 24 myself, but this Board now needs to weigh, is it a substantial 25 detriment. It may, the intensity is definitely going to be increased, 26 but offsetting that, the aesthetics are going to definitely improve 27 and that's where we need to weigh whether or not we grant the variance 28 relief that the applicant seeks. So now that I've said that, Dan I'll 29 go back to you and ask you to forgive me for interrupting. 30

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MR. POCHOPIN: Thank you, yes. Thanks for that summary, Steve. You said you had parents and two children?

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MRS. LOZHANIDZE: Yes.

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MR. POCHOPIN: Is there any reason why you have seven bedrooms though or just maybe for future just in case more relatives?

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 $$\operatorname{MR.\ LOZHANIDZE}\colon$\operatorname{We'}\operatorname{re}$$  not having seven bedrooms. It's not big house.

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 $\,$  MR. POCHOPIN: It looked like there was seven bedrooms on the print out.

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MRS. LOZHANIDZE: On the paper?

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MR. POCHOPIN: Second floor.

MR. LEVITON: Let me direct you to the plot plan you submitted to the township. Page two of your plot plan shows downstairs, one master bedroom and then upstairs I'm going to count them. One, two, three, four, five, six making seven altogether or eight. Did I undercount? Did anybody follow along?

MS. LATILLA: No seven.

MR. LEVITON: It's seven altogether. Okay so your plot plan, you submitted it to this board shows seven bedrooms. It's futile to argue that the intensity is going to increase, it will. So, Dan back to you.

MR. POCHOPIN: Thank you. So, seven bedrooms and what the Chair is concerned about the traffic on that corner. It's very close. I understand the aesthetics and making it better and safe, but then it's also very high. So be cognizant of lighting also there on that corner high up. People at those intersections - - - that's another concern so. That's all the questions I have.

MR. LEVITON: Thank you Dan. John? Yeah, let the record reflect that they're speaking to each other again in their native language. We're going to give them a minute to finish that up.

MRS. LOZHANIDZE: He's saying that this is not the final plan what you have right now. The upstairs so many bedrooms and downstairs, one master bedroom. So, this bedrooms amount doesn't change our family members number. So, it is not final. It doesn't mean we're going to do upstairs seven bedrooms and totally eight bedrooms, no. It was the idea we want upstairs, more space and room for living.

MR. POCHOPIN: I understand, but unfortunately this is all we have here. So, I'll leave the Chair to the final comment.

MR. LEVITON: Yeah, the work is going to increase the intensity of the habitable space. How many bedrooms specifically there are is a moot point because the intent of section 95-7.3 subsection F that Mr. Boccanfuso delineated in his denial is what we need to consider. Actually, this board needs to see, they need to weigh whether or not the intensity increase is going to offset the aesthetic appeal and it's up to them. You only need four yes votes and despite the fact that there are eight of us up here, only three, five, six, seven. Despite the fact that there are eight of us, only seven votes will count tonight and you need four yeses. So, let's continue on, John? I have no preconceived notion of which way I'm going to go. I'm just laying out the case and we're going to talk about it and we'll see where we get to. Go ahead John.

MR. HARRINGTON: I think it's a great improvement on the corner. I understand the height, the number of bedrooms, seven. I see six people living in the house. I don't see that much of a detriment. So that's kind of how I feel.

MR. LEVITON: That's fine, that's fine, and the negative prong of the MLUL is substantial detriment, and that's subjective. You can see it however you want.

MR. HARRINGTON: Yeah, and the only question I will ask though, your septic right, is it septic, or is it?

MR. LOZHANIDZE: No.

MRS. LOZHANIDZE: Public.

MR. HARRINGTON: Public, okay yeah, I didn't see it there. I just saw concrete on one of the things and it prompted me to ask that question. Other than that, I have no other questions. I think I feel a certain way.

MR. LEVITON: Ms. Baker-Levenson?

MS. BAKER-LEVENSON: Sure, so thank you. My initial thought when I saw the design of the house, the first thing that came to mind was if you would be keeping that door on Pease Road and which way would you consider the front of the house?

MRS. LOZHANIDZE: So, question is which way would be the front door? The side, so yes driveway, side of driveway side. There is already existing door so when we can pack the car the side it's already existing door. We not creating. It is already there the door. That would be front door.

MS. BAKER-LEVENSON: So, the one closest to the garage door is going to be your front door or the one on the other side of the house?

MRS. LOZHANIDZE: Other side. This one.

MR. LEVITON: Let the record reflect that the applicants are holding up a large rendering of the house as it currently exists, and they're pointing to the existing front door which is on the east face of the dwelling.

MS. BAKER-LEVENSON: So just my own curiosity, is there a reason you wanted to keep the door near the garage?

MRS. LOZHANIDZE: The garage side door?

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 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{MS.}}$  BAKER-LEVENSON: Yes, so you have a door next to the garage.

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MRS. LOZHANIDZE: Yes, it is already there so that's why we keeping. If it doesn't need it, we can just not have it.

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MR. LEVITON: Yeah she makes a good point, and I'm going to piggy back on that and I'm going to say I would not, the way your plot plan has shown the new rendering and I'm going to hold it up so everybody can see what I'm talking about and counselor you know, shows a portico over the door by the garage and the existing front door still there where the small area of blacktop and if this board were so inclined I would suggest strongly that we make it a condition that that front door gets eliminated and that the blacktop there gets eliminated as well. It would make me very uncomfortable to put a home full of children and this family may not have it, but in twenty years a new family may have an upstairs filled with children standing on Pease Road looking to get picked up by a bus makes me uncomfortable so, and I will tell you I had. I lived here in town. I grew up in town, and I can tell you horror stories that would make this courtroom cringe and I will not, but they're ugly and they have to do with homes right on Pease Road and children. So, Mr. Marmero, you're taking notes. Board, you can revisit or you can tell me you don't care. It matters to me. So, I take your point well and I thank you for it.

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MS. BAKER-LEVENSON: So yes, that was where I was kind of getting with my thought process as well as I have young kids and yeah they rarely, they could go out of the house. That was a concern for me. That door is so close to Pease Road and also just practically you're going to get trick-or-treaters at that door and the front door and you're going to get Amazon packages delivered all over. So I was thinking the practical purposes and the safety reasons were a concern when I first saw this picture.

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MRS. LOZHANIDZE: Yes, not needed, more safety so.

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MR. LEVITON: Albert, have I overstepped? Are we not allowed to impose that as a condition?

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46 47 MR. MARMERO: Well, it's a safety issue so you certainly can. I think we just want to be sure just in case some of that blacktop leads back to that garage. So, I think we can clearly the door- - if that's your concern while eliminating that's certainly an issue for - - again because it's an intensification of the use

and the condition based on safety. I was just looking at it. I don't know if --- access to that garage. ---

MR. LEVITON: Yeah. I don't want to see children standing there. I'd rather them where the driveway is wide and more accessible and near the safety of a portico just not right on the road. Definitely a safety matter.

MS. BAKER-LEVENSON: So, my only other question though and I don't know the answer to this. I'm assuming you need at least one other door for fire safety purposes, but I do see there is another back door to the house currently off the master bedroom. So, then you'd still have two exits, two doors. I don't know if there's any requirement for that. That's the only questions I have.

MR. LEVITON: Okay so about that garage, if it's important to the Lobzhanidze's they can orient the door on the other side of where it is now and access it from the back of the house and I wouldn't have a problem with that, but getting there from the front, I want to see that removed. I think that wouldn't rise in my mind to a substantial detriment to the public good, to safety. So, I can't --- I'm only one vote. That's just me. I'm only one vote. You only need four yeses. Okay, before I go onto Ms. Latilla, I do want to redirect my thoughts to the memorandum written and sent to you by Mr. Boccanfuso. There's a third bulleted suggestion. It talks about sidewalks and your home is in an area where there are not currently sidewalks running the length of Pease Road. Therefore, I will not impose the construction of a sidewalk, but you would still be responsible for paying into a fund in lieu of building a sidewalk. That's a new law. Brian, how long has that been on the books?

MR. BOCCANFUSO: It's been on in some form for a while, but it's been cleaned up and clarified recently, probably the past couple of years. So, it's not brand new, but the interpretation of it and the black and white language in the ordinance was recently modified.

MR. LEVITON: So, you would have to pay for the construction of a sidewalk which we're not going to make you do, but you do have to contribute to that fund. Okay, Ms. Latilla.

MS. LATILLA: So, just like everybody here I pass this a lot as well. I think it's a great improvement. I do have one concern is parking and drivers. How many people are going to be in the home, and where are they going to put the cars especially where? I agree with eliminating the black in the front, but then if you've got multiple people, multiple drivers. I'm not sure where they're going to park especially being close to there. I do see sometimes parking on Pease Road, but with this being close to the light, I would say that's one

of my concerns. Where are the cars going to go? Not just for them, but for future because we're going to have seven bedrooms, seven drivers.

MR. LEVITON: Of course, a legitimate concern.

MRS. LOZHANIDZE: So right now, we have three cars in the family. The parents, not driving. So, the house has a long driveway, over here, and also there is a --- garage next to garage at this spot.

MS. LATILLA: I'm so sorry. What was the second part?

MRS. LOZHANIDZE: Next to garage there is a space. So maybe we can use for car, for driveway.

MR. LEVITON: That space next to the garage, can you go around the back of the house? Is there?

MRS. LOZHANIDZE: Yes, it's a space.

MR. LEVITON: There's blacktop there?

MRS. LOZHANIDZE: There is not a driveway now. Driveway is in front.

MR. LEVITON: Is it possible barrister, that that impervious material behind the house is? Yeah, infringing on constraints that the buffer zone may have on the property?

MR. MARMERO: Well, we wouldn't know.

MR. LEVITON: We don't know. It's something else to consider. Good point Temika. Anything else?

MS. LATILLA: That's all I have, thank you.

MR. LEVITON: Mr. Hughes?

 MR. HUGHES: Well, going last everyone's hitting on the points that I was going to say. First, I do think that this is a tremendous improvement to that corner. I too live in the area and pass it multiple times. I had a question about the sidewalk which the chairman had answered. Also, about the impervious material infringing on the wetlands and what not, but we don't know without that formal D.E.P. submission permit. I did have a question about the front door. I agree with the safety elements of it, but someone had mentioned code, and I wasn't sure about in an emergency locating a door if someone had to access the house or what not. If that would be so

1 intuitive to go around the corner to find a door, but other than that 2 that was my only comment.

MR. LEVITON: Thank you Patrick. Michael, anything else?

MR. WECHSLER: I have a question just about the context. Currently can you get from the garage to the inside of your house? Is there a door there?

MRS. LOZHANIDZE: What's the question?

MR. WECHSLER: So, the garage that's there now.

MRS. LOZHANIDZE: There's the garage yes.

MR. WECHSLER: Right so currently, is there a door that goes between the house and that garage?

MR. LOZHANIDZE: No.

MR. WECHSLER: Right, which is the reason why the other door is out front. In your current plan when they do the new construction, will there be a door going from the garage into the house?

MRS. LOZHANIDZE: Yes.

MR. WECHSLER: Then that would answer any questions on.

MR. LEVITON: What was the answer? Did you get an answer to your satisfaction?

MR. WECHSLER: Yeah. I haven't asked ---

MR. LEVITON: Okay.

MR. SHALIKAR: Chair if I can comment.

MR. LEVITON: Yeah, Mr. Shalikar.

MR. SHALIKAR: So, I think safety can be interpreted in many different ways. I don't think it's our obligation to determine where the front door of the house goes. I don't think it's in our purview and to be honest I do agree with the blacktop. I think it's excessive in terms of the plan of the house to having blacktop going all around the front. I think that might be excessive. You can accommodate a walkway, other ways of satisfying that. You're maintaining the existing footprint of the house, correct? You're not extending it by any means?

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1 MRS. LOZHANIDZE: Nothing.

MR. SHALIKAR: Right.

MRS. LOZHANIDZE: Just the second floor enlarged. We're calling enlarged not adding anything or go the side any direction.

 $\,$  MR. SHALIKAR: Albert, in terms of what are we looking at here in terms of zoning?

MR. MARMERO: The provision from your code you're looking at is 95743-2B non-conforming building or structure cannot be enlarged, extended, increased in height, width - - -

MR. SHALIKAR: Okay increased in height, fine.

MR. MARMERO: Located in --- all requirements so it doesn't.

MR. SHALIKAR: Thank you.

MR. MARMERO: Which then subjects it to a positive criteria to do that. ---

MR. SHALIKAR: Yeah that makes sense. I certainly see the negative and positive criteria. I don't see a struggle with that from my perspective. I'm strongly --- where we're going to tell them to put the front door. Again, do you want to talk safety and egress? Removing a front door to a house is a huge safety concern and limiting to where they can even enter a house is another safety concern. In the event of a fire, I can pull that card, you're eliminating a very I would say logical way to leave a residence. That's my opinion. They're also probably not going to be the first and last people to own this house. The next owners might be a family of two, might be a family of four. So the concerns may not exist in the future. I don't know if it's up to us to dictate that. That's just my personal opinion, take it or leave it. I don't know if I want to approve or deny an application based on that contingency. I don't know how fair that would be to the applicant. That's my opinion. I fully support the fact that the blacktop surrounding the entire front of the house, I think that's excessive. That's my personal opinion. That's it Chair.

MR. LEVITON: So, you would agree to the condition that there's no blacktop in the front?

MR. SHALIKAR: I would agree and I would say you can circumvent that by putting a concrete patio that is adequate in terms of width, a walkway that goes to the driveway. I think that's very

common for the neighborhood in the area. It wouldn't seem out of place. I think by doing blacktop you're making it look like a commercial establishment like a restaurant, and I don't know if that really fits the bill.

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MR. LEVITON: See for me, the intensity is going to be increased. That is a negative situation. When you increase intensity of the habitable space at that site, that's a problem. I don't know that it rises to the level of substantial and I do love that their application would definitely improve the aesthetics of the community.

MR. SHALIKAR: Sure.

MR. LEVITON: However, in my mind's eye I can see young children not necessarily the Lobzhanidze's, but someday children running around that house right along Pease Road in a situation that could potentially be hazardous and it's not. My main philosophy, my number one philosophy as the chairman of this board is to never make a bad situation worse. I would hate, just hate, to me it's a danger.

MR. SHALIKAR: I support that. I think my theory is it goes back we make it mandatory for a sidewalk, it's contradictory. Right?

MR. LEVITON: No, it's not mandatory. It's within our purview to say. You understand? Okay.

MR. SHALIKAR: I am. I'm just kind of putting perspective, but if you say we have a sidewalk where kids or families are going to be walking, then we say we have to put a stipulation on what they can do in terms of where their kids will play, in my opinion, it's contradictory. Right? I think that's their home, their residence. They determine the safety of their children, etc. I don't know if that's up to us to do.

MR. LEVITON: Our attorney says we have the right to do so. So, I'll just say it. I had a friend that got killed on Pease Road.

MR. SHALIKAR: Yup.

 MR. LEVITON: He got off the late bus from high school and got killed crossing the street. It may change how I feel if that door stays. I know it may change how you feel too, but that's what we have to. We each have a vote.

MR. POCHOPIN: Mr. Chair, can I just clarify?

MR. LEVITON: Yeah, of course.

MR. POCHOPIN: So, you've testified that that is not the front door that we're addressing right now. The front door is on the side.

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MR. LOZHANIDZE: Yes.

MR. POCHOPIN: So that's the house that we're looking at, the front on the side. Not what we're talking about eliminating. That's not the front door. So, for the safety concern that Mr. Chair has which I agree with, with the blacktop in the front and you also have three other means of egress out of the house. That's more than I have in my home. You have the two back. I see two sliding doors in the back off the bedrooms and I see another one on the side behind the garage, and behind the garage what are those? Are they two swinging doors also off the garage? That's not going into the house though, is it? These two swinging doors here. Are they doors? Are they swinging doors off back of the garage?

MR. LOZHANIDZE: It's not sliding door. Right now, nothing

here.

MR. POCHOPIN: Yeah, but it's showing swinging doors in the back of the garage.

MR. LOZHANIDZE: If it's possible, but right now it's just wall.

MR. POCHOPIN: No, but this is your plans. Yeah, so this they're talking about now. Everybody's thinking they're talking about eliminating the front door, but you already testified that isn't the front door. This is the front door.

MRS. LOZHANIDZE: Yes, this is one yes.

MR. POCHOPIN: Yes, and then one of our chair people, committee asked if you're going to have a door leading into the garage, and that's not on here. So, I'm just trying to get everything clear before I make a decision. Is there going to be a door going from the house like one of our committeepersons said?

MR. LEVITON: Assume that there is Dan. They said it's on the plot plan, it's fine.

MR. POCHOPIN: Okay.

MR. SHALIKAR: But it doesn't matter. It's a point of egress though. So, whether we label it a front door, side door, back door it doesn't matter. It's a point of egress.

MR. POCHOPIN: Yeah, so there's three other ones into the house.

MR. SHALIKAR: Right but.

MR. POCHOPIN: Four total.

MR. SHALIKAR: That's all I'm trying to say.

MR. POCHOPIN: Yeah, four total doors in and out of the house. That's all, yeah.

MRS. LOZHANIDZE: So, you think that this side door, this front door could never be front door?

MR. POCHOPIN: I'm just trying to clarify what the front door is and you guys testified it was the side not the front, and the safety concern that the chair had I would agree with that not being the front, but walking out of the garage into the house. So, if there's going to be a door going into the garage you could be coming out on the front so.

MR. LEVITON: Well, doesn't matter what you call it. It's semantics, but I don't want to make a bad situation worse and I need to weigh whether or not the relief that they seek rises to the level of a substantial detriment. I don't believe I'm there, but I do feel strongly about children playing on Pease Road, and with good reason, and that's my opinion, and I'm sticking to it. Let me go back down to this side, and ask ladies and gentlemen is there anyone who wants to say anything further?

MS. KLOMPUS: I have nothing further.

MR. HARRINGTON: Are you looking to do a fence in the backyard in the future, now, never?

MR. LEVITON: Well, they're prohibited from doing so unless they get permits from the D.E.P., and any action that this board take that allows this project to go further doesn't imply approval. They would need that.

MR. HARRINGTON: Right, absolutely agree with you. I'm saying is there?

MR. BOCCANFUSO: Mr. Chairman if I could just jump in. I have several things, but one item in particular with regards to the fence and the D.E.P. I think the more critical issue as it pertains to

improvements in the rear yard with a patio, or a fence, or a pool, or a deck, not so much a garden unless you're talking about a big structural raised garden. That's not regulated by the zoning requirements, but those other items are regulated by the zoning requirements, and the primary or first challenge with those is that even though they are behind the home they would be within the front setback because there's a seventy-five foot front setback. So, if any of those improvements are envisioned in the future, they're going to need a variance.

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MR. LEVITON: I'm not inclined to give it to them now.

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MR. BOCCANFUSO: Well, that's what I'm saying. Obviously, you can't because there's nothing proposed. We can't just give them a blank, a free pass to do whatever they want. So, if they had short to medium term visions of doing anything like that, it would be in their best interest to maybe take an adjournment for tonight and come back, figure out exactly what they want, and return to the board. Now, if they're confident, saying look we don't want that, we don't need that. If we do want it in the future, we recognize that we'll have to come back and go through this process again, that's fine. Whichever way they go, the board has no ability to supersede the D.E.P. regulations. Those would be reviewed when the permit comes into the zoning department. My department would take a look at that and say either we think you do need a D.E.P. permit and you have to go to the D.E.P. and get it or we're confident saying you don't need a D.E.P. permit and zoning can approve this without it, or we're not sure and you got to either hire an engineer or go to the D.E.P. It would be one of those three things, but it's not something that we need to hash out now except to advise the applicant that, look there are regulated areas back there somewhere. We don't know exactly where they are and they may impact your future development or plans or improvements in the rear portion of the property, but the zoning part is critical because without that they can't even pull a permit.

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MS. MOENCH: Do you remember we discussed that when you guys came to the zoning office about your testimony about if you wanted to do something in the back technically it would be the front? And then at that time they told me if you guys wanted to do something you would come back to the board. But Brian, I just want to make sure that you guys understand what.

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MR. SHALIKAR: So point being, you can come back with plans that indicate your interest in putting a fence up or anything you want in the back yard or you'd have to come back and do this process all over again with another variance request to submit for plans in the future and why I'm mentioning this is if safety is a concern and you have children and if the interest is to potentially put up a fence in

the backyard so that you keep your children in the backyard from playing in the front of the house that could be an indication for you that you care about safety.

MR. LEVITON: Did she testify to that? I missed it.

 $\,$  MR. SHALIKAR: We're all saying safety. We're telling them that we have safety concerns.

MR. LEVITON: Yeah.

MR. SHALIKAR: Right, I'm saying because of the proximity of the house to Pease Road.

MR. LEVITON: Do you understand what they've talked to you about?

MRS. LOZHANIDZE: Yeah, anything we can, for example, want to do patio, fence, or deck, or anything.

MR. LEVITON: Yes.

MRS. LOZHANIDZE: We should do the same process we are going through right now.

MR. LEVITON: Correct or what they're offering you in the alternative is go home, determine what it is that you may want to put up right now and then come back without having to re-notice, without having to pay more and have us evaluate your new plan at that time. So, whatever you want to do.

MRS. LOZHANIDZE: The new plan related only.

MR. LEVITON: Correct, new things.

MRS. LOZHANIDZE: Anything the back?

MR. LEVITON: Yes.

MRS. LOZHANIDZE: So, I mean addition, deck, fence, patio.

MR. LEVITON: Exactly.

MR. BOCCANFUSO: It's not a requirement. It's an offer because say you're going to get this done and next year, you're going to want to put a fence in, I mean it maybe something you want to take a couple weeks and consider because otherwise it's going to be a couple months and another thousand plus dollars when you want to do

it. So, it's entirely up to you. It's not something that you have to do. It's just I think the board has seen this act enough times to know that you may want a fence or a patio in the semi-near future so maybe it benefits you to think a little bit about it now and take some time. Entirely up to you.

 MR. LEVITON: But you're here now and you can continue and I will take a straw vote for you right now. I will survey the board so that you can see whether or not you're going to get the relief that you seek. Let's do that. Michael, are you for or against the application?

MR. WECHSLER: Thumbs up.

MR. LEVITON: You need four. Joshua?

MR. SHALIKAR: I am for the application. Hold on, not including the condition of moving the front door and removing the blacktop in the front.

MR. POCHOPIN: So, I need a little bit of clarity, more. I wish you would consider getting a whole package as suggested for safety reasons, etc. which they expressed, but the difference of doors and not really the front, the side, what you're doing in the backyard. I think I heard a couple of different things that you're not really sure on the plans.

MR. LEVITON: You're still at two votes. Janice, I'm fairly certain Mr. Hughes is the vote that won't count tonight. Is that?

MS. MOENCH: I'm sorry?

MR. LEVITON: Who are the seven members that count tonight?

MS. MOENCH: Yes.

MR. LEVITON: Who's votes?

MS. MOENCH: Everybody but Patrick.

MR. LEVITON: Everybody but Patrick. Okay, only at the end. So, you're at two so far. John?

MR. HARRINGTON: --- three.

MR. LEVITON: You've got three now.

MR. HARRINGTON: The only thing I would want is that if you were to put a fence in or want to.

MS. MOENCH: Is your microphone on?

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{MR}}\xspace$  . HARRINGTON: You would have to come back before the board.

MR. LEVITON: Microphone. Well, they would have to. Microphone John. Just repeat it.

MR. HARRINGTON: I apologize. I would be a third yes. The only thing is that if you were to want a fence or want to do anything a little bit different with the property you would have to come back in front of the board.

MR. LEVITON: Actually, there's only two. It's Mr. Wechsler and Mr. Harrington unless the Board collectively agrees with Mr. Shalikar and then we'll talk about that in a minute. Ms. Baker-Levenson?

 $\,$  MS. BAKER-LEVENSON: I'm for the improvements here. My concern remains about the door and the blacktop or the grass, but I'm going back and forth on this issue because.

MR. LEVITON: I vacillate myself, but site plan is definitely in our purview. Correct? I mean we can impose these conditions.

MR. MAMRERO: What conditions? The ones we talked about?

MR. LEVITON: Yeah.

MR. MARMERO: Yeah so, I'm reading this specific ordinance -- for non-conforming buildings or structures may not be enlarged,
extended, increased in height, width, or depth, relocated, modified in
such a way to increase habitable --- space --- bedrooms. Yeah, it's
all within your purview. You have to find a positive and negative
criteria. The negative criteria certainly could be safety. That is
certainly --- positive as well. But the ordinance is clear that
anytime this increases in height or bedrooms its within your purview
to ---

 MR. LEVITON: But we do have the authority to grant you the relief, and working in your favor, the footprint doesn't change. The addition is modest. It's all internal. You can clearly get to a hardship or you can demonstrate that there's going to be aesthetic

improvement. So, putting conditions on it wouldn't in my mind mitigate potential negative impacts. That's where I come from. Ms. Latilla?

MS. LATILLA: I'm for, minus the blacktop.

 MR. LEVITON: Okay so you have enough votes to go forward tonight. We have not heard from the public yet and I see people out there who want to address us, and they will have the opportunity and we thank them for their patience, and why don't we do that. Go to our professionals here, and then talk about conditions. Okay? Let's do that. Folks, would you like to come up and address the Board or? Come, please. Mr. Marmero will swear you in first. It's okay.

MR. MARMERO: If you raise your right hand. Do you swear the testimony you provide tonight will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?

MS. OBERHUBER: Yes.

MR. MARMERO: And then if you could state your name and address for the record, please?

MS. OBERHUBER: Bridgett Oberhuber 192 Pease Road.

MR. MARMERO: !92?

MS. OBERHUBER: Across the street from subject 192.

MR. LEVITON: Okay Ms. Oberhuber, talk to us.

MS. OBERHUBER: Okay so the only concern that we would have been the number of bedrooms which is the seven bedrooms because that's the potential of increasing the number of people living there. So right now, if you have the three generations, the two children living in two bedrooms, the two couples would be three bedrooms, four bedrooms. One, two, four bedrooms so I could see five bedrooms, but it comes into concern with seven bedrooms which is a possibility to increase the habitat.

MR. LEVITON: We appreciate that input.

MS. OBERHUBER: That's it. Otherwise, everything else from what everybody stated makes sense. We moved in there twenty-five years, yeah twenty-five years. Our children were small, three and one year, one month old. So, we had the experience of living on Pease Road with the kids running around and everything. So, the safety of how close, like you were saying with the blacktop would be an area of concern, but mostly just like I said the bedrooms. That's it.

MR. LEVITON: So, the applicant did testify that they're not married to seven bedrooms, and that the final project may not look like what they're presenting and we take them at their word. And we appreciate your input.

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MS. OBERHUBER: Thank you.

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MR. LEVITON: You're welcome. Okay, Brian? Any thoughts or anything else?

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MR. BOCCANFUSO: Thank you Mr. Chairman. First, a few things. So, I think you nailed the relief that this could either be considered a C1 hardship or a flexible C2 in addition to the wetlands areas and D.E.P.-regulated areas you spoke about in the rear of the property. As it pertains to a hardship, I think that the existing, the legal existing dwelling on the property is a hardship. The section of the land use law speaks to the legal existing improvements on the property. So, I think that that also speaks to the hardship case. We spoke about the rear yard improvements. I would just make sure that we allow the applicant an opportunity to decide, maybe converse with themselves, as to whether or not they want to reconsider that before you go ahead and take any action tonight. We spoke a little bit about the D.E.P. regulations. I think we've beaten that horse sufficiently to death. The D.E.P. is something that the board has no jurisdiction to supersede. They've been notified that there's regulated areas. I'm sure they're aware of that already, and while it does in my opinion contribute to the beauty of the property. It also presents challenges with use and future development. With regard to the layout, bedrooms, design, etc., of the house it's not unheard of or even uncommon for variance applications to come in without architectural plans being completely finalized because there's a cost with going ahead with architectural plans and if you can't get a setback variance, why would you spend the money and do the full architectural? So, certainly not uncommon. However, with that said I think your discussion relative to the intensity and the comments we heard from the neighbor are certainly valid because the design could contribute to the intensity. So that's something that you need to balance. One thing that I would say is that under no circumstances will the architectural design that includes a second kitchen be permitted in this development in this home because that would constitute a second dwelling unit which is not a permitted use and is a whole different type of animal. So that's something that would not be able to get zoning permits if it was included in the final design. Assuming of course if there is an approval here. Along the same lines with intensity while it's certainly logical to conclude that more bedrooms could potentially lead to a higher intensity. What I would say is that when you look at a single-family home from a traffic engineering standpoint, the number

of bedrooms is generally not considered when you're talking about average daily trips. If you look to the residential site improvement standards, they have a breakdown of A.D.T., average daily trips, and I believe it's on the order of 10.1. Mr. Hughes may even be able to speak to this as well as I can, but I think it's 10.1 or 10.2 trips per day for a single-family home. It does not speak to the number of bedrooms in the home. So, while it's logical to conclude that more bedrooms could be more intense, that's not really supported on the engineering side of things. 

MR. LEVITON: Well, there's testimony that multiple generations are going to be living there. I don't know. I guess it's still subjective, but.

MR. BOCCANFUSO: Of course, it is, absolutely. You're not bound by the engineering standards here. I'm just offering it for perspective.

MR. LEVITON: That's your purview Patrick? The I.D.? What do you call it? The I.D., what's the?

MR. BOCANFUSO: R.S.I.S.

MR. LEVITON: That's you?

MR. HUGHES: Yeah, what he was saying is that trip generation is dictated by those standards and yes.

MS. MOENCH: Is your microphone on?

MR. HUGHES: Yes.

MR. LEVITON: Does he work with?

MR. HUGHES: Trip generation is based on all those standards, and I believe Brian is correct of ten to two. So, we don't judge it's based on applicable traffic engineering studies that are done for that size of the dwelling.

MR. LEVITON: Do you work with McDonagh and Raye?

MR. HUGHES: I do not. I work for Colliers Engineering Design, formerly Maser Consulting.

MR. LEVITON: Continue sir, thank you.

MR. BOCCANFUSO: Sure thing. Now one thing that engineering standards do consider as it pertains to the number of bedrooms is

parking. Now we heard there were some concerns relative to the 1 2 parking. I think those are again certainly valid from a practical standpoint, but what I would say is that the parking standards max out 3 at five bedrooms. When you have a five bedroom, single-family home, the requirement is three parking spaces and this existing site does provide three. So, it does meet the standard. The R.S.I.S. and I.T.E. 6 don't have standards for six, seven, eight bedrooms homes. They max 7 out at five. Five is three. Anything more than that I think is three 8 or subject to discretion. So, I think that's where we are here. I 9 would say it complies with the regulations, but of course there's some 10 judgment involved. So, with all that said, one thing that the board 11 could consider and I just kind of had a little, really quick, sidebar 12 with our attorney is that if the intensity is legitimately a concern 13 whether from a traffic generation standpoint or a parking standpoint 14 15 or both, you could impose a condition limiting the final design to a certain number of bedrooms. Whatever that number is that you're 16 comfortable with; be it four, five, six, seven, whatever. Not a 17 requirement, not something you have to do, just not something I heard 18 anybody raise as a possibility. So, I'm offering it for consideration. 19 As far as the conditions, there seems to be not a total consensus on 20 what the condition would be relative to the door placement and the 21 pavement removal. So, I would just ask that if there is a motion 22 whether it be tonight or in the future that that condition be clearly 23 specified because I'm the one. I'm going to review the resolution that 24 I would have to enforce of course as part of the zoning permit 25 application, and the last thing is with regard to the sidewalk payment 26 in lieu, I will take a close look at this because if sidewalk and 27 curbing, if the requirement is applied to the totality of the lot, 28 this is a tremendous dollar amount. It would be several tens of 29 thousands of dollars for the payment in lieu based upon how much 30 31 sidewalk due to the size of the lot.

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MR. LEVITON: Then we appreciate your intervention. That would be harsh and uncalled for.

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MR. BOCCANFUSO: I think it would render the project financially infeasible for these folks. So, I would look at it as liberally as I could. The board has no ability to completely waive the requirement. So, I would do everything I could to make it reasonable, but there would be some type of contribution that would be required.

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MR. LEVITON: But the Board does see to the authority to make that decision on its behalf and Mr. Marmero will include.

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MR. MARMERO: Well, I'm looking at the code now as far as I understand it your authority is to allow the sidewalk curb to require the sidewalk which permits a payment. I just don't know what your curbing is with respect to ways to mitigate.

MR. LEVITON: We're going to permit the payment, and we're going to allow the administrator to determine what a fair payment is. Write it up that way.

MR. BOCCANFUSO: Yeah, I think it's as calculated by the township engineer. So, I would have to put that hat on, and make the calculation, but I had some recent correspondence with the municipal attorney about a similar matter. Whether this item in particular and others are applicable to these single-family lots, and the variance applications were a bit of a gray area. So, I could certainly circle back with him and try to be as reasonable as I can as the ordinance allows me to be with regard to the imposition of this payment in lieu requirement.

MR. LEVITON: Thank you Brian.

MS. MOENCH: Pavement doesn't count as; the pavement couldn't count as the sidewalk?

MR. LEVITON: Even if it did, it would be a drop in a bucket. The total frontage of this site is between Pease and Pine Brook is 900 linear feet, if not more.

MS. MOENCH: But then they'd --- take up pavement or that wouldn't?

MR. BOCCANFUSO: Yeah, but I mean that's.

MS. MOENCH: I mean that wouldn't count?

MR. BOCCANFUSO: That's like twenty, thirty feet. Nine hundred minus twenty is still an extraordinary amount of sidewalk.

MS. MOENCH: Yeah, just thought that it would count in their favor.

MR. BOCCANFUSO: And the Pease Road frontage does have curbing. So that's a non-issue, but just sidewalk along the entire frontage whether it's eight hundred feet, nine hundred feet times four times the unit cost plus the curbing on Pine Brook it would be. I did a real quick dirty calculation, it's like thirty thousand dollars.

 $\,$  MS. MOENCH: But they might have wanted to wetlands there too or --- issues there.

MR. BOCCANFUSO Potentially, maybe that's the gray area.

PAGE 30 MR. LEVITON: Brian, Janice, Albert I don't know. Whoever 1 2 knows. They've submitted a plot plan. In the past, I've considered asking applicants to come back with a grading plan or a plot plan, and 3 I know that the grading plan is much less expensive. I know that the 4 plot plan is expensive, but less expensive than an architectural mock 5 up. Do you know how much people would spend on a plot plan? 6 7 MR. BOCCANFUSO: It can vary wildly. It's hard to say. 8 9 10 MR. LEVITON: Give me a range. Give me a low to. 11 12 MR. BOCCANFUSO: To hire an engineer to do. The topography is very costly because you have to do the topographic survey, and the 13 grading design. 14 15 MR. LEVITON: It could be five thousand? It could be ten 16 17 thousand? 18 19 MR. BOCCANFUSO: Ten thousand would be a little high. I would say probably three to six thousand is probably something that 20 they would be looking at, but in this particular case since there's 21 no, virtually no, site improvements proposed unless they have to 22 remove some of that pavement from the house. They wouldn't need to 23 submit a grading plan or detailed engineering report. 24 25 26 MR. LEVITON: No, but they already have a plot plan. I was 27 just curious. 28 MR. BOCCANFUSO: Yeah, well they don't. They have an 29 30 architectural. 31 MR. LEVITON: It's titled plot plan. I haven't looked at it. 32 33 34 MR. BOCCANFUSO: Semantics. 35 36 MR. LEVITON: Yeah, semantics. 37 38 MR. BOCCANFUSO: What they have here in their. 39 40 MR. LEVITON: And they're not bound by it. Let's make that clear too. 41 42 MR. BOCCANFUSO: Actually, I'm not even seeing a plot plan. 43 I'm seeing the survey marked up. 44

48 MR. LEVITON: That's it?

MS. MOENCH: It's a survey.

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MR. BOCCANFUSO: Survey, yeah, they have a survey mark up. If the board were to act favorably on the application, that would be sufficient for zoning permits because they're not proposing any improvements outside the footprint of the home. They really just need to identify where everything is that they're doing. They would need architectural designs for permits from the construction department which would need to be more detailed than what they've submitted here, but from the zoning standpoint, what they have may be a nip here, and a tuck there, but it would generally be okay for permitting.

MR. LEVITON: Albert, before we come to you, I want to have a discussion about the conditions with the board.

MR. MARMERO: Yes.

MR. LEVITON: And I'll say that Josh's point about ingress and egress and removal of doors.

MR. SHALIKAR: I did have one more question if I can.

MR. LEVITON: Yeah, go ahead.

MR. SHALIKAR: That door is the existing door of the house. You're not changing that door?

MS. MOENCH: Is your microphone on? - - - Your mic?

MR. SHALIKAR: It's on.

MS. MOENCH: Okay.

MR. SHALIKAR: That door is the existing door to that house, correct?

MRS. LOZHANIDZE: Yes, it is existing.

MR. SHALIKAR: So, the ask of the Board would be to remove an existing door to the house.

MR. LEVITON: That door is in a house that's vacant and unlivable.

MR. SHALIKAR: Yeah, I'm aware. I'm just saying, but this is not an addition to the house. This is not part of a modification to the house. This is the existing door to the house.

MR. LEVITON: Yeah and so.

MR. SHALIKAR: I'm just making that statement.

MR. LEVITON: I'm going to say I would impose, and I would ask the board for their thoughts. I would impose the removal of that door and having it placed in the back of the house. I would also change the orientation of the garage. So that the door doesn't face Pease Road. I don't want anybody on Pease Road. I don't want any children on Pease Road ever. Yeah, they were there I know, but I don't want to make a bad situation worse. I just don't want to do it. That's me.

MR. SHALIKAR: But if we're changing the footprint, now we're asking for ---

MR. LEVITON: Footprint doesn't change. We're changing doors and orientation, that's it.

MR. SHALIKAR: How do you change the orientation of the garage?

MR. LEVITON: The garage doesn't. The door goes to this side.

MR. SHALIKAR: --- it's not wide enough. The depth. You're saying the width of the garage.

 MR. LEVITON: So, if it was up to me, the little bump out on the curb that leads to the garage that allows ingress off of Pease Road, I'd take that away. I think that's a problem. I think, in my mind, I see with the increased intensity. I see landscapers with their trucks. I see Amazon trucks. I see buses and mail trucks. I see this board having contributed to an intersection that may well have an existing problem and making it worse. I don't want to do that. Let's see what the rest of you think. We've had our discussion.

MS. KLOMPUS: So I definitely hear what you're saying about the safety concern, but my comment will be if a child's going to find a way to Pease Road, they're going to find a way to Pease Road unfortunately. That main front door is only steps away from Pease Road. The one that's the front door, and also if we can't change the orientation where the garage door is because then the car won't fit, and then we're talking about new curb cuts, then more asphalt, and more asphalt, and then extending the driveway. They would not be able to put a car in there. So that's just my thought.

MR. LEVITON: Thank you for sharing it. Patrick? Jessica?

MR. HUGHES: I agree. I don't think we could dictate where the front door goes. I think it's an existing door. I think a house oriented in that matter, the front door opposite effect with the safety factor of a first responder trying to find a way into the house. Again, it may not --- The other door is right there, but typically you'd go through the front door and what you said if a child's going to find a way, they'll find a way. So, but I don't know if we could dictate eliminating a front door. To me, it doesn't.

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MS. BAKER-LEVENSON: The side door, I guess.

MR. HUGHES: Yeah, the side door or whatever you're calling it. The front or side seems.

MR. LEVITON: Jessica?

MS. BAKER-LEVENSON: I hear Josh's point. It's a good point. This is the way the house has been, and this is the way the design is that they brought in. They have a door here. I'm just also now rethinking this grass idea. I think visually it would look nicer not to have that paved area. However, this is a busy road. They're going to have cars, and they could use that area to constantly turn around or park cars for guests on that area if they leave it paved.

MR. LEVITON: On which area?

MS. BAKER-LEVENSON: On the area right outside the side door because we had mentioned possibly putting grass there in the front, but maybe that isn't the best idea for this house. Maybe it should be left the way it is, to have that blacktop outside the house.

MR. LEVITON: You don't see guests with one tire on Pease Road and one tire on the blacktop?

MS. BAKER-LEVENSON: It looks wide enough from photos. It looks like there's a car in the picture right now.

MR. LEVITON: Well, this isn't to scale. I don't know.

MS. BAKER-LEVENSON: No, the picture of the current house. There's a car there. So that is wide enough for a car and that could be wide enough for someone to turn around. If they're coming out the garage and they're backing up, someone who is not me and a better driver, could use that to help turn the car around. So, I'm rethinking the grass idea as well.

MR. LEVITON: John?

MS. BAKER-LEVENSON: I just want to say visually I think the grass would look nicer and would make it look more residential versus a commercial building, but the parking and using that space for cars and turning around could be ---

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MR. LEVITON: John?

 $\mbox{MR. HARRINGTON: I'm very much exactly where I was before, -- vote.$ 

MR. LEVITON: Remind the applicants where you are.

MR. HARRINGTON: I think personally as long as everything that you presented to me makes sense. It brings it up to aesthetically, the area. I kind of struggled back and forth with what's the front? Is it the east? Is it the west? The south? The north? And I happen to agree that if a child or an adult for that matter is going to find Pease Road, they're going to find Pease Road. It's just something that happens, and it's not something that's without our control.

MR. LEVITON: Well, it would be if we imposed a condition to move the door to the back instead of the front, but your opinion is well-taken as is everyone's and we're going to move on.

MR. HARRINGTON: --- I mean in that scenario there then, change the roof and make the roof flat and take away the brick on that one wall and make that whole side siding. Now you're telling somebody how to design their home which I think is an overstep of what.

MR. LEVITON: Let me return to Albert and have him charge this Board as to what its purview is.

MR. MARMERO: Yeah - - I've said, but I think what you're dealing with, the intensity of the use in this situation, the applicant has a one-story home that's relatively small. They're not changing the footprint, but they're increasing the height and the intensity and bedrooms. All of which are governed by this provision of the ordinance. So, to the extent you have concerns about and again you can impose conditions, and then of course with safety, you always have the ability to impose conditions as well. So, it is something you can do. It's not something you have to do, but it's something you as a group can figure out. If there is going to be an approval, what those conditions are going to be. Needs four of you willing to agree to that.

MR. LEVITON: The ordinance is clear that they want non-conformities frozen. They don't want the intensity increased. It doesn't want the intensity to be increased.

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MR. MARMERO: Correct.

MR. SHALIKAR: Chairman, if I may, sorry. They can also just move into the house as is, and the same problems would still exist that we're identifying as safety concerns. So, this is where I'm struggling. Again, they're coming in to make a dramatic improvement to that structure. When they could just move into the existing structure and the doors would exist. The pavement would exist. Everything would exist as is.

MR. LEVITON: Your points are well-taken, and everyone on the dais agrees with you.

MR. SHALIKAR: No, no I'm just.

MR. LEVITON: I don't see it that way.

MR. SHALIKAR: I know, fair.

MR. LEVITON: And my opinion's not going to change.

MR. POCHOPIN: Mr. Chair?

MR. LEVITON: Yeah?

MR. POCHOPIN: So, the intensity is my concern. You don't need my vote, but you did testify that the seven bedrooms. As our engineer assured us that that might not be the final plan, seven. Maybe if you compromise to five or something with the neighbors and everybody's concern about the traffic and safety. Of course, the children could get in and out of any door, but I do see other doors in the back of the design. So, it is a very big improvement. I would almost change my direction if you'd compromise on one of the suggestions here.

MR. LEVITON: Well, they've already testified they're not married to seven bedrooms. That's just a mock up. Yeah, I'm going to ask them now.

MRS. LOZHANIDZE: We want to tell you all that anything what is not good and need to be removed or changed, side door or garage looking side or wherever you tell us, we will do.

MR. LEVITON: That's very nice of you.

 $\,$  MRS. LOZHANIDZE: We understand that the number of the bedrooms it's not final. As much as we can, we will do that way. So that's what we agree.

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MR. LEVITON: We appreciate that too. This board is not going to impose those conditions on you though. If they are so inclined to approve your application, and it looks like they will, the only question remaining is are you going to ask us to take a vote tonight or do you want to come back with possible additions to your backyard? Let the record reflect that they're talking amongst themselves.

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MRS. LOZHANIDZE: I'm sorry.

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MR. LEVITON: It's okay.

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 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{MRS}}$  . LOZHANIDZE: So, we are still in hurry to start this house.

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MR. LEVITON: Yes, we understand.

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MRS. LOZHANIDZE: We want to vote today.

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MR. LEVITON: Okay, let's go to the board attorney and ask him.

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MR. MARMERO: Sure, so the relief that you're deciding on tonight, and the applicants made it clear that if there's any further relief, they'll come back before you. So that limits the scope of relief tonight to rally just the addition on the home. Again, as we heard in the addition on the home is not increasing the footprint in any way. It's just increasing the height, but that's still --- the ordinance at least in this situation because again it's a nonconforming and if it goes up in height, goes up in intensity, goes up in bedrooms it --- that ordinance and requires relief. So that's the variance that you're looking at this evening whether to give them that relief. That does require both positive and negative criteria. You heard a couple of different ways to meet positive criteria. Hardship created by the wetlands. That could also be aesthetic improvement. That would be the C2 variance, and then talk about the substantial detriment which also has to be met under --- and that's the applicant needs to prove that improvement will not create a substantial detriment to the surrounding area or to the property itself and tonight --- we heard some concerns about intensity. So that would be the variance that you need to approve. With respect to conditions that you discussed, the simple ones are obviously the applicant need N.J. D.E.P. approval. If those wetlands are an issue, we always have a

condition that they need any and all outside agency approvals. We 1 2 talked about the --- payment into the sidewalk fund in lieu of providing sidewalk, and the ordinance is quite clear that that cost is 3 determined by the township engineer and we heard what the township 4 engineer had to say with respect to that. So, I think the remaining 5 condition that you discussed is the removal of what I'll call that 6 side door along Pease, and then there was some discussion as to what 7 to do with that blacktop along that same side. There was also some 8 discussion between myself and Brian about a condition related to 9 bedrooms if intensity was a concern as well. So that's the variance 10 relief --- those are the conditions that have been discussed. 11

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 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{MR}}\xspace$  . LEVITON: Actually, the conditions to be imposed are zero.

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MR. MARMERO: Well, I guess if someone make a motion with certain conditions --- that's what ---

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MR. BOCCANFUSO: And Mr. Chairman I'm certainly not trying to complicate things further, but there is one additional thing I want to point out. Perhaps it will lead to further discussion on conditions, perhaps not, but the driveway could be expanded. A zoning permit could be issued to expand the driveway without variance relief because driveways are permitted in front yards. Obviously, you have to cross your front yard with your driveway. So there was some discussion about concerns relative to guest parking and turning vehicles around. If the applicant wanted to expand their driveway to improve that condition or if the board were to impose a condition on the approval requiring them to do that, that is something that would not trigger the need for additional variance relief. I think they could probably do it without getting into the wetlands as long as they're not going way into the rear of the property. If we're talking just a modest, geometric modification on the existing asphalt driveway. Maybe that could address some of the concerns of the board or that could help out the applicant in the future.

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MR. LEVITON: On the side of the portico?

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MR. BOCCANFUSO: No, on the opposite side. Where the large driveway is. Where I think what's being referred to as the functional front door. On the left hand side of the house. Yes, so over here.

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MR. LEVITON: I am? I don't think.

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MR. BOCCANFUSO: Either way you could probably.

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MR. SHALIKAR: He's talking about the left hand side.

MR. LEVITON: Where the portico is? 1 2 MR. SHALIKAR: Yes. 3 4 MR. LEVITON: The turn radius? Where it's already big? 5 6 7 MR. SHALIKAR: If we didn't change the blacktop. 8 MR. LEVITON: No, that doesn't throw a monkey-wrench. We 9 10 appreciate your input, and let's go and see what they think. We'll start with Michael. 11 12 MR. WECHSLER: Are we looking for a motion? 13 14 15 MR. LEVITON: No. 16 17 MR. WECHSLER: Or we looking to discuss any further changes allowed to the discussion? 18 19 MR. LEVITON: Yes, a condition to be imposed. 20 21 22 MR. WECHSLER: So if you want discussion, we can discuss 23 making the driveway larger or expand on a driveway if they so choose doing that. 24 25 26 MR. LEVITON: Not if they choose. We can impose a modification to the application to insist as a condition of approval. 27 That's why Brian's talking about. 28 29 MR. BOCCANFUSO: Both really. The Board absolutely could 30 impose a condition requiring the expansion to provide additional 31 parking and/or turn around area, or the board could stay silent on it 32 and the applicant could come in on their own accord and pull a zoning 33 34 permit to do it if they want it. It's either way. 35 36 MR. LEVITON: Correct, sorry Michael. 37 38 MR. WECHSLER: No that was my question. 39 40 MR. LEVITON: How do you mean? 41 MR. WECHSLER: I'm still voting the same way I was voting 42 before. 43 44

MR. LEVITON: And Joshua?

MR. SHALIKAR: May I ask how many cars you anticipate to have in front of the house at all times? How many vehicles will be in front of your house? MR. LEVITON: They testified three currently. MRS. LOZHANIDZE: Right now, we have three vehicles. MR. SHALIKAR: And is it going to stay three vehicles? MRS. LOZHANIDZE: But oldest one is going to be drive soon. MR. SHALIKAR: Okay. MRS. LOZHANIDZE: Not soon, but in the future. The car we'll add. MR. SHALIKAR: Okay so I think the parking space as is would accommodate for four cars comfortably. MRS. LOZHANIDZE: Yeah. MR. SHALIKAR: Yeah, I have no other comments or questions. MR. LEVITON: Dan? MR. POCHOPIN: I'm good, thank you. MR. LEVITON: John? MR. HARRINGTON: I'm okay. MR. LEVITON: Jess? MS. BAKER-LEVENSON: I have no other questions. MR. LEVITON: Temika? MS. LATILLA: Nothing further. MR. HUGHES: No questions. MR. LEVITON: Okay so someone needs to move to make a motion, and it would appear there are no conditions that this board is going to impose. On the Lobzhanidze's so. 

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MR. MARMERO: It's not necessarily a condition or it sounds 1 2 like everyone was accepting of the idea on not installing sidewalk, but permitting - - - This is up to you. 3 4 5 MR. LEVITON: Yes. 6 7 MR. MARMERO: --- sidewalk. 8 MR. LEVITON: Definitely. 9 10 MR. MARMERO: So, everyone was on Board with that. So, if 11 that is the case, - - - in as a condition that is up to you. 12 13 14 MR. LEVITON: Yes, thank you. We didn't discuss. Does 15 anybody object to that? 16 17 ALL: No. 18 19 MR. MARMERO: And then of course like Brian said, if you --it's going to be quite a large amount as Brian --- able to determine -20 21 -- probably ---22 MR. BOCCANFUSO: I'll be as reasonable as the ordinance 23 24 allows me to be. 25 26 MR. MARMERO: I always --- a condition for outside agencies. So that covers D.E.P. something you really have to deal with. So 27 really just --- on any others you discussed which is the blacktop or 28 bedrooms which you don't have to impose, but you can. 29 30 31 MR. LEVITON: So, again we need someone to make a motion. 32 MR. SHALIKAR: I'll make a motion to approve the application 33 34 as stated with the condition with the sidewalk. 35 36 MR. WECHSLER: I'll second. 37 38 39 MS. MOENCH: So that was Mr. Shalikar and Mr. Wechsler, 40 right? 41 42 MR. LEVITON: Yes. 43 MR. SHALIKAR: Yes. 44 45 ROLL CALL

MS. MOENCH: Mr. Shalikar?

MR. SHALIKAR: Yes. MS. MOENCH: Mr. Harrington? MR. HARRINGTON: Yes. MS. MOENCH: Mr. Wechsler? MR. WECHSLER: Yes. MS. MOENCH: Mr. Pochopin? MR. POCHOPIN: No. MS. MOENCH: Ms. Levenson? MS. BAKER-LEVENSON: Yes. MS. MOENCH: Ms. Latilla? MS. LATILLA: Yes. MS. MOENCH: Chair Leviton? MR. LEVITON: I'm going to say yes, and I'm going to wish you well and I hope that it turns out as beautiful as the plans that you've presented here tonight. Good luck to you. Your resolution will be memorialized at our next regular meeting. You won't need to be here, and that's when you can get started on your improvements, and Janice will help if you have any questions. Just give her a call. MRS. LOZHANIDZE: Thank you so much. MR. LEVITON: Okay, you're welcome. Okay, at this time I'm going to go out to the public and ask if there's anyone in attendance who wants to question the board on non-agenda items. Seeing none, I'll close public, and I'll ask someone to move to adjourn. MR. HARRINGTON: I'll move that Chair. MR. LEVITON: Thank you Mr. Harrington. \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*