

Town of Porter
Board of Zoning Appeals
Meeting Minutes
August 16, 2000

A. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Present were Mr. Chemma, Mr. Bell, Mr. Niepokoj, and Mr. Beckman, and Mr. Childress. Quorum was established. Also present were Mr. Mandon and Mr. Zarembo.

C. Consideration of minutes from previous meeting.

Motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting as written was made by Mr. Chemma. Second by Mr. Niepokoj. Motion carried 5-0.

D. Audience Participation

There was no audience participation.

E. Old Business

1. Adoption of Findings of Fact: Wayne Hickson, Travel Centers of America, regarding alteration of sign configuration near shop area. Motion to approve findings of fact as presented by Mr. Bell. Second by Mr. Niepokoj. Motion carried 5-0.
2. Public Hearing Continuation: Erby Gouger, 1545 E. Main, request for a use variance to add a second residence to single family residential property. Mr. Don Whisler explained that he had not met with the petitioner since the July meeting. He indicated he believed the petitioner was planning to build an addition onto the existing home. Motion by Mr. Chemma to table the petitioner's request. Second by Mr. Niepokoj. Motion carried 5-0.

E. New Business

1. Request for Use Variance: Ruth Norlington, Lot 19, Marquette Pointe Subdivision. Petitioner requesting a use variance for a dog grooming business at her residence once it is constructed. Debra Whiten present to speak. Ms. Whiten explained that she was the petitioner, not Ruth Norlington. Ms. Whiten stated she would be conducting a dog grooming business in her basement 5-6 hours each day, 5 days per week, one dog at a time. She stated there would be no kenneling of dogs. Mr. Chemma suggested an examination of the subdivision covenants to see if there is a prohibition. Motion by Mr. Bell to place the request for public hearing at the next meeting. Second by Mr. Niepokoj. Motion carried 4-0 with Mr. Childress abstaining citing potential conflict of interest.

F. Other Business

1. Review of various petition packets. Mr. Beckman suggested that a cover sheet be added which listed the state statute requirements for developmental standards and use variances. Mr. Chemma suggested that the IC code number also be listed in a cover sheet. Mr. Bell agreed with both changes.

G. Adjourn

Motion by Mr. Bell to adjourn. Second by Mr. Childress. Motion carried 5-0.

John Beckman
Chairman

Lisa Liebert
Secretary