BOARD OF ZONING APPEAL FOR THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

GENERAL HEARING

THURSDAY, AUGUST 19, 2021
6:00 p.m.
Remote Meeting
via

831 Massachusetts Avenue Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Brendan Sullivan, Vice Chair
Jim Monteverde
Laura Wernick
Matina Williams
Jason Marshall

City Employee
Olivia Ratay, Zoning and Buiding Associate



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1 PROCEEDINGS 2 (6:00 p.m.) 3 4 Sitting Members: Brendan Sullivan, Jim Monteverde, Laura 5 Wernick, Matina Williams and Jason Marshall 6 7 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: This meeting is being held 8 remotely, due to statewide emergency orders limiting the size of public gatherings in response to COVID-19, and in 9 10 accordance with Governor Charles D. Baker's Executive Order 11 of March 12, 2020, temporarily amending certain requirements 12 of the Open Meeting Law; as well as the City of Cambridge's 13 temporary emergency restrictions on city meetings, city events, and city permitted events, due to COVID-19, dated 14 15 May 27, 2020. 16 This meeting is being video and audio recorded, 17 and is broadcast on cable television Channel 22 within 18 Cambridge. There will also be a transcript of the meeting. 19 All Board members, applicants, and members of the public will state their name before speaking. All votes 20 will be taken by roll call. 21

Members of the public will be kept on mute until

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     it is time for public comment. I will give instructions for
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    public comment at that time, and you can also find
 3
     instructions on the city's webpage for remote BZA meetings.
 4
               Generally, you will have up to three minutes to
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     speak.
            That might change based on the number of speakers.
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               I'll start by asking the Staff to take Board
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    member attendance and verify that all members are audible.
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               OLIVIA RATAY: Jason Marshall?
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               JASON MARSHALL: Jason Marshall here.
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               OLIVIA RATAY: Laura Wernick?
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              LAURA WERNICK: Laura Wernick is here.
               OLIVIA RATAY: Jim Monteverde?
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               JIM MONTEVERDE: Jim Monteverde is here.
               OLIVIA RATAY: Matina Williams?
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               MATINA WILLIAMS: Matina Williams here.
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               OLIVIA RATAY: Brendan?
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               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: And Brendan Sullivan is here
     and audible.
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19
               Let me make an announcement regarding our agenda
     for the night. We'll also announce it at the appropriate
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21
    time, but the 6:45 hearing -- BZA #132592 -- 621 Cambridge
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    Street, has requested a continuance.
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Further, the 7:30 p.m. case, 107 First Street, has also requested a continuance. And the 8:00 case, BZA #102207 -- 1923 Massachusetts Avenue, although we don't have written correspondence, there was conversation today, and it appears that they will also continue the matter. There will not be any public testimony taken at those continuances.

1 2 (6:02 p.m.)3 Sitting Members: Brendan Sullivan, Jim Monteverde, 4 Laura Wernick, Matina Williams and 5 Jason Marshall 6 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: So with that out of the way, let me call the first case, which is BZA Case #126012 -- 35 7 8 Shea Road. Drew or Anne Hyland, you are present? Yes. 9 Okay. You may speak. Present. 10 DREW HYLAND: My name is Drew Hyland. This is my 11 wife, Anne. We live at 35 Shea Road. We are requesting 12 that we be able to take a window on the southwest side of 13 our house and turn it into a door. The reason we wish to -- the reasons that we wish 14 15 to do so are: First, we moved into this house a little over 16 a year ago, and when we did, we began to realize that the 17 only two exits, or two doors are on the same side of the 18 house, and probably only 20 feet apart. 19 And so we thought that it would be a safety consideration to have a door -- an exit on the other side of 20 21 the house in case of fire or something like that. 22 Second, the exit -- that door will lead us

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1
     directly to our back yard, where we have an outdoor table
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     and a grill, and spend time out there. And so it will be
 3
    much more convenient for us than walking all around our --
 4
     from the front all the way around the cars and everything
 5
     else.
 6
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. Any questions by any
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    members of the Board?
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               JIM MONTEVERDE: Jim Monteverde no questions.
 9
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Matina?
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               MATINA WILLIAMS: Matina Williams no questions.
11
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Laura?
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              LAURA WERNICK: No questions.
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              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Jason?
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               JASON MARSHALL: Jason Marshall no questions at
15
    this time.
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               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: And the Chair has no questions
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     either.
              I will open it now to public comment. Any members
18
     of the public who wish to speak should now click the button
     that says "Participants" and then click the button that
19
     says, "Raise hand."
20
21
               If you are calling in by phone, you can raise your
    hand by pressing *9 and unmute or mute by pressing *6.
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We'll wait a couple of minutes or moments.

[Pause]

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. It appears nobody is interested. I will close public comment. There are no letters in the file commenting one way or the other. Any other comments? From the Hylands at all? No?

DREW HYLAND: No.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. It appears to be a very reasonable request. The fact that I sort of really appreciate is the safety issue. You have an exit on the other side of the house, rather than having two on one side and fairly close together.

So with that said, let me make a motion, then, to grant the special permit as requested. The Board finds that the requirements of the ordinance can be met unless with the granting of the special permit. The special permit request is to change one window on the southwest side of the house into a door.

The Board finds that it will not fall to any of the zoning requirements, including setback, FAR, height, open space, parking, the number of units, or the number of vehicles.

The Board finds that traffic generated or patterns of access or egress would not cause congestion, hazard, or substantial change in the established neighborhood character. The Board finds that there will be no increase in any parking as an additional benefit.

The Board finds that continued operation of or development of adjacent uses, as permitted in the zoning ordinance, would not be adversely affected by the nature of the proposed use, and that there would not be any nuisance or hazard created to the detriment of the health, safety and/or welfare of the occupants of the proposed use, or to the citizens of the city.

In fact, I previously noted, and I think that it will enhance a very necessary safety issue by having an exit on that side of the house.

And the Board finds that the proposed use would not impair the integrity of the district or adjoining districts, or otherwise derogate from the intent and purpose of the ordinance.

On the motion, then, to grant the special permit Jim Monteverde?

JIM MONTEVERDE: I vote in favor of the special

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1
    permit.
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               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Matina?
               MATINA WILLIAMS: I vote in favor of the special
3
4
    permit.
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               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Laura?
               LAURA WERNICK: I vote in favor of the special
6
7
    permit.
8
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Jason?
9
               JASON MARSHALL: Jason Marshall yes in favor of
10
    the special permit.
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               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: And the Chair, Brendan
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     Sullivan, votes in favor also.
13
               [All vote YES]
               Special permit granted. Good luck.
14
15
               DREW HYLAND: Thank you. Could I just ask what
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    the next step in our efforts to get this are?
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               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Yeah. The next step will be
     for the decision to be -- the transcripts have to be
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    provided to the Inspectional Services from the transcripts
19
20
    of this hearing. A decision will be typed up, basically.
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               DREW HYLAND: Yeah.
22
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Sent over to the Law
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1 Department. The Law Department reviews it, sends it back to 2 Inspectional Services. I will then sign it. It gets filed 3 with the City for -- and then there is a 20-day appeal 4 period. 5 So timewise from tonight may very well be four 6 weeks? Four to five weeks before you can actually get a 7 permit. 8 You will be notified when the decision has been 9 filed with the City Clerk, and you will also be notified by 10 mail that the City Clerk hasn't had anybody contest a 11 decision, at which point you take -- you have to go down to 12 City Hall. 13 You get that document, and then you have to go 14 down to the Registry of Deeds, or maybe you can do it online 15 now, and then have it attached to your deed and bring that 16 back, and then you and your contractor can then get a 17 permit. 18 DREW HYLAND: I see. 19 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: So it's four to five weeks. 20 DREW HYLAND: Yeah. Okay. So I'll just wait to receive the instructions? 21 22 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: You will receive -- yes,

notification by mail. DREW HYLAND: Yeah. Okay, thank you very much. We appreciate that. BRENDAN SULLIVAN: All right, yep. We're five minutes early. We have to call the cases at their posted schedule time. This case is scheduled for 6:15. On a personal note, welcome, Jim Monteverde. JIM MONTEVERDE: Thank you. Thank you.

1 2 (6:15 p.m.)Sitting Members: Brendan Sullivan, Jim Monteverde, Laura 3 4 Wernick, Matina Williams and Jason 5 Marshall 6 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: It being 6:15, I'll call the 7 next case #127988 -- 26 Bellis Circle, #26. 8 SARAH RHATIGAN: Good evening Mr. Chairman. This 9 is Sarah Rhatigan from Trilogy Law. Thank you very much, 10 members of the Board for hearing this case. I'm here with 11 my clients, Tom Culotta -- can you wave, Tom? And Mary 12 Custic and our architect, Grady Ragsdale, is here as well. 13 Thanks very much for hearing us this evening. BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Sarah, let me preface the 14 15 discussion and making note that if this case or any case 16 that's on our agenda tonight is to be continued for whatever 17 reason, that the earliest we would be able to hear it with the current Board will be in January? One of the members 18 19 have a conflict going forward from tonight until the end of 20 December. So if you want to be -- if should it be continued 21 22 and you want to be heard by the same five members, then it

1 would have to be continued till January. 2 Or, it can be continued, but you would have to be 3 heard by only four members. I'm sure you understand that then you would need a unanimous four votes, four out of 4 four. So I mention that to you for you to consider that. 5 6 That being said, there is substantial objection to the proposal by two of the neighbors. You're aware of that? 7 8 SARAH RHATIGAN: Yes, sir. May I ask your indulgence for a two-minute break just to have a --9 10 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Sure, sure. 11 SARAH RHATIGAN: -- have a quick call with our 12 clients and just so I can explain what you just described, and we can discuss our options, and we'll be right back to 13 14 you? 15 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Yeah, sure. Yep, that's fine. 16 SARAH RHATIGAN: Okay, great. Thank you very 17 much. I'm just going to put myself on mute and turn my 18 camera off, and we'll be right back to you. 19 [Pause] 20 SARAH RHATIGAN: Thanks for your patience, I

really appreciate it. One thing I should have asked

previously and I did not ask, if we were to request a

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    continuance for two weeks until your next hearing, do you
    then have a panel of Board members who would not have that
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 3
    scheduling issue? So that if the case were continued, they
    would have to continue until January to get the same five
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 5
    members available?
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              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Yes.
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               SARAH RHATIGAN: That is correct?
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              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Yes.
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              SARAH RHATIGAN: So?
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              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Yes.
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              SARAH RHATIGAN: So we would like to request a
    continuance for two weeks.
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              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay.
               SARAH RHATIGAN: Until the September 2 hearing.
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              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: The earliest, Sarah, would be
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    09/23/21. We're full for the second.
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               SARAH RHATIGAN: Okay. Let me just check. Grady,
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    does 09/23 work for you? Yes? Tom and Mary? Sorry, I
    can't -- that's a thumbs up for Mary. Okay, yes. Thank
19
    you. Okay, yes. Thank you. September 23 would work for
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21
    our team.
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              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Let me make a motion, then, to
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1 continue this matter as per the petitioner's request to September 23, 2021 at 6:00. [Continuing it at 6:00?] 6:00, 2 3 on the condition that the petitioner sign a waiver of 4 statutory requirement for a hearing and a decision to be rendered thereof. 5 That the posting sign should be changed to reflect 6 7 the new date, September 23, and the time of 6:00 p.m., and 8 that should there be any changes to the original submittals, 9 that they be in the file on the Monday at 5:00 prior to the 10 September 23 hearing. 11 Any other conditions by members of the Board? 12 [Pause] 13 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: No. One thing, Sarah, now that you are going to continue it, I did look at the solar study, 14 15 and I'm not sure if I fully understood it and the effect. 16 And I'm just wondering if perhaps you may resubmit the same 17 one, if you could not maybe do a more enhanced one -- solar 18 study on the effect on the adjoining properties. 19 SARAH RHATIGAN: Thank you. We'll take a look at 20 that. 21 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: I'm glad one was submitted, but

I think we could do a little bit more enhanced solar study

22

1 on it. SARAH RHATIGAN: Okay. Thank you for the 2 feedback. 3 4 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: All right. So then on the -and of course obviously outreach to -- and you can get 5 copies of the letters if you haven't already had them from 6 7 abutters who have some concerns about the project. On the 8 motion, then, to continue this matter until September 23, Jim? 9 10 JIM MONTEVERDE: Jim Monteverde yes. 11 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Matina? 12 MATINA WILLIAMS: Matina Williams yes. 13 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Laura? 14 LAURA WERNICK: Laura Wernick yes. 15 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Jason? 16 JASON MARSHALL: Jason Marshall yes. 17 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: And the Chair votes yes also. 18 [All vote YES] 19 The matter is continued until September 23. See 20 you then. 21 SARAH RHATIGAN: Thank you. BRENDAN SULLIVAN: We have five minutes before the 22

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1
     next case.
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               SARAH RHATIGAN: Mr. Chairman, point of order, may
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     I just ask a quick question?
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               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Yeah. Yep.
               SARAH RHATIGAN: You mentioned at the top of the
 5
     hour that the case at 6:45 has a continuance. I'm the
 6
 7
     attorney on that matter, and is there a need for me to stay
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     on the call to be here for that discussion, or --
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: You don't have to be, Sarah.
 9
10
               SARAH RHATIGAN: Okay.
11
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: I'll just announce that we have
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     a letter in the file anyhow. So that will be sufficient.
13
               SARAH RHATIGAN: We do? Okay, great. Thanks so
14
     much.
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               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: The only thing is, you can call
16
     in tomorrow as far as a continuance what date. So --
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               SARAH RHATIGAN: Okay, sure. We did request a
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     date, and it's pretty far in the future. I spoke to Ms.
19
     Pacheco, so if there are any issues, I'll --
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               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: I haven't seen the letter, but
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     if that's in the letter, then we'll -- we can accommodate?
22
    Okay. We'll accommodate then.
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SARAH RHATIGAN: Okay, great. Thank you so much.
 1
    Have a great evening. Thanks.
 2
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay, you too.
 3
               SARAH RHATIGAN: Bye-bye.
 4
 5
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: To the Board members, this may
    be a little bit of a stop/start tonight, but we will get
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 7
    through it, so.
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1 2 (6:27 p.m.)3 Sitting Members: Brendan Sullivan, Jim Monteverde, Laura 4 Wernick, Matina Williams and Jason 5 Marshall BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Olivia has told me that it is 6 7 almost 6:30 and to proceed. I will call BZA Case #128101 --8 25 Williams Street, Unit 25B. Mr. Glassman? 9 ADAM GLASSMAN: Good evening, members of the 10 Board. Everyone can hear me? 11 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Yes. 12 ADAM GLASSMAN: Okay. We are here tonight -- I'm 13 here representing my client, Leyla Tegmo-Reddy, who I believe is here. I see her. Please wave. Thank you. 14 15 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. Thank you. Adam, let me 16 preface your remarks by saying that should this case be 17 continued, for whatever reason, that one of the members who 18 are sitting here tonight cannot sit until January. 19 And as such, should it be continued, in order to reassemble the same five-member Board, it would have to be 20 continued to January or it can be continued to an earlier 21 22 date, but you would only have four members to vote on it.

1 ADAM GLASSMAN: I would say we're comfortable 2 moving forward tonight. It's a relatively straightforward 3 and simple project and request. Leyla, do you agree? 4 LEYLA TEGMO-REDDY: Yes. I do agree. Thank you. 5 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. Yep. Fine. ADAM GLASSMAN: We're seeking relief for a project 6 in two parts. The first part is a 15-foot shed dormer on 7 8 the rear of the building. Technically, it's a side setback 9 with a corner lot. The other component is a small, second-10 story rear deck. 11 I will start with the dormer component. Sisia, 12 who's flipping tonight, is it Sisia? Or --13 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Sisia is on a special assignment. So Olivia is --14 15 ADAM GLASSMAN: Oh, I'm sorry, Olivia. 16 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: -- double duty here tonight. 17 ADAM GLASSMAN: Okay, so the slide we see here, 18 front view of the property, if you look above the white 19 truck: That is the second-floor flat roof off of Leyla's 20 unit, which she owns roof rights to, and where we propose 21 putting a small deck. 22 The dormer you would not see from this view.

Next slide?

The side view directly above the red car all the way up to the attic levels where you'd see the side view of the proposed dormer, and on the lower left of the same building, those two first-floor black windows above which we propose the small deck.

On the right photo, another view -- the most prominent view of both the proposed second-floor rear deck, and the right-side dormer.

And on the right-side photo, you can see peeking out from the upper left a shed dormer that the Board granted relief for. And we're essentially asking for the same dormer.

And I will say that, as you may know, we were at the Planning Board two nights ago. This was -- it's an unusual ask, because technically we have more than 30 feet of dormers on the property, given that there are two small doghouse window dormers on the front, which are essentially just windows.

And the Zoning Board asked the Planning Board for their opinion on adding an I'd like 15-foot dormer, which would be the same ask as the other property owner. And the

Planning Board had no problem with this ask. There should be a letter of approval in the file that hopefully you've all seen.

Next slide?

The need for the dormer you can see here is the owner standing at the knee wall. We come up the stairs and into a small room, and there's very little code-compliant headroom on this level. Leyla has told me she doesn't mind me saying that she's nearing 70 years old. There's no bathroom on this level, and going up and down the stairs too much is a problem for her.

Next slide, please?

Bird's eye view of the site plan, you can see the dark red dashed line in the middle of the front portion of the house would be the proposed 15-foot dormer matching the existing 15-foot dormer just below it.

To the right, you can see the red outline of a small deck. That is within the side setback.

Next slide?

Another view, just a little bit more clear. At the end of the day, we have two identical shed dormers on the rear of the gable, and a small proposed second-floor

deck.

Next slide?

Another view and plan, the second floor on the right side of the slide shows that the modest-sized deck would be accessible off of Leyla's kitchen, and this would allow her to have some small, useable outdoor space off of her unit, without again having to go up and down the stairs to her yard, where she has a negligible amount of space, not really enough to occupy in any meaningful way.

Leyla has friends and family in the neighborhood, and having the small space outside will give her a more meaningful connection to her community -- again, a place to enjoy being outdoors without having to track up and down old, steep stairs.

Next slide?

The dormer space would add a negligible amount of additional FAR, approximately 28 square feet, which would technically increase our nonconforming FAR, but again it's 28 square feet.

Next slide?

The side view from Williams Street on the bottom is the existing view. And at the top is the -- on the left

side of the gabled roof is the existing dormer. Our dormer would match it. It would be identical, so the view from that street really doesn't change.

And the only significant change in view on account of the deck would be a 42-inch guardrail which would blend in seamlessly with the character of the house in the neighborhood.

Next slide?

The rear view again showing existing dormer on the left, which is a different property, which is 23 Williams

Street -- part of the same association. Leyla's would be more or less identical design, in accordance with the dormer guidelines. And again, you can see the guardrail of the deck on the second floor.

Next slide?

And this view is just an enlarged view of what we would have already presented. Dormer views, deck views.

The scale and character of the house has not changed. It's actually enhanced.

Next slide?

The view from the yard, which is owned by the neighbor down below. Guardrail, no guardrail. That's our

difference. And all of the co-owners in Leyla's building have supported both components of the application. And as far as I know, we have no objections.

And I believe that is the end of the presentation. Any questions?

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: For Board members' edification, in reviewing tonight's cases -- and this one sort of popped out because it -- contrary to the dormer guidelines regarding having a number of feet of dormer on one side of the house on the roof, the dormer guidelines call for one 15-foot dormer; there's already one existing. So that it would appear to be problematic to approve this, because it's contrary to the dormer guidelines.

However, in further researching of this, that it is there are two different owners, as Adam has pointed out.

And so it is a little bit different than our normal dormer request.

Through the Commissioner, I asked the Planning

Board to review all our cases tonight, and then to comment

where they will. They have been very good in the past,

obviously commenting on all the telecoms, some of the other

ones that they have left to our discretion.

But I felt that this particular one needed their look at. And how it related to the dormer guidelines.

Hence, they did have some discussions the other night, I watched it. And they felt that as far as exceeding that 15-foot, it really depended upon the location and how it fit on a roof, and the symmetry it had with other elements on the roof; hence a proposed 15-foot dormer in relationship to the existing one.

And I believe you all have a letter from the Planning Board, but let me reiterate it that the Board recommends approval of the dormer for this building at this location as proposed.

The Board has no objections to the added dormer, as it provides greater architectural symmetry to the building and improved the useability of the residential space.

And that's sort of the backdrop on this. I had also asked -- and they will maybe get to it at some point -- for them to relook at the dormer guidelines in relationship as to whether or not it is totally relevant, given today's market, given today's climate of trying to enhance housing, provide more housing and allow people who are long-term and

even short-term citizens and occupants to stay in their home.

The dormer guidelines were enacted back in 1996, and are they still relevant today? So that is a question that is still out there. So that's a little bit of the backdrop of the Planning Board's chiming in on this, and how it relates to this particular dormer.

That said, Jim, any questions?

JIM MONTEVERDE: Yeah. I have two. Does the proponent have any rights to any ground-floor outdoor space?

ADAM GLASSMAN: Leyla, could you answer this, please?

LEYLA TEGMO-REDDY: Yes, I can. My name is Leyla Tegmo-Reddy. Good evening to the members of the Board.

There is a very small area outdoors, but it's very -- it would be very difficult.

As mentioned by Adam, I'm 69 years old. I've come back to Cambridge after working about 40 years in the United Nations in Asia, Africa and Europe. And I've moved here to be close to my 99-year-old mother and my older sister and son.

So I'm looking at it from a perspective both of

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     comfort in getting up and down these very steep stairs. And
 2
     there is a very small area. I don't know if it's anywhere
 3
     you can see it on the diagrams that are here. It's a very
 4
     small area adjacent to the downstairs neighbors' large
    exterior area.
 5
 6
              ADAM GLASSMAN: Leyla, is your area on Magazine
 7
    Street, or --
 8
               LEYLA TEGMO-REDDY: It's on Magazine. It's on
 9
    Magazine Street. It's on Magazine Street.
10
              ADAM GLASSMAN: Can you try to identify where it
11
     is on the enlarged image on the screen?
               LEYLA TEGMO-REDDY: So I'm trying to see where we
12
     are. Okay, that's William. Okay. So yeah. Can you --
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14
    it's this tiny area that is just -- as you go down, as you
15
    go left here, and you see this existing -- yeah. It's just
16
    here. Yeah.
17
               ADAM GLASSMAN: Perfect, thank you.
18
              LEYLA TEGMO-REDDY: That's correct.
19
              ADAM GLASSMAN: Thank you.
20
              LEYLA TEGMO-REDDY:
                                   That's correct.
21
               JIM MONTEVERDE: That's for your exclusive use.
22
              LEYLA TEGMO-REDDY: That is for my exclusive use.
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But yeah, but it's kind of a walkway to --

JIM MONTEVERDE: Yep. And there's no connection from the indoors to that space directly?

LEYLA TEGMO-REDDY: Unfortunately not, no. So --

JIM MONTEVERDE: Okay, thank you. That's question one. Question two -- and this is more for the Board just to confirm, but the proposal for the second-floor deck, it's 16-foot wide, 13-foot-4 inches deep, that doesn't strike me as a de minimis outdoor space.

And the Board has not looked favorably on some of these similar sized roof decks previously. In other words, it's not a balcony, it's not a -- it's really a useable outdoor space. And the concern is the adjacency of the neighbors.

And if I look at that plan that's up on the screen now, and how adjacent -- and also the photograph that you showed, I believe the building to the left of this property is a triple-decker or more. Windows are basically even looking down on your deck. And it's just a question of, you know, privacy from your perspective on noise to those neighbors.

But, so I have -- I don't have a concern about the

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     dormer proposal. I do have a concern about just the size of
 2
     the roof deck proposal. I can understand the need for some
 3
     outdated space. But it's the size -- again, just in terms
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     of how the Board has viewed I think similar sized decks
 5
     previously.
 6
               Thank you. That's all my questions.
 7
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. Matina, any questions?
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               MATINA WILLIAMS: No. I just -- the same concerns
 9
     that Jim had, that the size of the deck and then the
10
     building that was next, I think it's a six-family, if I'm
11
     not mistaken?
12
               LEYLA TEGMO-REDDY: At least.
13
              MATINA WILLIAMS: Eight? Is that the one that had
     the fire?
14
15
               LEYLA TEGMO-REDDY: Next door.
16
               MATINA WILLIAMS: Yep, yep. So you want -- the
17
     roof deck is going to be that whole sort of area right above
18
     the roof, on the roof there.
19
               ADAM GLASSMAN: Yep. It would be -- she, Leyla
     owns the rights to it. We pulled it closer to that side of
20
21
     the building in order to keep it away from the edge that
```

overlooks her neighbor's yard. I think we do have some

22

1 flexibility with size. If the Board could possibly give us a little 2 3 direction in terms of typically the size of a roof deck 4 you're comfortable with, and how far away you'd like to see it from the edge of that roof we could commit to those 5 revisions? 6 7 LAURA WERNICK: Could I just ask a question, if 8 you've discussed any of this with any of those neighbors in the other building? 9 10 LEYLA TEGMO-REDDY: I can't hear you, Laura. 11 LAURA WERNICK: I was asking if it has been discussed with anybody in the triple-decker? 12 13 ADAM GLASSMAN: The building's owned by MIT. 14 know Leyla reached out, tried to find someone to communicate

know Leyla reached out, tried to find someone to communicate with directly about the project. She -- no one was really available. However, we have no objections from MIT.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay.

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LEYLA TEGMO-REDDY: Could I speak?

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Yes.

LEYLA TEGMO-REDDY: Thank you very much. I wanted to mention in designing the deck, I was extremely conscious of the situation. And if you will look at the design, there

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1
     are two things that I found extremely important. One was
    building a walkway, which would prevent blocking the windows
2
 3
     from the rental apartment, which Adam helped design.
 4
               And the other -- and vis-à-vis the condo owners,
     to set it in a bit. So I would not be right on top of the
 5
     downstairs neighbors.
 6
7
               So if you'll see the deck, there's a walkway. So
8
     -- and right opposite this, I have a window. There's a --
    there are some windows.
9
10
               So this is avoiding several of the windows, which
11
     would -- so I would not be sitting outside and disturbing
12
     the neighbors opposite. This was very important to me,
     rather than trying to get a deck that would go all the way
13
     flush across to the other side.
14
15
               ADAM GLASSMAN: Yeah, so --
16
               LEYLA TEGMO-REDDY: Similarly, if you -- sorry.
17
               ADAM GLASSMAN: No, it's okay. So what Leyla's
18
     saying is the deck does not sit directly in front of the
     windows, which face her side of the building.
19
20
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. Olivia, could you pull
    up a drawing, A1.2?
21
22
               [Pause]
```

1 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Yeah. That's it, yeah. 2 will just give us sort of a scale of the deck. ADAM GLASSMAN: Now, if it's helpful to know, if 3 4 we pulled the deck back to the setback, the required setback, the full span of the deck would be about seven 5 feet, which is a little tight. And it also makes the 6 structure more intrusive into the ceiling system, especially 7 8 for the unit below. So we're trying to carry the deck on the exterior walls. 9 10 LAURA WERNICK: Well, so my concern would be 11 noise, rather than the privacy issue. It may not be Leyla, 12 but sometime in the future, there could be an owner who uses this space for parties that could disturb those neighbors. 13 So it's more of a size. When does an outdoor space become a 14 great party area? As opposed to a more quiet --15 16 ADAM GLASSMAN: Sure. 17 LAURA WERNICK: -- sitting area for a few people. 18 And I don't know exactly what the size of that, where that

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Matina, any other comments or questions at this time?

MATINA WILLIAMS: Not at this time.

difference is.

19

20

21

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BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. Laura, anything else at
1
     this time?
2
 3
               LAURA WERNICK: I'm just curious as to if other
 4
    Board members have any concern?
 5
              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Yeah, okay.
              LAURA WERNICK: About the distance.
 6
7
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Jason, you're -- any comments
8
    or questions?
9
               JASON MARSHALL: Thank you, Mr. Chair. [Jason
10
    Marshall.] You anticipated some of my questions regarding
11
     the dormer, so I appreciate that. I don't have any other
12
     questions relating that aspect of the design.
13
               One question regarding -- I'm looking at the
     dimensional information in the application. It looks like
14
15
     the ratio of usable open space decreases down to 15 percent,
16
    which is below the ordinance requirement. Is that related
17
    to the dormer, or to the deck?
               ADAM GLASSMAN: We should have an increase in
18
19
    useable open space, actually. There's no decrease, and if
20
     the application indicates that, I apologize. That would be
21
     a typo.
22
               JASON MARSHALL: That's why that jumped out,
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because it's going from it says existing conditions is 41 percent down to 15 percent. So I kind of scratch my head on that. So --

ADAM GLASSMAN: That is incorrect. Thank you for pointing that out. We are not decreasing useable open space.

JASON MARSHALL: Okay.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Funny you bring that up, because I mentioned -- I saw that too. And I'm wondering where and how did it decrease?

JASON MARSHALL: Yeah.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: So I also noticed that. So

Adam, at some point you may want to relook at that number,

and if possible, change it, just so that the record reflects

the accuracy. So regarding the deck, I don't necessarily

have a problem with it. And yes, the six-family I guess

next to it is pretty close.

But this is coming from somebody who has a deck much larger than this over our first-floor kitchen area that my wife occupies an awful lot of time out there doing her needlepoint, reading books, listening to whatever she listens to. And so we absolutely, love it.

And we have a good-sized back yard and everything like that. But that deck off of our living space is actually a Godsend to us. So I'm somewhat partial to that. That being said, also very cautious as to the locations of them.

And as Jim and Laura and Matina have brought up is that -- and the potential effect on next door neighbors.

And it is kind of close to the adjoining structure.

But I -- and again, I think that the applicant is a, you know, lovely person and is not going to have wild parties or loud music or being disruptive out there. I think it's just a nice space that she will sit and have flowers and all that and enjoy the outdoor space. But yes, it could be the next person that comes along becomes sort of a nuisance with a large space there.

So I don't know. We'll have to work our way through that.

LEYLA TEGMO-REDDY: Can I -- oh, sorry.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Yes, go ahead.

LEYLA TEGMO-REDDY: Yeah. I don't -- although I don't have it very handy in front of me, please excuse me, I believe we have an agreement in the condo as to noise after

certain hours and before certain hours. And so I don't know if this would protect for any worries there might be in the future. But my mother is 99, and I hope to live 30 morning years at least. But yeah.

So there is, if I'm not wrong something in the condo association documents. If not, it can certainly be introduced.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Well, that's helpful to know. There is also a noise ordinance in the city that sometimes people obey and are sensitive to, and other times they're not. And it's the ones that are not that we sort of -- you know, are worried about, I guess. It's always the fear of the unknown.

ADAM GLASSMAN: Could I make a suggestion about the size of this deck? I think we can get a functional deck and address your concerns by reducing the amount of deck space. And the overall width that we proposed was 13.4. We could reduce that to 10 feet.

And the 16-foot dimension we could reduce to 11.4. And that would basically -- where you see the landing, that Leyla would walk out to and up a few steps, we'd extend that, what she's calling a walkway to a 10 \times 11 square foot

1 deck. And that would pull the edge we're talking about four and a half feet from the lot line. 2 3 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. JIM MONTEVERDE: [This is Jim Monteverde.] I would 4 5 certainly see that as an improvement, and I would just 6 suggest that the outer edge of that deck that's facing the 7 four-story adjacent to you, there would just be some type of 8 screen fence, et cetera there that --9 ADAM GLASSMAN: Sure. 10 JIM MONTEVERDE: -- at least can shield -- you 11 know, I like the planter that's there, that's nice. 12 there's something like that planter with a something -- you know, trellis that it can grow up, you know, not to just put 13 14 a wall against your neighbor, but a green wall against your 15 neighbor, that would satisfy me. 16 ADAM GLASSMAN: Sure. 17 JIM MONTEVERDE: I could support the deck on that 18 basis. 19 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Let me open that to public 20 I have misplaced my -- [do you have the notice 21 there?] Too many papers and too many -- space up here. I

will now open it to public comment. Any members of the

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1
    public who wish to speak should now click the icon at the
2
    bottom of your Zoom screen that says, "Raise hand."
               If you're calling in by phone, you can raise your
 4
    hand by pressing *9 and unmute or mute by pressing *6. It
 5
    appears to be nobody calling in. There are no letters in
 6
     the file. Making comments, so I will close the public
7
     comment part.
8
              Erik (sic), if you can just run through, I'm on
    sheet A12, and the 16-foot-0 dimension will be reduced to?
9
10
              ADAM GLASSMAN: 11'4'.
11
              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: To 11 foot 4 inches, and the 13
    foot 4 is going to be reduced to 10 foot?
12
13
              ADAM GLASSMAN: To 10 feet.
14
              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. Good. Any other
15
    comments at this time? Erik? I'm sorry. Why am I calling
16
    you Erik? Adam.
17
              ADAM GLASSMAN: I'm sorry, was there a question?
18
              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: I'm sorry. Any other comments
    at this time before --
19
20
              ADAM GLASSMAN: No, no more comments.
21
              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Give it to the Board?
22
    right. Does the Board want to discuss it, or shall I make a
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1
    motion? Jim, any --
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               JIM MONTEVERDE: Ready to vote.
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay, Matina. Discussion or a
 3
 4
    vote?
 5
               MATINA WILLIAMS: Ready to vote.
 6
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay, Laura?
7
               LAURA WERNICK: Ready to vote, yes.
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay, and Jason. Any other --
8
               JASON MARSHALL: [Jason Marshall] I don't have any
 9
10
     questions; I would just maybe ask in doing the motion given
11
     the typo in the application on open space, that we note that
    we're not approving a reduction in open space requirements.
12
13
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. Fine. And that will be
14
    part of the record and a condition of the approval. Let me
15
    make a motion then to grant the relief requested.
16
               The Board finds that a literal enforcement of the
17
    provisions of the ordinance would involve a substantial
18
    hardship to the petitioner.
19
               The Board finds that the existing structure is
     already nonconforming, and has the existence of a 15-foot
20
21
     dormer, rear dormer, as part of another unit.
22
               The Board finds that the literal enforcement would
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prevent the owner from adding another 15-foot dormer to accommodate a modest-sized bathroom to the third floor, which has two bedrooms, no bathroom, and a very steep both stairs to the second floor.

The Board notes that the age of the structure has a living space on the third floor, which is not of prime concern when the structure was built. It has become valuable residential living space, but is lacking sufficient headroom. It lacks a code-compliant staircase, which may or may not be improved, but makes the -- accessing this area far more difficult.

And the Board finds that the -- as far as the deck, that the literal enforcement would prevent the owner from constructing a modest-sized rear deck. The Board notes that the size of the deck has been reduced from 16 foot in width to 11 foot 4, and from 13 foot 4 in depth to 10 foot, as per the applicant's recommendation and the Board's approval.

The Board finds that the hardship is owing to the fact that the existing structure predates the current ordinance. It is encumbered by it. It is an old structure with outdated living space that needs to be updated,

modernized.

And that the Board finds that the relief being requested and approved is a fair and reasonable request, and so is the approval a fair and reasonable, and which will allow the applicant better use and safer use of their property.

The Board finds that desirable relief may be granted without substantial detriment to the public good.

The Board finds that the proposed dormer is hardly visible from the public way, and that it actually would blend in quite nicely with an existing dormer.

The Board notes the Planning Board recommendations on the dormer and the qualifications of their approval.

The Board finds that desirable relief may be granted without substantial detriment to the public good, or nullifying or substantially derogating from the intent or purpose of the ordinance, to allow people fair and reasonable use of the property. And the granting of this variance will allow the same.

The Board would also note that there is a -- there appears to be a misprint on the amount of usable open space.

The Board requests that the architect or the applicant

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1
     clarify that number and resubmit the application form with
2
     the proper dimension, should it be so.
 3
               On and that the work comply with the plans as
 4
    noted, prepared by GCD Architects, dated 06/10/21, with the
 5
    notion on A12 of the correction, and initialed by the Chair.
               On the motion, Jim Monteverde?
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7
               JIM MONTEVERDE: Jim Monteverde yes.
8
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Matina?
9
              MATINA WILLIAMS: Matina Williams yes.
10
              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Laura?
11
              LAURA WERNICK: Laura Wernick yes.
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Jason?
12
13
               JASON MARSHALL: Jason Marshall yes to the
    variance.
14
15
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: And Brendan Sullivan to approve
16
    the variance.
17
               [All vote YES]
18
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Variance approved, good luck.
19
              ADAM GLASSMAN: Thank you all, goodnight.
20
               LEYLA TEGMO-REDDY: Thank you very much.
21
              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: You're welcome. Thank you.
                                                               We
22
    have 6:45; we're at 6:45.
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1 2 (6:45 p.m.)Sitting Members: Brendan Sullivan, Jim Monteverde, Laura 3 4 Wernick, Matina Williams and Jason 5 Marshall BRENDAN SULLIVAN: The Board will now hear Case 6 Number 132592 -- 621 Cambridge Street. The Board is in 7 8 receipt of a letter from the applicant. "Dear members of the Board, 9 10 This matter has been scheduled for public hearing 11 on August 19, 2021. The petitioner hereby requests that the Board allow for a continuance of a hearing of this matter 12 until Thursday, October 7, 2021. Thank you for your 13 consideration. Sincerely, Sarah Rhatigan." 14 15 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: There will not be any public 16 comment on the continuance. Any comment by members of the 17 Board regarding a continuance? 18 [Pause] 19 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: On the motion, then, to continue this matter as per the request, October 7 2021 at 20 21 6:00 p.m. on the condition that the petitioner sign a waiver 22 to the statutory requirement for a hearing and a decision to

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1
    be rendered thereof that the posting sign be changed to
    reflect the new time and date of October 7, 2021 at 6:00
2
 3
    p.m.
 4
               And that should any revisions to the original
     submittals, that they be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on the
 5
    Monday prior to the October 7 date.
 6
7
               On the motion, then, to continue:
8
               JIM MONTEVERDE: Yes, I agree.
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Matina?
9
10
               MATINA WILLIAMS: Yes.
11
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Laura?
12
               LAURA WERNICK: Yes.
13
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Jason?
14
               JASON MARSHALL: Jason Marshall yes.
15
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: And Brendan Sullivan said yes
16
    to the continuance.
17
               [All vote YES]
18
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Matter is continued. On a note
    to any of the public that may be listening, the BZA case
19
20
     126224 -- 107 First Street is requesting a continuance.
21
               I will call the case at the appropriate time, and
22
    that the 8:00 scheduled case at 1923 Mass Avenue is also
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apparently asking for a continuance. And I will again call that case at the appropriate time and deal with that just for your edification.

1 2 (7:00 p.m.)Sitting Members: Brendan Sullivan, Jim Monteverde, Laura 3 Wernick, Matina Williams and Jason 4 5 Marshall 6 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: It being 7:00, the Board will hear Case Number #126866 -- 385 Walden Street; the Clarks, 7 8 or Clifford. Okay, the floor is yours. 9 CLIFFORD BOEHMER: Actually, can you promote two 10 panelists, Al Clark and Lia Scheele? Al is the owner on 11 Walden Street, and Lia is the Project Architect from Davis 12 Square Architects. 13 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. CLIFFORD BOEHMER: I'm not sure what I can find 14 15 out through --16 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: There's some kind of a 17 fluttering going on there. CLARENCE A CLARK: This is Clarence Clark. 18 19 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: I'm sorry? 20 CLARENCE A CLARK: Can you hear me? 21 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Yes. 22 CLARENCE A CLARK: Okay, yeah. So Clarence Clark 1 is the owner. Albert is my middle name.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay.

CLARENCE A CLARK: So should I start now?

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: All right, who's going to

present the case?

CLARENCE A CLARK: So I'm going to say a few minutes, and then I'll have Cliff and Lia talk. My name is Clarence Clark. My wife and I are seeking a minor accommodation for a change to our house at 385 Walden.

I grew up in the house along with three siblings as the third Clark generation to reside there. My wife and I have resided there for the past 40 years, and have no plans to leave; however, we are looking for a way to make things a bit easier as we age.

We currently reside on the top two floors, but are looking to move down to the first floor to minimize the number of steps we need to negotiate on a regular basis.

We currently have a very nice second-floor back porch, which has been a delight to us over the years.

Currently the first-floor back porch contains entries to both residences, and does not offer the privacy we would like when we move down.

We are seeking to have the first-floor back porch and stairs restructured such that there are separate entrances to the residence and to provide a private space comparable to our current back porch. The increase in the footprint is very minor, and is intended to make the space much more livable.

I should point out that the state of the design now is it references the porch, the first-floor porch being screened porch, but we are really thinking that we would like it to be more like the upstairs porch, which has glass panels in it.

So basically, that's what we're asking for. And we're in -- Cliff is there to answer any other questions that you might have about the plans. But you can ask me whatever else that you want.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. One question I had, and there was a little bit of a confusion here, is to the, you're asking -- you're coming out for a special permit.

And I believe the special permit allows you under the Bellalta decision, because you are not creating any new nonconformities?

CLARENCE A CLARK: Yep.

1 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Is that correct? 2 LIA SCHEELE: Mm-hm. CLARENCE A CLARK: Yes. 3 LIA SCHEELE: Correct. 4 5 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: All right. I've downloaded a couple of the dimensional forms, and the numbers vary. 6 7 so I'm trying to establish exactly what is the rear setback 8 now? LIA SCHEELE: So that was the confusion. 9 10 original document that was uploaded -- which I forgot to 11 revise it; I sent it via e-mail -- the original document had 12 the wrong existing condition setback. When I measured it 13 based off of the worst-case scenario, which is what the zoning says, it's 24 feet. 14 15 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. 16 LIA SCHEELE: So that was updated in the 17 application form. It was just not reuploaded to the website. 18 19 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Because the only dimension that's really missing P1 from the certified flood plan is 20 that rear dimension. So --21 22 LIA SCHEELE: Okay.

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1
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: So you're saying that it is 14
2
     feet. The 15 foot is the minimum. So you're basically
 3
     saying that you're nonconforming now? And that's really the
 4
 5
              LIA SCHEELE: Correct.
              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: -- key element of this?
 6
7
              LIA SCHEELE: Correct.
8
              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: All right. And that you're
9
    adding basically three feet, is that correct, to the bottom?
10
               LIA SCHEELE: Yes. Correct. Only three feet to
     the bottom section of the porch. The top section stays
11
12
     exactly where it is.
13
              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay.
               LIA SCHEELE: And it also means that the stairs
14
15
    move as well. But the stairs are staying within that added
16
    three feet.
17
               CLIFFORD BOEHMER: I'll add to that, that those
    current exterior stairs serve both the first and -- the
18
     first-floor unit as well as the unit that's on the second
19
20
    and third floor.
21
               So the purpose of re -- of this -- part of the
22
    purpose of the reconfiguration is to provide independent
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entry and access without having to walk through the new porch rail like Jennifer.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. Olivia, could you put
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BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. Olivia, could you pull up the proposed, which would be --

OLIVIA RATAY: Yeah, I think A202 would probably be the best drawing to look at, which is the section or the side elevation. It shows what's currently there and what was proposed.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Yeah, I got you. Yep. Yep. Okay. Any -- Jim, any questions?

JIM MONTEVERDE: Yeah. I was a bit confused by the description, and I'm looking at what was on the city website. And I'm looking at the dimensional form. The description you just went through about the rear setback,

I'm just trying to figure out what at the moment doesn't conform, and what won't conform after you do this addition? Is there any greater nonconformance with the addition?

LIA SCHEELE: So the rear setback from the back of the porch to the back of the site right now is 24.

JIM MONTEVERDE: Right.

LIA SCHEELE: We're reducing that by three feet.

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1
     So it's going now to 21, but the --
 2
               JIM MONTEVERDE: Oh, okay. --
              LIA SCHEELE: -- order of the zoning --
 3
 4
               JIM MONTEVERDE: Gotcha.
 5
              LIA SCHEELE: -- says it's supposed to be 25.
    we technically --
 6
 7
               JIM MONTEVERDE: Correct. Okay.
 8
              LIA SCHEELE: We're already one foot into that.
               JIM MONTEVERDE: Yeah. No, I understand.
 9
                                                          Okay.
10
              LIA SCHEELE: Okay.
11
              JIM MONTEVERDE: Thank you.
12
              LIA SCHEELE: No problem.
              JIM MONTEVERDE: No other questions. And I'm
13
     assuming you've looked at -- there is no option to be able
14
15
     to do what your client is looking to do and somehow be
16
    within the ordinance, within that 25 feet. Correct?
17
              LIA SCHEELE: Not really trying to make two
18
     separate entrances at the bottom floor. It doesn't work
19
     without trying to extend out the porch, yes.
20
               JIM MONTEVERDE: Okay. Thank you. No further
21
    questions.
2.2
              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. Matina, any questions?
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1 MATINA WILLIAMS: No questions. 2 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Laura? 3 LAURA WERNICK: No questions. 4 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Jason? JASON MARSHALL: [Jason Marshall.] Mr. Chairman, 5 6 I think you and Jim covered the landscape pretty well. don't have any questions at this time. 7 8 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: And I have no questions at this 9 point. Let me open it to public comment. Any member of the 10 public who wishes to speak should now click the icon at the bottom of your Zoom screen that says, "Raise hand." 11 12 If you're calling in by phone, you can raise your hand by pressing *9 and unmute or mute by pressing *6. 13 14 [Pause] 15 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: It appears that nobody is 16 calling in, and there are no letters of comment in the 17 files. So I will close public comment. Any other comments 18 by the applicants at all regarding the proposal? 19 CLIFFORD BOEHMER: The only comment I would like to make is what Al referred to at the beginning, that the 20 current drawings do refer to the addition as being a 21 22 screened porch. We limited the amount of design development

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1
    we did, just because we wanted to make sure that we pass
2
    muster with you folks.
               So I think it's more likely that we will make a --
     they're basically sliding glass doors that make it possible
 4
     to use the porch, you know, basically for three seasons.
 5
 6
    And we're happy to accept any conditions that we might want
7
    to see that.
8
               But I think rather than screened porch, I think
9
    we're more likely to use a sliding glass door system, much
10
     like what's already there.
11
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Yeah, so make it more of a
12
     three-season?
13
               CLIFFORD BOEHMER: Yeah, yeah.
14
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Yeah.
15
               CLIFFORD BOEHMER: That's really what --
16
              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Yeah.
17
               CLIFFORD BOEHMER: -- adds the most utility to it.
18
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Yeah. No. I think that's a --
19
    to me that's a fair and reasonable assumption that you would
    want to make it a three-season. But it seems to need
20
21
     something there, so anyhow.
22
               CLIFFORD BOEHMER: Yeah.
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BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Shall I make a motion, members of the Board?

[Pause]

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: No objection? Let me make a motion, then, to grant the special permit as per the application; grant the special permit and with the following findings: That it appears that the requirements of the ordinance can be met with the granting of the special permit.

The Board finds that the porch extension in question is existing with some proposed minor extensions that will not affect the setback or open space requirements.

The Board finds that the proposal -- even though it's in a three-foot addition, it is not increasing or -- I'm sorry, is not creating a new nonconformities.

The Board finds that traffic generated or patterns of access or egress resulting from what is being proposed would not cause congestion, hazard, or substantial change in the established neighborhood character.

The Board finds that the porch is the rear side of the property. There was quite a bit of distance from this proposal and the next-door neighbor, and will have really de

minimis effect on any of the surrounding properties, if at all, but will have a tremendous positive effect on the livability of that particular section of the house.

The Board finds that the continued operation of or development of adjacent uses, as permitted in the zoning ordinance, will not be adversely affected at all, and that there would not be any nuisance or hazard created to the detriment of the health, safety and/or welfare of the occupants of the proposed use; in fact it would enhance the livability and use of the structure.

The Board finds that the proposed use would not impair the integrity of the district or adjoining district, or otherwise derogate from the intent and purpose of the ordinance, to allow the occupants of the house to have a fair and reasonable use of their property.

On the motion, then, and also that this condition that the work conform with the general outline as per the drawings prepared by Davis Square Architects, and initialed by the Chair.

And that the assumption is that it can either be a screened in, or it could possibly be a three-season with glass panels. Is that correct by members of the Board,

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     would we allow that?
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               JIM MONTEVERDE: That's fine.
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               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: On the motion, then, to grant
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     the special permit, Jim?
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               JIM MONTEVERDE: [Jim Monteverde] I vote in favor.
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               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Matina?
               MATINA WILLIAMS: [Matina Williams] I vote in
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 8
     favor.
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               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Laura?
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               LAURA WERNICK: Laura Wernick in favor.
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               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Jason?
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               JASON MARSHALL: Jason Marshall yes in favor of
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     the special permit.
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: And Brendan Sullivan votes to
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     grant the special permit.
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               [All vote YES]
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               Special permit is granted. Good luck.
               COLLECTIVE: Thank you very much. Bye.
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               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Goodnight now.
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1 2 (7:15 p.m.)Sitting Members: Brendan Sullivan, Jim Monteverde, Laura 3 4 Wernick, Matina Williams and Jason 5 Marshall 6 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Being 7:15, the Board will hear 7 Case Number #122419 -- 359 Fresh Pond Parkway. Anybody here 8 from Prince Lobel? ANN SOBOLEWSKI: Yes. Good evening. This is Ann 9 10 Sobolewski from Prince Lobel here on behalf of the 11 applicant, SCHF VEG LLC, which does business as veterinary 12 emergency service. And with me is Jennifer Hanlon and 13 Amanda Morgan (phonetic), also of VEG. 14 We're here for a special permit to operate --15 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Ann, Ann, Ann. 16 interrupt you for a second. 17 ANN SOBOLEWSKI: Sure. 18 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Being a lawyer, you'll 19 appreciate this: The lawyer's have asked me to say that 20 should this matter be continued tonight for whatever reason, that the earliest that it could be heard by the same five-21 22 member Board would be in January. One of the members of the

Board cannot sit from now until January 4.

And you could, if it were to be continued, could be heard at an earlier date, but it would only be with four members. And as such, you would need a unanimous four votes of the Board.

So that is your option: to either proceed, or with the caveat of the continuance.

ANN SOBOLEWSKI: Well, I think -- Jennifer, do you have an opinion? Would you like to --

JENNIFER HANLON: Ann, yes, let's proceed.

ANN SOBOLEWSKI: The applicant would like to proceed.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Yep. Fine. The floor is yours.

ANN SOBOLEWSKI: Okay. So this is a special permit application for a veterinary establishment in an existing retail building at 359 Fresh Pond Parkway. Before we get into the proposal, I'd like to give you a little bit of information about VEG.

The company was started in 2014. They provide emergency veterinary services; not regular routine veterinary services. These are for example when your rescue

dog eats a chicken bone that your toddler left on the coffee table and that is in fact something that happened to me.

So they're there for things that are not within regular business hours or for whenever it's an emergency. I don't know if anyone saw on Channel 4 last month there was an MSPCA story about how Angel Memorial had seen their emergency services grow 40 percent.

And in fact just last night they exceeded their ER capacity, and they were required to transfer pets to other emergency facilities; Angel Memorial could not handle them.

That is the kind of service that this facility will provide.

So VEG has two other locations in Massachusetts.

There is one in Newton, and there is one in Boston. And we believe that this is a useful service that can provide benefits to the people of Cambridge.

To talk a little bit about the site location, if we could go to the next slide?

This is an existing building. It was built in accordance with a special permit that was granted back in 2008. It's a multitenant retail building located on Fresh Pond Parkway. This space in the pictures is the space that VEG would occupy. It is currently vacant. It was formerly

occupied by a vitamin shop and a Select Comfort Sleep N umber.

If we could go to the next slide?

The area that they would be operating in is shown in red on this slide with -- the immediate abutter next door to the left in the picture is a gasoline station off the screen. The next abutter to the right is another gasoline station, a Mobil. At the top of the picture is the National Guard building. And then where the trees are in the bottom, below that is Fresh Pond.

So that is the immediate vicinity of the space.

Now, if we could go to the next slide.

Unfortunately, this one is flipped. You can see that to the right of the picture, those are the spaces that VEG would be in; the Select Comfort space and The Vitamin Shoppe space.

And on the next slide is a full site plan showing the existing building, the existing parking lot, as well as the location that VEG would be in.

Just as a note, we did host a community meeting via ZOOM on the fourth of August. We sent notices to everyone who was listed in the abutters' list. No abutter attended. However, we did get one e-mail request for

information from an abutter.

That person wanted to know about emergency vehicle services for the facility, and we explained to them that there are no emergency vehicles that would be coming to this location. Individual pet owners bring their pets themselves, either in their car or via public transportation. There's no emergency services.

So we're seeking a special permit. And the standard is that all animals be kept indoors, and that there be no issues with noise or odor, in addition to the regular special permit standards. So we've addressed that in a number of ways. If you could go to the next slide.

All of VEG's operations will be located within the facility. As you can see, at the main entrance there's no space for anything to be done outside, and in the next slide it's the same with the side facing Fresh Pond Parkway, as well as in the next slide the side facing the gas station — the immediately adjacent gas station.

And then the next slide is our floor plan. All of this is purely interior work. There is no exterior work proposed, except for changing the color of the awnings, the trim paint and the signage that you saw in the previous

photo renderings of their space.

To deal with potential issues of noise, VEG uses soundproofing within their facility. They analyze each facility and what is necessary to provide adequate soundproofing. They have calculated the maximum number of decibel that could be possible in the facility and worked off of that. However, in reality that is unlikely to happen, because that would be based on the entire facility being full of barking dogs.

Dogs are not the only type of pets that would use this facility. They service people who have cats and rabbits and guinea pigs and birds and snakes and other things. But it is based off of barking dogs, and it has been designed to ensure that there will be adequate noise protection; noise will not leave this building as a result of this use.

With respect to odor, that has also been evaluated. They do surgeries here, so it's important that they maintain a quality HVAC system to address issues of noise -- excuse me, issues of odor -- and also, if you think back to the location of this building and the location of this space and the types of the abutters that are

surrounding it, we don't feel that any of the abutters would be complaining about potential odors emanating from the veterinary hospital.

And then in terms of waste, they have medical waste picked up from a third party. Any animal waste is properly disposed of and properly managed in accordance with their procedures.

They have operating protocols, and the dumpster which is shown here in orange is located as far away from any of the residential abutters that live across Concord Avenue. The dumpster that already serves the existing retail building is located right at the corner by the mobile station and the National Guard facility.

So we don't believe that that waste is going through be a significant problem caused by the operation of the emergency veterinary hospital.

In addition to those specific requirements for this particular use, we don't believe that there are going to be detrimental impacts generally under the General Special Permit Standards for this use.

With respect to Traffic and Parking, if you could go to the next slide, there is a bicycle rack that is

provided at this location. VEG anticipates that a lot of their employees will use public transportation or perhaps bicycles to get to work, because it is convenient to do that, particularly in Cambridge.

In addition, they have designated parking spaces from the landlord and designated visitor spaces that they can avail themselves of, in addition to the existing parking spaces that are not specifically designated to their use, that are open for anyone in the building to use.

In terms of traffic impacts, while it is a 24-hour, seven-day-a-week establishment, they don't see most of the traffic generated during peak a.m. and daytime hours, or peak p.m. hours.

All of the people who visit this facility visit it when perhaps their regular vet is not open. So it's more of an afterhours facility, in terms of people coming to the site.

And in general, I think if my memory is correct, yeah, there are about eight to 10 cases that would come in during the day. Most of the other cases would come in in the evening, and there are only a handful of customers that will visit between midnight and 8:00 a.m. that would be the

1 true emergency. However, it is possible for people to visit 2 at that time. 3 It is already, you know, a relatively heavily trafficked area, and we don't believe that this particular 4 use is markedly different from the existing retail uses that 5 were in these two spaces, and the existing retail uses that 6 remain in the rest of the building, which are a Sherwin-7 8 Williams paint store, a T-Mobile and a bank. 9 Jennifer, is there anything that you might want to 10 add? 11 JENNIFER HANLON: No, Ann. I think you did a 12 fantastic job. Thank you. I will add we're very excited to bring our use to Cambridge. We think it's going to be 13 really welcome by the community. 14 15 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Jennifer, this is Brendan 16 Sullivan. I have one question. The -- you're a 24/7 17 facility, and yet that midnight to 8:00, is it staffed by

JENNIFER HANLON: Nope. So the facility is fully staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. We just don't tend to see a ton of people that come between midnight and 8:00

somebody, or is it sort of a will call or somebody on call?

Or is it somebody physically in the building?

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a.m. The people that do generally show up are the ones that had a true emergency. Because most people are not awake at that hour. So if you are awake, it's probably because your pet is having a real emergency.

But we are fully staffed 24 hours a day.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Well, do you know of any other facility around here that renders that service and is open 24/7, 365 days a year?

JENNIFER HANLON: There are a handful of facilities in and around the Greater Boston area. Angel Memorial is one of them, which is not particularly close to this, because it's just in Jamaica Plain. There is a Blue Pearl probably about 20 to 25 minutes away, which is a large, specialty and emergency provider.

What sets us apart from both of those that I just mentioned is that we only provide emergency services.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay.

JENNIFER HANLON: So that is what we consider our bread and butter, while the other providers do provide additional services as well.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Yeah. I think that was the thought that in reading all your pleadings and, obviously

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     knowing the location very well and the demographics of the
     city is that your operation is actually quite unique to the
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 3
     city.
               JENNIFER HANLON: Yes, it is. Which is why we
 4
     think the communities are really going to enjoy and welcome
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 6
     our service. And we spent quite a bit of time working
     internally with our team and working with our medical
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 8
     director, who is local to the Cambridge area and she's the
     doctor that will be running the facility.
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               So she's done, you know, quite a bit of outreach
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     to the community and the vet community, and we know this is
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    a needed service here.
               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Good. Thank you. Any -- you
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    have concluded the initial presentation, have you?
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               ANN SOBOLEWSKI: Yes. Thank you very much.
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               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay, Ann. Jim, any questions
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    at this time?
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               JIM MONTEVERDE: Jim Monteverde no questions.
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               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Matina, any questions?
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               MATINA WILLIAMS: Matina Williams no questions.
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               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Laura?
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LAURA WERNICK: No questions.

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BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Jason?

JASON MARSHALL: Jason Marshall no questions.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: All right. And [Brendan Sullivan] I have no questions. Let me just make a comment that you're asking for a special permit, which is an allowed use in Section 4.35L.

Subsection 29 says a special permit may be granted, provided that the -- maybe provided in Business A and Be zone -- this is -- that all animals are kept indoors and that no odors or -- no noise or odors are perceptible from adjoining lots. And I think that in your presentation and in your pleadings and application you have addressed that issue.

Let me open it to public comment. Any member of the public who wishes to speak should now click the icon at the bottom of your Zoom screen that says, "Raise hand."

If you're calling in by phone, you can raise your hand by pressing *9 and unmute or mute by pressing *6.

[Pause]

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Nope. Nobody is calling in.

There are no letters in the file, and so I will close public comments. Any comments by any member of the Board at all,

1 or shall I take it to a vote?

JIM MONTEVERDE: Ready for a vote.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. Thank you. Let me make a motion, then, to grant the special permit as per the application.

The Board finds that the requirements of the ordinance can be met with the granting of the special permit.

The Board finds that the nature of the applicants' use does not include keeping animals outdoors, and that they provide emergency veterinary care only.

With respect to noise specifically, the applicant will implement noise mitigation measures to ensure that the veterinary hospital will not have any adverse noise impact on closes uses.

VEG hospitals are all designed to address the need for extra noise insulation, and each location, as per the application, is individually evaluated with a soundproofing plan of action.

The Board finds that the applicant will utilize an HVAC system that uses an exhaust system and outside air to provide positive negative pressure and ventilation within

the vet space.

That this will neutralize any odors to adjoining areas. There will not be any negative waste impacts; all animal waste that occurs within the vet spaces would be collected by Staff and deposited into closed waste disposal containers.

The applicant will dispose of medical waste according to industry standard with a third-party contractor, that provides regular pickup services.

The Board finds that traffic generated or patterns of access or egress would not cause congestion, hazard, or substantial change in the established neighborhood character.

The Board finds that the applicant has secured 15 designated Staff parking spaces, and two designated client parking spaces within the parking lot. Said designated spaces are in addition to any available spaces within the parking lot that are not assigned specifically for the use of any and all tenants.

The Board finds that the highest concentration of customers coming to VEG between six and ten. During the day, VEG sees approximately eight to 10 cases between 8:00

a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

This level of use will not increase the number of vehicle trips per day to or from the property in such a manner as to cause congestion, hazard or substantial change in the established neighborhood character.

The Board finds that continued operation of or development of adjacent uses, as permitted in the zoning ordinance, would not be adversely affected by the nature of the proposed use. what is being proposed use.

The Board finds that the proposed noise and odor mitigation described above and in the application is sufficient to prevent disruption of all the other uses within the building.

The Board finds that the proposed use will not have any affect on these abutting, fully developed property. The Board finds that nuisance or hazard would not be created to the detriment of the health, safety and/or welfare of the occupants of the proposed use, or to the citizens of the city.

The Board finds that the applicant's design implements noise and odor mitigation measures. The use itself will provide a benefit to the neighbor and

surrounding areas by providing convenient and close, dedicated, emergency veterinary services.

The Board finds that this particular location, as is the norm for this particular business, does not involve any animal boarding.

The Board finds that the proposed use would not impair the integrity of the district or adjoining districts, or otherwise derogate from the intent and purpose of ordinance.

The immediate adjacent uses are commercial, and the Board finds that the veterinary establishment in this location would provide immediate service for pet owners in surrounding areas.

On that motion, the motion is to grant the special permit, and with the -- incorporate the application and the supporting statements.

On the motion, Jim Monteverde?

JIM MONTEVERDE: Jim Monteverde votes in favor.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Matina Williams?

MATINA WILLIAMS: Matina Williams votes in favor.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Laura?

LAURA WERNICK: Laura Wernick votes in favor.

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              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Jason?
               JASON MARSHALL: Jason Marshall yes in favor of
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    granting the special permit.
              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: And Brendan Sullivan yes to
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 5
    grant the special permit.
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               [All vote YES]
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               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: The permit is granted.
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    luck. Welcome.
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              ANN SOBOLEWSKI: Thank you very much.
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              LIA SCHEELE: Thank you, everyone. Have a great
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    night.
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              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Nice presentation.
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               JIM MONTEVERDE: Attorney Ann?
              ANN SOBOLEWSKI: Yes.
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               JIM MONTEVERDE: May I ask you a question?
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              ANN SOBOLEWSKI: Sure.
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               JIM MONTEVERDE: I notice in the background you
    have a nice Giulietta Alfa Romeo. Are you an owner or a
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    racer or aficionado?
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              ANN SOBOLEWSKI: No. This is my husband's office.
               JIM MONTEVERDE: Ah, well.
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              ANN SOBOLEWSKI: And we can't afford anything like
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that.
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              JIM MONTEVERDE: Give your husband a big hug and
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    kiss from me. Nice guy. I like him already.
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              ANN SOBOLEWSKI: I will do so. Thank you so much.
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              COLLECTIVE: Bye.
              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Are we at 7:30 yet? Yep?
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    Okay. Olivia says go. So we go.
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1 2 (7:30 p.m.)Sitting Members: Brendan Sullivan, Jim Monteverde, Laura 3 Wernick, Matina Williams and Jason 4 5 Marshall BRENDAN SULLIVAN: The Board will hear Case Number 6 7 #126224 -- 107 First Street. Is there anybody representing 8 the applicant in this particular case? 9 [Pause] 10 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: No. We are in receipt of a 11 letter from Frank Meroney, M-e-r-o-n-e-y, Fast Signs of 12 Quincy. 13 "To Whom it May Concern: We formally request a continuance for applicant 126224 -- 107 First Street, until 14 15 the next meeting. If you have any questions, please e-mail. 16 Thank you, Frank Meroney." 17 I will make a motion, then, to continue this 18 matter on the condition that the applicant and in their 19 supporting statements under B where it says, "The hardship 20 is owing to the following circumstances relating to the soil 21 conditions, shape or topography of such land or structures, 22 and especially affecting such land or structures by not

1 affecting generally the zoning district, which it is located 2 for the following reasons, and the answer is unknown that 3 the petitioner must give a reason as to the hardship to 4 waive the zoning ordinance regarding this particular sign 5 location." 6 And also, I would -- that is also reiterated by 7 the Planning Board report. 8 I will continue this -- may I make a motion to continue this matter on the condition that the petitioner 9 10 sign a waiver to the statutory requirement for a hearing on the decision to be rendered thereof. 11 That the posting sign be changed to reflect the 12 new date of October 7, 2021 at 6:00 p.m., and that any new 13 submissions and/or supporting statements be in the file by 14 15 5:00 p.m. on the Monday prior to the October 7, 2021 16 hearing. 17 On the motion, then, to grant the request for the 18 continuance, Jim? 19 JIM MONTEVERDE: Jim Monteverde in favor. BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Matina Williams? 20 MATINA WILLIAMS: Matina Williams in favor. 21

JIM MONTEVERDE: Laura?

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LAURA WERNICK: Laura Wernick in favor of granting. BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Jason? JASON MARSHALL: Jason Marshall yes. BRENDAN SULLIVAN: And the Chair, Brendan Sullivan, votes in favor of the continuance. [All vote YES] BRENDAN SULLIVAN: We have to wait four minutes.

1 2 (7:45 p.m.)Sitting Members: Brendan Sullivan, Jim Monteverde, Laura 3 4 Wernick, Matina Williams and Jason 5 Marshall 6 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. It being 7:45, the Board will hear Case Number #132265 -- 2447 Massachusetts Avenue. 7 8 Petitioner? Mr. McGuinness? 9 ANTHONY MCGUINESS: Good evening, members of the 10 Board, Staff, members of the public. My name is Anthony 11 McGuinness, and I represent Season To Taste Catering. I have with me the owner, Robert Harris. 12 13 Season to Taste is located at 2447 Mass Ave, and they are the tenant there. They run a catering business and 14 15 small restaurant out of that space. 16 Season To Taste is looking to expand the number of 17 seats in its restaurant to 49 seats. So they are in an 18 attempt to kind of recreate themselves a little bit due to 19 the pandemic, and the drop-off in catering services. 20 are looking to expand their restaurant offerings by 21 increasing the number of spaces -- seats, excuse me. 22 And in that vein, they are applying for a special

permit seeking a waiver of required parking that would be necessary for the increase in the restaurant seats.

Currently, there's really if you look at the slide that's being shown right now, the area on the left where you see seating, that is currently used as office space. Where it says, "Entry to 449" that space is currently not used as part of the restaurant, but the center area is.

So really the only change is moving seating over into that left side. We don't foresee any other change to the business whatsoever. This is located in a commercial area. It's an A2 business zone.

There is no parking currently there, and we don't see that there would be any need for additional parking.

This is on Mass Ave. Many people -- it's a neighborhood type establishment. Many people come by foot, public transportation. It's well suited to that. People use ride sharing apps when coming for dinner. So we don't feel there would be a negative impact as to traffic or parking in the area.

We also have for the same reasons don't feel that there would be a negative impact to any of the adjacent businesses in that area. And I think that there's been a

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     lot of support for this from neighbors and people in the
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     area.
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              We've submitted a number of letters of support,
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    and we feel that this would be a good use of the space. And
    we feel that the area could use more restaurants. And I
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     think that's probably the extent of our presentation. It's
    just to add seats.
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              And the owner is here if there are any additional
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    questions that we can answer for the Board or for the
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    public.
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               BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Thank you. Any questions by
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    members of the Board? Jim?
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               JIM MONTEVERDE: Jim Monteverde no questions.
              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Matina?
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              MATINA WILLIAMS: Matina Williams no questions.
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              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Laura?
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              LAURA WERNICK: No questions.
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              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Jason?
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               JASON MARSHALL: Jason Marshall no questions.
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              BRENDAN SULLIVAN: And [Brendan Sullivan, Chair,]
     I have no questions either. I will open it up to public
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    comment. Any member of the public who wishes to speak
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should now click the icon at the bottom of your Zoom screen that says, "Raise hand."

If you're calling in by phone, you can raise your hand by pressing *9 and unmute or mute by pressing *6. And you'll have up to three minutes to speak.

[Pause]

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: There appears to be nobody calling in, as stated by Council that there is a number of - there appears to be the entire Gold Star Road voicing their support forth particular establishment and the expansion of it.

Legally, under Section 6.35, that any amount -required amount of parking may be reduced by the issuance of
a special permit to the Board of Zoning Appeal, as provided
below.

And some of the criteria are the availability of surplus off-street parking in the vicinity for the use being served by or the proximity of the MBTA transit. And it is on a bus line.

There is some available off-street parking, but it doesn't appear to be needed or utilized by this particular application. The availability of public or commercial

parking facility in the area is being provided, and I believe in your application you said that there is some, but, again, felt that it was not necessary or required in order to service your patrons.

And the Board finds that the requirement for the production of the off-street parking potentially has been satisfied. I'll make one comment on this, and that the proposal to expand at this particular site I think, because I sort of know the area very well, really a plus for the neighborhood.

And the pandemic has shuttered an awful lot of restaurant establishments. And so they're either very small establishments. And again, sort of owner-occupied, chef, cook and bottle washer type of establishments up and down Mass Avenue, even spilling into Arlington, or sort of the large fine dining rooms.

And yet there does not appear to be this sort of middle road of adequate size to accommodate you when you call up and ask for availability or reservations, that they're not telling you 9:00, 10:00 at night, because they don't have the capacity. And you don't want to have to schlep into Boston for this fine dining.

1 So I think that this particular proposal is a boon 2 to the neighborhood and Cambridge because it is sort of that 3 middle road that has adequate size to accommodate people in 4 the neighborhood, people in the community, without being overly burdensome. So that's sort of my comment on that. 5 6 Jim, any comments? Any thoughts on the proposal? 7 JIM MONTEVERDE: [Jim Monteverde] no comments, I'm 8 in favor of it. 9 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Okay. Matina, any thoughts, 10 comments at all? 11 MATINA WILLIAMS: No comments. 12 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Laura? 13 LAURA WERNICK: Well, I would just echo no comments, Mr. Chair, and that in addition that it's really 14 15 good food. 16 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: [Laughter] Okay. Jason? 17 JASON MARSHALL: [Jason Marshall] It appears to be 18 a reasonable proposal, and I intend to support it. 19 you. 20 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: All right. Thank you. Let me 21 make the motion, then, to grant the special permit as per 22 the application and supporting statements.

The Board finds that the requirements of the ordinance can be met with the granting of the special permit. The existing structure, Season To Taste, is located at 2447 Massachusetts Avenue. And patrons from the area generally arrive on foot rather than in cars or by public transportation or a large service.

The Board finds that increasing the seating to 49 will not create any traffic congestions.

The Board finds that traffic generated or patterns of access or egress resulting from what is being proposed would not cause congestion, hazard, or substantial change in the established neighborhood character.

And [that] the Board finds that the restaurant is in an established commercial zone with existing parking lots in the area and plenty of metered parking available, and also, access to public transportation.

The Board finds that the continued operation of or development of adjacent uses, as permitted in the zoning ordinance, would not be adversely affected by what is being proposed use. And in fact, that the adjoining uses up and down the street could potentially benefit from expanded business such as this, which brings additional patrons to

1 the area. And the Board finds that an increase of activity, 2 3 especially after dark, has a benefit to the area. 4 The Board finds that there would not be any nuisance or hazard created to the detriment of the health, 5 6 safety and/or welfare of the occupants of the proposed use, 7 or to the citizens of the city. 8 And that the proposed use will not impair the 9 integrity of the district, or adjoining district or 10 otherwise derogate from the intent and purpose of the 11 ordinance. And that they find that they have met the criteria 12 13 for granting relief under Section 6.35. On the motion, Jim Monteverde? 14 15 JIM MONTEVERDE: Jim Monteverde votes in favor. 16 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Matina? 17 MATINA WILLIAMS: Matina Williams votes in favor. 18 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Laura? 19 LAURA WERNICK: Laura votes in favor. 20 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: And Jason? 21 JASON MARSHALL: Jason Marshall yes in favor of

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granting the special permit.

BRENDAN SULLIVAN: And Brendan Sullivan yes in favor of granting the special permit. [All vote YES] The special permit is granted. And hope to see you there. COLLECTIVE: Thank you very much. BRENDAN SULLIVAN: We have to wait until 8:00.

1 2 (8:00 p.m.)3 Sitting Members: Brendan Sullivan, Jim Monteverde, Laura 4 Wernick, Matina Williams and Jason 5 Marshall BRENDAN SULLIVAN: It is now 8:00. The Board will 6 7 hear Case Number #102207 -- 1923 Massachusetts Avenue. 8 Anybody representing the applicant at this time? 9 [Pause] 10 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: No. We have a letter in the 11 file. "After speaking internally with T-Mobile, as well as discussing with the building owner, T-Mobile would like to 12 ask for a continuance on tonight's meeting, in order to 13 address the concerns the Planning Board brought up on 14 15 Tuesday and sent yesterday afternoon." 16 And they want to know if they can be done just 17 tonight or can it be confirmed in advance, and it was 18 confirmed in advance that they could be granted the 19 continuance. 20 The Planning Board recommends that the BZA 21 continue the hearing also, to allow the applicant to revise 22 the proposal to respond to the comments and suggestions

provided in the CDD memo, which is two pages long. I won't need to go into that. That is a part of the public record, and available for Board members and the public to review.

On the motion to continue Case Number #102207 -1923 Massachusetts Avenue, the motion is to continue it to
October 21, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. on the condition that the
petitioner change the posting sign to reflect the new date
of October 21 and the new time of 6:00 p.m.

Also, that the petitioner sign a waiver to the statutory requirement for a hearing and a decision to be rendered thereof, and that should any new submittals, which there will be, must be in the file no later than Monday prior to the October 21 meeting.

Also, that the petitioner -- and it's imperative that the petitioner also submit any new submissions, documents to the Planning Board for their review and perusal and comment back to the Board prior to our October 21 hearing.

On the motion to continue this matter, Jim Monteverde?

JIM MONTEVERDE: Jim Monteverde in favor of the continuance.

1 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Matina? 2 MATINA WILLIAMS: Matina Williams in favor of the 3 continuance. 4 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Laura? 5 LAURA WERNICK: Laura Wernick in favor of the continuance. 6 7 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Jason? 8 JASON MARSHALL: Jason Marshall yes in favor of 9 the continuance. 10 BRENDAN SULLIVAN: And the Chair votes also in favor of the continuance. 11 12 [All vote YES] The matter is continued until October 2021. 13 And that concludes our meeting. Thank you 14 15 very much, Board members. 16 COLLECTIVE: Thank you very much. Goodnight. 17 Bye. BRENDAN SULLIVAN: Goodnight and stay well. 18 [8:02 p.m. End of Proceedings] 19 20 21 22

1	CERTIFICATE
2	Commonwealth of Massachusetts
3	Middlesex, ss.
4	I, Catherine Burns, Notary Public in and for the
5	Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby certify that the
6	above transcript is a true record, to the best of my
7	ability, of the proceedings.
8	I further certify that I am neither related to nor
9	employed by any of the parties in or counsel to this action,
10	nor am I financially interested in the outcome of this
11	action.
12	In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this
13	
14	
15	
16	Notary Public
17	My commission expires:
18	July 28, 2028
19	Cathorina M. Burna
20	Catherine M. Burns Notary Public COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS My Commission Expires
21	July 28, 2028

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