

**Zoning Board of Appeals
Regular Meeting Minutes 04/13/10**

Meeting called to order at 4:00pm by Chairman Ellsworth Lowry Taylor III.

The following members were present: Cleveland Hobbs, Marcia Lane, Dwight Parker and Betty Willis.

The following member was absent: Blanch Rogers.

Staff Present: Director of Building & Zoning Debbie Banks and Recording Secretary Deena McCamey.

Motion- made by Mrs. Willis to approve the minutes of the May 14th, 2009 meeting. Mr. Hobbs seconded the motion. All those present voted affirmative. Motion passed

“To Appeal any Decision” read by Debbie Banks.

Old Business- No Old Business

New Business-

Election of Officers: Board Officers are Ellsworth Lowry Taylor III, Chairman and Cleveland Hobbs Vice Chairman.

Motion- made by Mrs. Willis with second by Ms. Lane to retain the current Chairman and Vice Chairman. All those present voted affirmative. Motion passed.

Case # 10-05 Block 321 (bounded by N 17th, N 18th, Ocean & Washington Streets)
Owner: PHA
Agent: John Nelson
Request: For a two foot variance to allow an eight foot fence in an R-1 zoning district.

Mr. Hobbs recused himself for the record from this case due to conflict of interest.

Mr. Nelson, Palatka Housing Authority, 400 N 15th Street, stated he was here to request a 2’ variance for fencing on the North Side public housing community. He stated that during the year of 2005 they had installed approximately 6,343 lineal feet of fencing ranging from 6’ to 8’ variety, of the 8’ variety they had installed 346 feet to one block of housing units. Mr. Nelson said the fencing was erected so the children could have a place to play that is secure between the buildings and the backyard and to keep people from running through and cars driving through. With the fencing in place the play yard is only accessible either by the apartments or the entrance fence which is only unlocked when mowing or meter reading is needed.

Mr. Taylor asked if the caps on the tops of the fence drawings were included in the fence that was installed.

Mr. Nelson stated yes, they were there originally, but there are some now missing from people taking them off.

Mr. Taylor asked why the PHA didn’t pull a permit for the fencing.

Mr. Nelson replied at that time PHA didn’t know they needed a permit.

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Case # 10-05 Continued-

Ms. Banks told the board that a permit is not required to install fencing, but they should have come to the board for a variance. She also told the board she didn't know why staff did not require it at that time.

Mr. Nelson admitted error on the first block, on the other 6,000 lineal feet of fencing the PHA fell within the criteria.

Sylvia Cooper, 1800 Ocean Street, asked if the fencing is going to remain where it is now or are they going to be moving it across the street or whatever?

Mr. Nelson replied "NO" the fences are where they are and they will remain there.

Discussion- Mrs. Willis asked staff if they had any responses from the notices to neighbors or the advertisement.

Ms. Banks replied she had not.

Motion- to approve the variance request made by Mr. Parker, Ms. Lane seconded the motion with the understanding they won't do this again. All those present voted affirmative. Motion passed.

Motion to adjourn- Mrs. Willis made motion to adjourn. Ms. Lane seconded the motion. All those present voted affirmative. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned- at 4:19pm.