

**DECISION OF THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
of the
TOWN OF WESTWOOD**

PROPERTY OWNERS: Rebecca and Joshua Ames

PETITIONER: Rebecca Ames
52 Greenacre Road
Westwood, MA 02090

LAND AFFECTED: 52 Greenacre Road
Westwood, Massachusetts 02090
Map 28 Lot 296

HEARING:

The Board of Appeals for the Town of Westwood held a Public Hearing according to the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on Wednesday May 18, 2022 at 7:00 P.M. via remote participation to consider the Petitioner's request for a special permit pursuant to the Westwood Zoning Bylaw Section §4.5.3.2.2 [Special Permit Alterations of Nonconforming Structures – Vertical Extension]. The application proposes to remove the roof line over the existing garage and construct a second story addition. The rear wall of the existing garage is 20.2' from rear lot line, where 30' is required. The side wall of the existing garage is 19.3' from the west side lot line where 20' is required. The proposed addition would extend the existing rear and side garage walls vertically at the same distance from the lot line as the existing walls. The height of the proposed addition would be below the 25' maximum. The lot is nonconforming due to insufficient frontage, width and area. The property is located in the Single Residential C (SRC) zoning district.

BOARD MEMBERS: John Lally, Chairman
Michael McCusker
Linda Walsh

APPLICABLE SECTIONS OF THE WESTWOOD ZONING BYLAW

4.5.3.2 Special Permit Alterations of Nonconforming Structures. In the event that the Building Commissioner determines that a proposed alteration to a nonconforming structure does not meet the requirements of Section 4.5.3.1, the Board of Appeals may grant a special permit to make alterations to a nonconforming structure in accordance with this Section only if it determines that such alteration does not substantially increase the nonconforming nature of said structure and would not be substantially more detrimental than the existing nonconforming structure to the neighborhood. The following types of alterations to nonconforming structures may be considered for a special permit by the Board of Appeals:

4.5.3.2.2 Vertical extension of an existing exterior wall at or along the same or greater distance from a lot line, provided that the structure has a building height of no more than twenty-five (25) feet, if constructed on a lot that does not comply with current lot area and/or lot frontage requirements, or

a building height no greater than permitted by this Bylaw if constructed on a lot that complies with current lot area and/or lot frontage requirements.

FINDINGS

In consideration of all of the testimony and exhibits and documents submitted before the Board, the Board makes the following findings of fact:

1. The Subject Property is located at 52 Greenacre Road. The existing house sits on a nonconforming lot due to a lack of lot area, lot frontage and lot width. The structure is nonconforming due to violations of the rear setback and west side setback.
2. The Petitioner is proposing to construct a second story addition over an existing garage that would extend the existing rear and side garage walls vertically at the same distance from the lot line as the existing walls. Relief in the form of a Special Permit pursuant to Section §4.5.3.2.2 was requested. The Board of Appeals is the Special Permit Granting Authority.
3. Any adverse effects of the Petitioner's proposed construction will not outweigh its beneficial impact to the Town, or the neighborhood, in view of the particular characteristics of the site and the proposal in relation to that site.
4. The Petitioner's proposal will not have a material adverse effect on the value of the land and buildings in the neighborhood, or on the amenities thereof, or be detrimental to the normal use of the adjacent property, and it will not be injurious or dangerous to the public health or hazardous because of traffic congestion, or other reason, and any adverse effects of the proposed use do not outweigh its beneficial aspects, all in view of the particular characteristics of the site and of the proposal in relation to that site.
5. The Petitioner has met all the requirements for a Special Permit pursuant to the Westwood Zoning Bylaw.

DECISION and CONDITIONS

The Board of Appeals voted unanimously to grant the Petitioner's request for a Special Permit pursuant to Section 4.5.3.2.2 of the Westwood Zoning Bylaw and upon the following conditions:

1. The Project shall be constructed in conformity with the submitted site plan titled "Plan Showing Proposed Addition 52 Greenacre Road in Westwood, MA" prepared by D. O'Brien Land Surveying, 480 West Central Street, Franklin MA 02038, dated April 1, 2022 and last revised April 15, 2022, and construction plans titled "52 Greenacre Street Westwood, MA", prepared by Spruhan Engineering P.C., 80 Jewett Street, Suite 1, Newton, MA 02458, dated October 5, 2020 last revised January 26, 2022 consisting of consisting of eight (8) sheets titled: Sheet 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, S-001, S-002 and S-003.
2. The Petitioner shall pursue completion of the Project with reasonable diligence and continuity.
3. This Special Permit shall not take effect until a copy of the Decision, bearing the certification of the Town Clerk that twenty (20) days have elapsed after the filing of the decision and either that no appeal has been filed or that an appeal has been filed within such time period, is recorded in the Registry of

Deeds and indexed under the name of the property owner of record and the parcel address. A copy of these recordings shall be provided to the Building Commissioner, Town Clerk and the Board of Appeals.

4. **The person exercising rights under a duly appealed special permit does so at risk that a court will reverse the permit and any construction performed under the permit may be ordered to be undone.**
5. This Special Permit shall lapse within a specified period of time, of not more than two (2) years, which shall not include such time required to pursue or await the determination of the appeal referred to in Chapter 40A, Section 17, from the grant thereof, if a substantial use thereof has not sooner commenced except for good cause or, in the case of a permit for construction, if construction has not begun by such date except for good cause. Prior to the expiration of the Special Permit, the Petitioner may apply for an extension of the Special Permit for a period not to exceed one (1) year if the substantial construction or use thereof has not commenced for good cause.

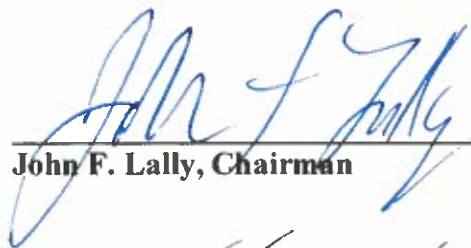
RECORD OF VOTE

The following members of the Board of Appeals voted to grant the Special Permit for the above-mentioned project: John Lally, Michael McCusker and Linda Walsh.

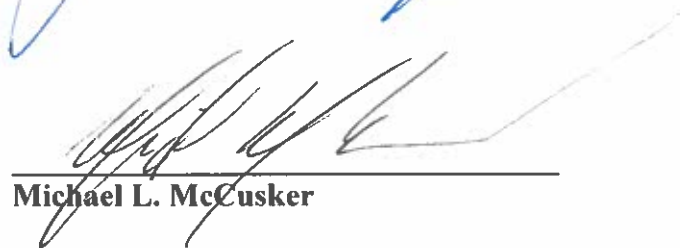
The following members of the Board of Appeals voted in opposition to the grant of the Special Permit: None.



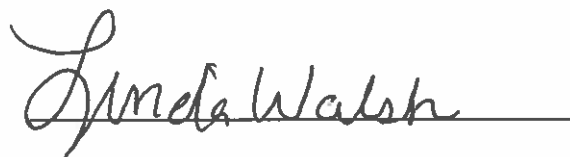
WESTWOOD ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS



John F. Lally, Chairman



Michael L. McCusker



Linda Walsh

6/1/22
Date

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