



**Town of Becket  
Zoning Board of Appeals  
557 Main Street  
Becket, Massachusetts 01223  
Phone (413) 623-8934 Ext. 122**

**Meeting Minutes for October 6, 2020**

**Board Members Present:** Victoria Bleier, Jeffrey Wilkinson

**Board Members Remote Access by Phone:** Alvin Blake

**Board Members Absent:** none

**Administrative Assistant:** Tess Lundberg

**Public Present:** Marc Volk, AJ Pietrantone, Norton Owen

1. **Call to order:** Victoria Bleier calls the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Ms. Bleier introduces the Board members present Ms. Bleier reads the rules of the meeting.
2. **Minutes Approval:** Mr. Wilkinson makes a motion to approve the minutes of September 8, 2020. Mr. Blake seconds the motion. Ms. Bleier votes to approve. Mr. Blake votes to approve. Mr. Wilkinson votes to approve. **Motion passes.**
3. **Old Business:** none
4. **New Business:** 358 George Carter Road application for site plan approval.

Ms. Bleier advises that she had discussed with Town Administrator William Caldwell the implications vacancies on the board and holding a meeting with three members instead of the full board roster. Mr. Caldwell advised that in order for an application to pass the vote of all three members must be unanimous, and that the applicant has the option to defer the hearing under three members and wait for a full board. If the application does not receive a unanimous vote this evening there would be a two year waiting period before reapplying. Mr. Pietrantone opts to proceed with the application this evening.

Ms. Bleier asks if there are any conflicts of interest on the board regarding the application. Mr. Wilkinson says no conflict. Mr. Blake says no conflict. Ms. Bleier says no conflict.

Ms. Bleier confirmed with Ms. Lundberg that all fees were paid by the applicant, and taxes are up to date.

Mr. Pietrantone says that the last renovation to Blake's Barn was done 5 years ago. The proposed addition will create display space, improve climate control, and provide ADA accessibility for both the box office and for scholars conducting archive research. It will also improve security for the archive videos. The addition is an important step for caretaking the history of Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival. It is not expected that this will create any significant increase in visitors to the site.

Mr. Volk, speaking as the site engineer for the plan, states that the addition is modest in size and will not impose any additional burden to town services. It meets all setback requirements, and should not create any increase in automobile traffic.



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Ms. Bleier asks if the board has any questions. Mr. Blake has no questions. Mr. Wilkinson has no questions.

Ms. Bleier asks the applicant to speak to any proposed changes to drainage on the property.

Mr. Volk responds that they will relocate an existing drainage structure to direct drainage around the addition. He states that this will result in sheet flow country drainage that will filter through the woodlands. Mr. Volk states that there are no adjacent wetlands, and the plans are not going to significantly change any existing drainage on the site.

Ms. Bleier asks if there are any other questions.

Mr. Blake asks if the structure is for seasonal use only.

Mr. Pietrantone responds that in the off season they will have occasional visits by scholars who come in by appointment.

Mr. Blake asks if the addition will be heated.

Mr. Pietrantone responds that there will be heating and cooling in the proposed addition.

Ms. Bleier notes that the applicant provided a very thorough and complete application that addressed all board concerns. Ms. Bleier asks the board if any further discussion is needed. Mr. Wilkinson says he has no further questions. Mr. Blake says he has no further questions.

No other questions or comments.

Mr. Blake makes a motion to approve the site application. Mr. Wilkinson seconds the motion. Ms. Bleier votes to approve. Mr. Blake votes to approve. Mr. Wilkinson votes to approve.  
**Motion passes.**

**5. Budget:**

Current budget was reviewed and no questions were raised.

**6. Correspondence:** None.

**7. Public Input:** None.



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**8. Any other business to come before the Board:**

Mr. Blake discusses a recent public notice that seemed to be confusing. Ms. Bleier stated that she would speak to the Town Administrator.

**9. Adjournment:** Mr. Blake **makes a motion** to adjourn. Mr. Wilkinson seconds the motion.

Ms. Bleier votes to approve. Mr. Blake votes to approve. Mr. Wilkinson votes to approve.

**Motion passes.** Meeting is adjourned at 7:31 PM.

**Meeting Minutes reviewed and approved on December 1, 2020 by:**

Victoria Bleier, Chair

Jeffrey Wilkinson, Vice Chair

Alvin Blake, Clerk