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TOWN OF DEDHAM

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TOWN OF DEDHAM ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS DECISION

Applicant: Sheila Lawrence

Property Address: 53 Massachusetts Avenue, Dedham, MA

Property Owner: Same
Property Owner Address: Same

Applicant Representative: Sheila Lawrence

Legal Notice: The applicant seeks to be allowed such Special Permits

and/or variances as required for a 2'6" front yard setback instead of the required 20 feet to construct a roof over

the front door for protection against the weather

Section of Zoning Bylaw: Town of Dedham Zoning Bylaw Section 4.1, Table of

Dimensional Requirements

Zoning District, Map and Lot: General Residence, Map 24, Lot 41

Date of Application: February 8, 2017
Date of Public Hearing: March 15, 2017

Date of Decision: March 15, 2017

Vote: 5-0, unanimous approval

Voting Members: James F. McGrail, Esq., J. Gregory Jacobsen, Scott M. Steeves, Jason L. Mammone, P.E., Jared F. Nokes, J.D.

Date Filed with Town Clerk: MARCH 23, 2017

The Zoning Board of Appeals ("ZBA") of the Town of Dedham, Massachusetts, held public hearings on Wednesday, March 15, 2017, in the Town Office Building, 26 Bryant Street, Dedham, MA. Present were members of the ZBA, James F. McGrail, Esq., Chairman, J. Gregory Jacobsen, Vice Chairman, Scott M. Steeves, and Jason L. Mammone, P.E. In the absence of Member E. Patrick Maguire, MLA, RLA, CLARB, LEED AP, Mr. McGrail appointed Associate Member Jared F. Nokes, J.D., to sit in his stead. The hearings were duly advertised for this meeting of the ZBA in accordance with the requirements of MGL Chapter 40A, Section 11. Legal ads were placed for two

consecutive weeks in *The Dedham Times*. In addition, abutters within 300 feet of the property in question received notification of the hearings, and notification regarding each hearing was sent to the neighboring towns (Boston, Needham, Canton, and Westwood).

At 7:00 p.m., the Chairman called for the hearing on the appeal of Sheila Lawrence, 53 Massachusetts Avenue, Dedham, MA, to be allowed such Special Permits and/or variances as required for a 2'6" front yard setback instead of the required 20 feet to construct a roof over the front door for protection against the weather. The property is located in the General Residence zoning district. *Town of Dedham Zoning Bylaw Section 4.1, Table of Dimensional Requirements*

The Applicant represented herself. The minutes from the hearing are the primary source of evidence and are incorporated herein by reference. The minutes from the hearing are the primary source of evidence and is incorporated herein by reference. At the hearing, the Applicant was afforded an opportunity to make a full presentation.

The Applicant had submitted an application for such Special Permits and/or variances on February 8, 2017. This included:

- 1. Zoning Board of Appeals application
- 2. Signatures in support from:

Neil Cronin 47 Massachusetts Avenue Patricia Cronin 47 Massachusetts Avenue Bill Skerry 42 Massachusetts Avenue Jean Fassett 64 Massachusetts Avenue Chris Lehner 55 Massachusetts Avenue Maija Priede 48 Massachusetts Avenue Kenan Krug 41 Massachusetts Avenue Sean Farr 52 Massachusetts Avenue Eileen Conroy 60 Massachusetts Avenue J. Florek 56 Massachusetts Avenue Lauren Winter 61 Massachusetts Avenue

- 3. Photographs of existing conditions
- 4. Certified plot plan prepared by Timothy R. Bennett, Bennett Engineering, P.O. Box 297, Sagamore Beach, MA 02562
- 5. Renderings of proposed changes

The subject property is known and numbered as 53 Massachusetts Avenue, Dedham, MA, and is shown on Dedham Assessors' Map 24 Lot 41. The certified plot plan indicates that the Subject Property contains 11,236 square feet of land and has 45 feet of frontage. According to the Dedham Zoning Map, the Subject Property is located in the General Residence zoning district.

Currently, the property is occupied by a single family dwelling. According to the records

maintained by the Dedham Board of Assessors, the dwelling was constructed in 1915.

Ms. Lawrence is seeking a Special Permit/variance to construct a chevron-shaped roof over her

front door. The front porch roof itself is flat, and provides no protection against the weather.

The house is right at the edge of Massachusetts Avenue, and has very little front yard setback.

The Board had no questions. The Applicant presented a petition from eleven neighbors who were

in support of her petition as noted above.

On a motion made by Scott M. Steeves and seconded by J. Gregory Jacobsen, the Zoning Board

of Appeals voted unanimously to allow such Special Permits and/or variances as required for a

2'6" front yard setback instead of the required 20 feet to construct a roof over the front door for

protection against the weather.

The Board was of the opinion that the Applicant meets the requirements of MGL Chapter 40A,

Section 10, specifically that the Applicant would incur a hardship if the variance was not granted.

There is no detriment to the public good or derogation in the intent of purpose of the bylaw. In

granting of said variance, the ZBA finds that, after consideration of the criteria Dedham Zoning

By-Law, the adverse effects of the Applicant's proposal will not outweigh its beneficial impacts

on the Town and neighborhood and will not be substantially more detrimental to the

neighborhood.

The Applicant was advised that, in accordance with MGL Chapter 40A, Section 11, no variance

shall take effect until the Town Clerk certifies a copy of the decision stating that 20 days have

elapsed since the decision was filed with that office, and that no appeal has been filed within

such time. The decision must then be recorded in the Norfolk Registry of Deeds, or the land

Registration Office of Norfolk County.

Dated: March 15, 2017

Attest, by the Zoning Board of Appeals:

James F. Mc Grail "
James F. McGrail, Esq., Chairman

Scott M. Steenes	
Scott M. Steeves	
Jason L. mammone	
Jason L. Mammone, P.E.	
Jared J. nokes	
Jared F. Nokes, J.D.	

Attest, by the Administrative Assistant:

Susan N. Webster