

City of Fairhope Board of Adjustment and Appeals 5:00 PM City Council Chambers January 24, 2019

Karin Wilson Mayor

Council Members

Kevin G. Boone

Robert A. Brown

Jack Burrell, ACMO

Jimmy Conyers

Jay Robinson

Lisa A. Hanks, MMC City Clerk

Michael V. Hinson, CPA
City Treasurer

1. Call to Order

2. Approval of the December 17, 2018 minutes

3. Consideration of Agenda Items:

A. BOA 18.14

Public hearing to consider the request of Rick Gambino for a variance to the side and rear setback requirements for property located at 151 S. Mobile Street.

PPIN #: 14484

B. BOA 19.01

Public hearing to consider the request of ADHD Medical Clinic of Mobile, PC, for a Special Exception to allow a Clinic at 101 Lottie Lane, Unit 6.

PPIN #: 14474

- 4. Old/New Business
 - Election of Officers
- 5. Adjourn

161 North Section Street

PO. Drawer 429

Fairhope, Alabama 36533

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Board of Adjustment

January 24, 2019

Case: BOA 18.14 151 S. Mobile Street

Project Name:

151 S. Mobile Street

Property Owner / Applicant:

Gilbert R. Gambino

General Location:

South Mobile Street 1/8 mile South of Fairhope Avenue

Request:

Front setback variance

Project Acreage:

1/7 acre approximately

Zoning District:

B-3a Tourist Resort District

PPIN Number:

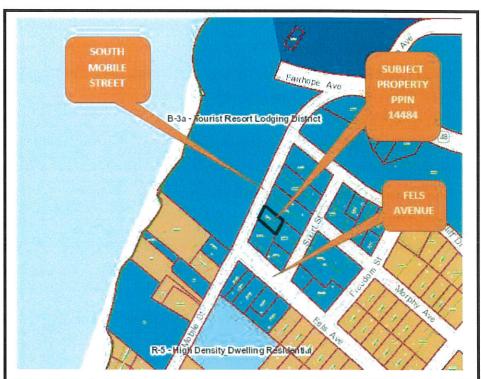
14484

Report prepared by:

J. Buford King City Planner

Recommendation:

Approval







Summary of Request:

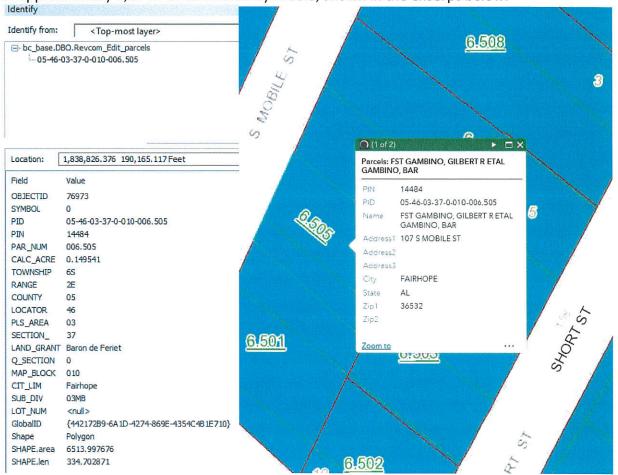
The applicant is requesting a variance from the front setback line requirements of the City of Fairhope Zoning Ordinance. The applicant provided a site plan depicting a proposed home to be constructed on the lot associated with PPIN 14484 with a 5'-0" encroachment upon the front setback line. The subject property is zoned B-3a Tourist Lodging District.

Additional Background Information

The applicant states on its application "the footprint of the lot is too small to build a home using the current setbacks". B-3a zoning requires the dimensions, as indicted in Article III, Section "C" of the City of Fairhope Zoning Ordinance in the excerpt below:

Dimension District or use	Min. Lot Arca/ Allowed Units Per Acre(UPA)	Min. Lot Width	Setbacks				Max. total lot	Max.
			Front	Rear	Side	Street side	coverage by principle structure	height
B-3a	7,500 s.f./-	60'	30'	35'	10'		30%	30'1

The existing lot, as indicated on the Baldwin County parcel viewer, is 64' wide and 101.2' long, with a lot area of approximately 6,514sf as calculated by ArcGIS, shown in the excerpt below:

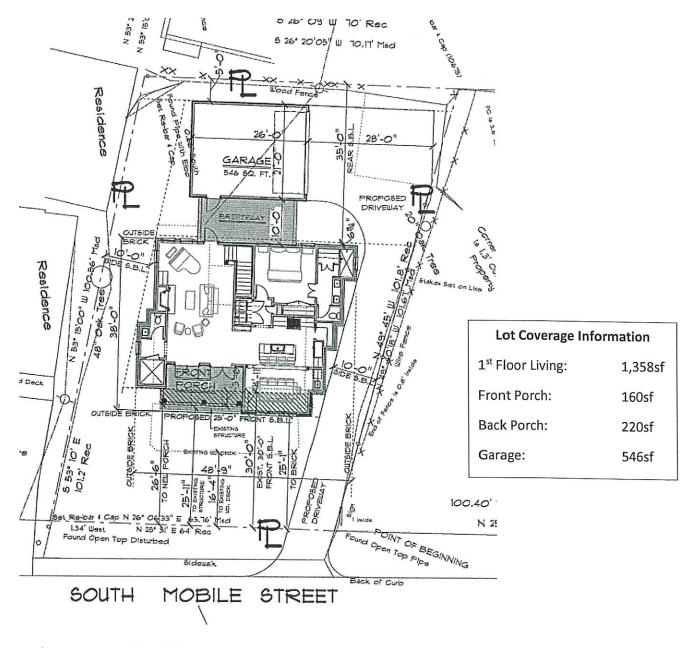


An excerpt of the proposed site plan included with subject application is depicted on the next page below. The requested variance requests a 5'-0" encroachment onto the front building setback line. Because PPIN 14484 is an existing non-conforming lot size in zoning district B-3a, the City of Fairhope zoning ordinance contains provisions related to building setback lines that are applicable to subject property. However, the

requested encroachment onto the 30' front setback is not eligible for an administrative front setback adjustment as allowed by Article VII, Section D.3. of the zoning ordinance, which states:

3. The front setback (and, on corner lots, the street side setback) shall not apply to any lot where the average setbacks in the same block and within 200 feet of the subject lot is less than the minimum setback required for the district. In such cases, the proposed building may be aligned with the building's existing on either side thereof.

The applicant provided a survey of front building setback lines as allowable by Article VII, Section D.3., however the front setback lines of the adjacent structures south and north of subject property are 30.1' and 36.3', respectively. As a result, aligning the new structure with the adjoining structures does not reduce the required front building setback line, requiring the 5' setback line adjustment contemplated by subject request. An excerpt of the proposed site plan requesting a 5' setback line reduction is shown below:



As stated previously PPIN 14484 has a lot area of approximately 6,514sf. The lot coverage allowance of B-3a zoning is 30%, resulting in approximately 1,954sf of available lot coverage by the principle structure. The principle structure lot coverage chart on the previous page, excerpted from the proposed site plan, is

1,738sf and is allowable for the lot. The rear yard area, as calculated by ArcGIS for PPIN 14484 is approximately 2,421.6sf. The allowable accessory structure lot coverage for residentially-zoned districts is 25%, or 605sf (if a residential standard is applied to subject property). The garage as an accessory structure with a proposed lot coverage of 546sf is acceptable and would also be allowable in a residentially-zoned area. With the exception of the 5' front setback encroachment, the proposed structure otherwise conforms with the zoning ordinance.

Comments:

The City of Fairhope Zoning Ordinance defines a variance as follows:

Variances: A modification of the strict terms of the relevant regulations in a district with regard to placement of structures, developmental criteria or provision facilities. Examples would be: allowing smaller yard dimensions because an existing lot of record is of substandard size; waiving a portion of required parking and/or loading space due to some unusual circumstances; allowing fencing and/or plant material buffering different from that required due to some unusual circumstances. Variances are available only on appeal to the Board of Adjustment and subject to satisfaction of the standards specified in this ordinance.

The Board of Adjustments is authorized to grant variance through Article II.A.d(3) which says the following:

- d. Duties and Powers: The Board shall have the following duties and powers:
- (3) Variances To authorize upon appeal in specific cases variance from the terms of this ordinance not contrary to the public interest where, owing to special conditions, a literal enforcement of the provisions of this ordinance will, in an individual case, result in unnecessary hardship, so that the spirit of this ordinance shall be observed, public safety and welfare secured, and substantial justice done. Prior to granting a variance, the Board shall find that:
- (a) There are extraordinary and exceptional conditions pertaining to the particular piece of property in question because of its size, shape, or topography;
- (b) The application of this ordinance to the particular piece of property would create an unnecessary hardship;
- (c) Such conditions are peculiar to the particular piece of property involved; and,
- (d) Relief, if granted, would not cause substantial detriment to the public good or impair the purpose and intent of this ordinance; provided however, that no variance may be granted for a use of land or building or structure that is prohibited by this ordinance.

The Ordinance provides guidance for variance requests through the following criteria: Article II.C.3.e.

Criteria – (1) An application for a variance shall be granted only on the concurring vote of four Board members finding that:

- (a) There are extraordinary and exceptional conditions pertaining to the particular piece of property in question because of its size, shape, or topography;
- (b) The application of the ordinance to this particular piece of property would create an unnecessary hardship. Personal financial hardship is not a justification for a variance.
- (c) Such conditions are peculiar to the particular piece of property involved; and
- (d) Relief, if granted, would not cause substantial detriment to the public good and impair the purpose and

intent of this ordinance; provided however, that no variance may be granted for a use of land or building or structure that is prohibited by this ordinance.

When a variance is granted by the Zoning Board of Adjustment it has the following effect:

Article II.C.3.g.

Effect of Variance - Any variance granted according to this section and which is not challenged on appeal shall run with the land provided that:

- (1) The variance is acted upon according to the application and subject to any conditions of approval within 365 days of the granting of the variance or final decision of appeal, whichever is later; and
- (2) The variance is recorded with the Judge of Probate.

Analysis and Recommendation: Variance Criteria

(a) There are extraordinary and exceptional conditions pertaining to the particular piece of property in question because of its size, shape, or topography.

Response: The subject property is generally rectangular in shape and approximately 6,514 sf, or slightly more than 1/7 acre in size. The shape of the lot is very slightly irregular due to the angled west and east property lines though the north and south property lines appear to be parallel. The lot size is approximately

1,000sf less than the minimum lot size required for a lot zoned B-3a, and therefore demonstrates an existing nonconformity. The lot has no visible extraordinary or exceptional topographical conditions and rises slightly from west to east from an elevation of 44' to 48' as seen in the topographic map at right:

The applicant indicates the hardship created by the size, shape, or topography of the subject property "is too small to build a home using the current setbacks." The subject property is approximately 1,000sf smaller than the minimum lot size of a lot zoned lot B-3a, and therefore is a "non-conforming lot" though the requested lot coverage is allowable with the required setbacks applied. Further, the provision within the City of Fairhope zoning ordinance related to non-



conforming lots does not result in an administrative setback line adjustment, because the existing front building setback lines of the existing structures south and north, respectively of subject property are 30.1' and 36.3'. However, staff acknowledges the existing lot, though it contains a conforming lot width of 64', is approximately 18' shorter than would otherwise be required to attain a lot size conforming to B-3a zoning requirements. Staff understands the conceptual need to allow the front setback variance. Further, the floor plan of the proposed house to be constructed on subject property has been redesigned since case number BOA 18.14 was originally heard by the Board of Adjustment, resulting in a setback variance request

reduction from 10' to 5'. Staff believes the 5' front setback line request is the minimum deviation from the zoning ordinance necessary to allow the use of subject property for the desired residential structure.

(b) The application of the ordinance to this particular piece of property would create an unnecessary hardship. Personal financial hardship is not a justification for a variance.

As stated previously the requested lot coverage appears to comply with the zoning ordinance utilizing the required side and rear setbacks, and the property's non-conforming size has generated the request for a 5' setback variance. As a result, it appears a residential structure of sufficient size may be constructed on the subject property and the property' shape, and topography does not preclude the use of the property for residential purposes, but the property's size possibly represents a hardship contemplated by the zoning ordinance. Staff believes the requested 5' front building setback line variance appears to reflect the minimum deviation from the zoning ordinance necessary to allow the subject property to be utilized to construct the requested residential structure.

(c) Such conditions are peculiar to the particular piece of property involved.

Response: As stated in sections (a) and (b) above, staff understands the conceptual desire for a front setback variance on subject property. Staff does not necessarily object to a variance that allows the proposed site plan to compensate for the lot's non-conforming size, which is peculiar to the subject property. Staff believes the requested 5' front building setback line variance appears to reflect the minimum deviation from the zoning ordinance necessary to allow the subject property to be utilized to construct the requested residential structure.

(d) Relief, if granted, would not cause substantial detriment to the public good and impair the purpose and intent of this ordinance; provided however, that no variance may be granted for a use of land or building or structure that is prohibited by this ordinance.

Response: Staff acknowledges the conceptual need for setback variances on subject property and does not necessarily object to a variance that allows the proposed site plan to compensate for the lot's non-conforming size. Staff believes if the minimum deviation from the zoning ordinance required to cure the non-conformity is proposed, that minimum deviation is unlikely to cause substantial detriment to the public and impair the purposes and intent of the zoning ordinance.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends case number BOA 18.14 request for setback variance for PPIN 14484, 151 S. Mobile Street be **APPROVED.** Staff acknowledges the existing lot is approximately 1,000sf smaller, and approximately 18' shorter than a conforming lot located within the B-3a zoning district, and the survey provided by the applicant as allowable by Article VII, Section D.3. does not result in an administrative front setback adjustment that reduces the amount of the front setback line. Staff believes the requested 5' front building setback line variance appears to reflect the minimum deviation from the zoning ordinance necessary to allow the subject property to be utilized to construct the requested residential structure.

Prepared by: J. Buford King City Planner

Site Photos



Looking east toward subject property From west side of S. Mobile Street



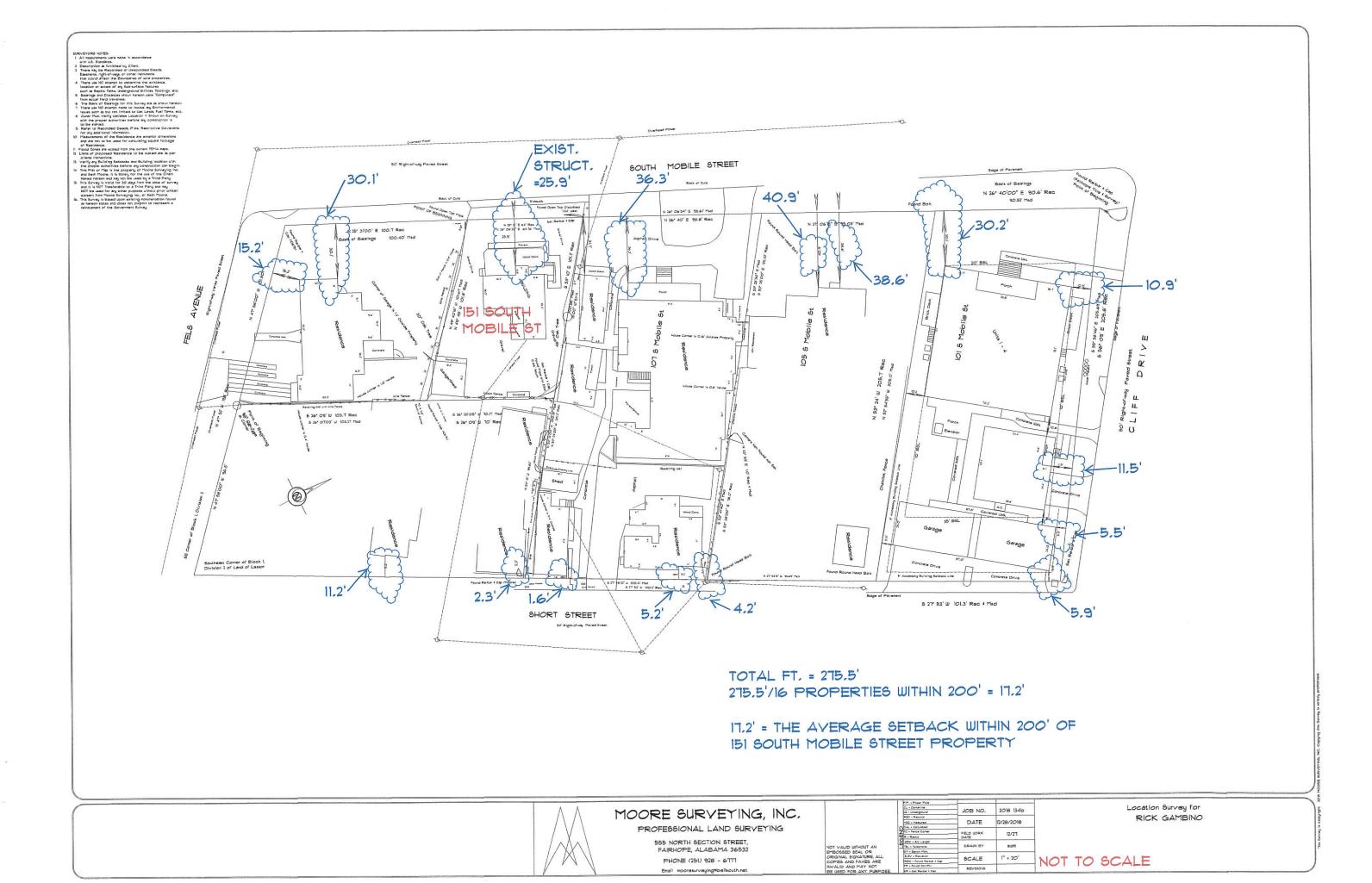
Looking northeast toward subject property from west side of S. Mobile Street

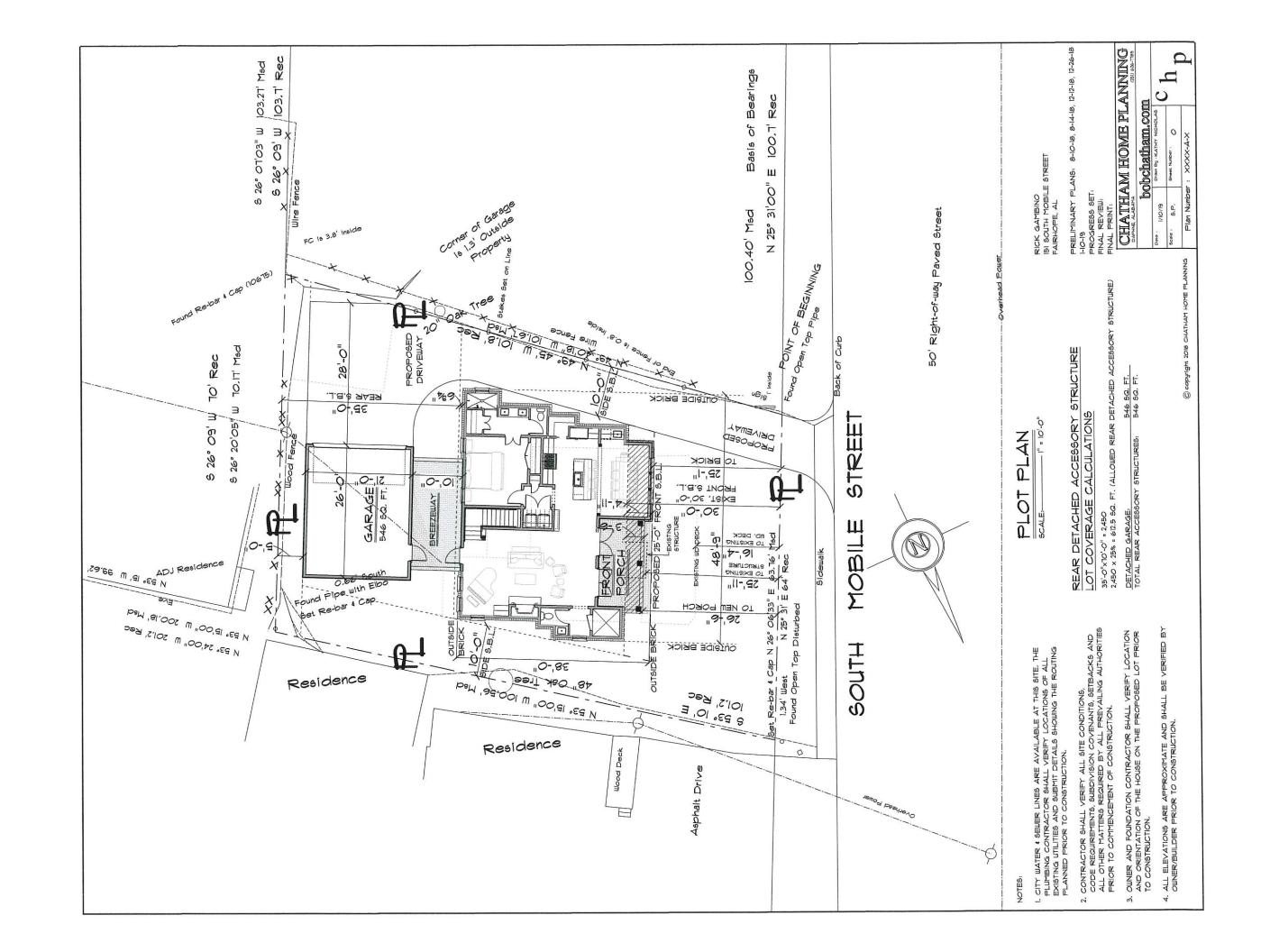


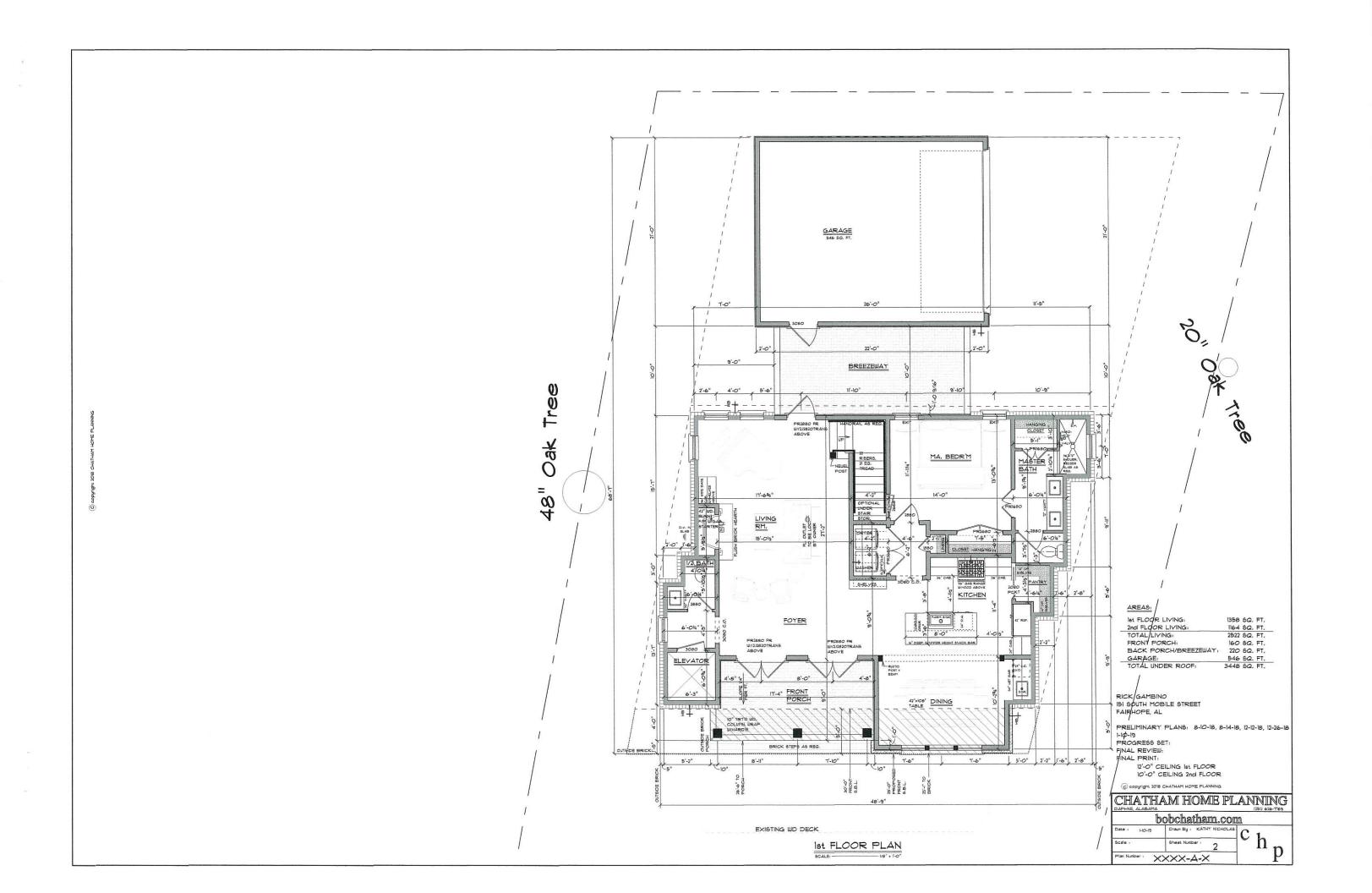
Looking southeast toward subject property from edge of right-of-way



Looking east toward subject along north property line of PPIN 14484









Board of Adjustment

January 24, 2019

Case: BOA 19.01 101 Lottie Lane Unit 6

Project Name:

101 Lottie Lane Special Exception Clinic

Property Owner / Applicant:

Jesse Kaylor/Almand Westbrook

General Location:

Southeast corner of Fairhope Avenue and Lottie Lane

Request:

Special Exception to allow use for a clinic

Zoning District:

B-2 General Business District

PPIN Number:

14474

Report prepared by:

Mike Jeffries Planning Technician, QCI

Recommendation:

Approval





Summary of Request:

The applicant is requesting a Special Exception to allow ADHD Medical Clinic of Mobile, PC at 101 Lottie Lane Unit 6. The property is zoned B-2 General Business District and the requested use is permitted only on appeal and subject to special conditions.

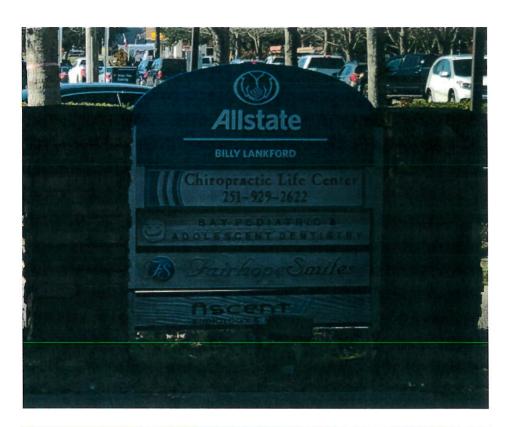
Comments:

The City of Fairhope Zoning Ordinance defines a Special Exception as follows:

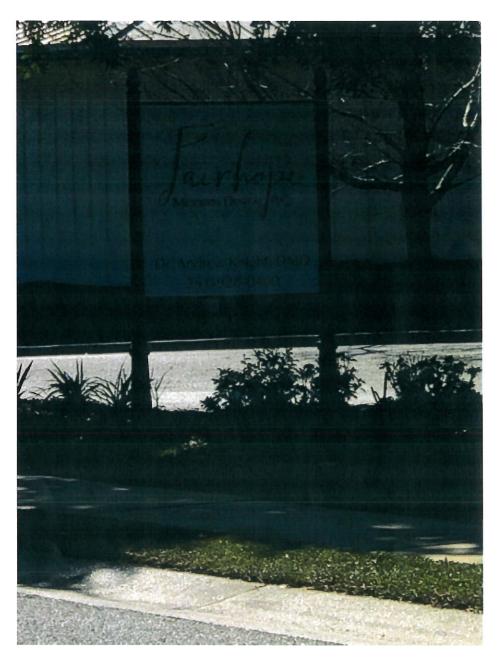
Special Exception: Permission granted by the Board of Adjustment for a use indicated in this ordinance as a use limited to a special exception procedure, subject to conditions specified in this ordinance and any conditions the Board deems necessary to ensure that community interests are furthered by permission of the use.

The property that this office unit is located on is bordered to the east by a residential neighborhood, to the south and west by other similar uses, and to the north across Fairhope Avenue by a bank and cancer clinic.









Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends this use be approved. The surrounding properties and business are of the same or similar character of the property.

Prepared by: Mike Jeffries Planning Technician, QCI

☐ Variance



APPLICATION FOR BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS

☐ Administrative Appeal

Application Type:

Special Exception

Property Owner / Leaseholder Information								
Name: Jesse haylor Phone Number:								
Street Address: Po Box 2049								
City: Orange Beach State: AL Zip: 36561								
Applicant / Agent Information								
If different from above.								
Notarized letter from property owner is required if an agent is used for representation.								
Name: Almand Westbrook Phone Number: 251-422-6337								
Street Address: 101 Lothe Lane Unit 6								
City: Fairhope State: AL Zip: 36632								
Site Plan with Existing Conditions Attached: YES NO								
Site Plan with Proposed Conditions Attached: YES NO								
Variance Request Information Complete: YES NO								
Names and Address of all Real Property Owners								
within 300 Feet of Above Described Property Attached: YES NO								
Applications for Administrative Appeal or Special Exception:								
Please attach as a separate sheet(s) information regarding the administrative decision made or information regarding the use seeking approval. Please feel free to be as specific or as general as you wish in your description. This information will be provided to the Board before the actual meeting date. It is to your benefit to explain as much as possible your position or proposal.								
I certify that I am the property owner/leaseholder of the above described property and hereby submit this application to the City for review. *If property is owned by Fairhope Single Tax Corp. an authorized Single Tax representative shall sign this application. A Mand Westorook Property Owner/Leaseholder Printed Name 2 18 18 Date Fairhope Single Tax Corp. (If Applicable) 4 C.Michae (Arnold FSTC. Sec.)								
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VARIANCE REQUEST INFORMATION

What characteristics of the property prevent / preclude its development?:									
Too Narrow	Elevation	on [Soil						
Too Small	Slope	[Subsurface						
Too Shallow	Shape	[Other (specify)						
Describe the indicated conditions: Property is Zoned BZ									
How do the above indicated characteristics preclude reasonable use of your land? Appeal required for medical clinic use									
What type of variance are you requesting (be as specific as possible)?									
Hardship (taken from Code of Alabama 1975 Section 11-52-80): "To authorize upon appeal in specific cases such variance from the terms of the (zoning) ordinance as will not be contrary to the public interest, where, owing to special conditions, a literal enforcement of the provision of the (zoning) ordinance will result in unnecessary hardship and so that the spirit of the (zoning) ordinance shall be observed and substantial justice done."									
BOA Fee Calculation:									
Filing Fee:	sidential \$100	Commercia \$500	1						
rining rec.	Ψ100	φ300							
Publication:	\$20	\$20							
TOTAL: \$		\$ 520							
I certify that I am the property owner/leaseholder of the above described property and hereby submit this application to the City for review. *If property is owned by Fairhope Single Tax Corp. an authorized Single Tax representative shall sign this application.									
Almand Westbrook Property Owner/Leaseholder P	ripted Name	Signature							
Date 12/18/18 DEC	3 1 2018 J	C.1/1	gle Tax Corp. (If Applicable)						
BY:		1	Secretary						