

Danville Zoning Board of Adjustment
March 22, 2016
7:30 pm

Members present: Chris Stafford-chairman, Jason Holder, Joe Luna, Curt Springer, Sheila Johannesen-Selectmen's rep

Excused members: Tara Burkhart, Roger Denison

Other's present: Kim Farah

2016-2: Special Exception application for Catherine Jaycox of 41 Sanborn Street, known as Tax Map and Lot 1-66-132. She is requesting an exception to the Danville Zoning Ordinance article IV.A.2.e to have a daycare facility in her home.

Jason was designated as a voting member and Sheila, as the Selectmen's representative, was designated a voting member.

Joe explained that he had spoken with the Chairman about whether or not he could be impartial for this particular hearing. Joe explained that, while he has opinions on different matters, he has never let his personal opinions sway his decisions while acting as a member of several town boards. He asked the Board members if they could vote on whether or not he should recuse himself. Chris explained that a vote would be non-binding and the choice to step down from the hearing would still be Joe's. All of the Board members agreed they had no issues with Joe voting on this hearing. Joe said he has no pecuniary interest in the case nor is he an abutter or associate of the applicant.

It was explained that the applicant wants to open a family daycare at her residence. Hours of operation will be 7am to 5pm Monday through Friday. Chris explained the process of seeking a special exception. Catherine said she moved to Danville to be closer to family and her husband's work. She said she loves the area and has no desire to change the appearance of the neighborhood. She's had 35 years' experience as a child-care provider. She provided pictures of the home and driveway, explaining that there is ample room for parents to drop-off and pick-up the children. She plans to care for no more than six children at a time. The location of her home was explained to the Board. It was agreed the street is not very busy.

The home is a split-level; the downstairs would be used for the daycare. A slider opens to the backyard. They plan to fence the yard if she is licensed by the state; the fence may be a requirement. The downstairs is about 600-800 square feet. Catherine showed pictures of the home interior and exterior to indicate the space to be utilized. Currently the home is occupied by Catherine and her husband and their daughter who plans to be moving out soon.

Catherine explained she can start with three children without a license. With a license she is limited to six children. She plans to accept infants up to age five. Chris said there is no on-street parking and this is something they will need to enforce. Mr. Jaycox said there is a drainage problem with the current driveway and they hope to redo it and make it wide enough for two vehicles.

Catherine said the children will most likely be arriving at different times depending on the parent's schedules. There is the potential to have six vehicles bringing children to the home. All of the abutters were notified but none were present. Mr. and Mrs. Jaycox have not spoken to them about their plans to have a daycare.

No commercial vehicles will be used. There was a short discussion about signs. They may have a small sign close to the house or in a window. She may hire one assistant later and may have playground equipment in the backyard. Her own vehicle will be parked in the garage. Mr. Jaycox will have his vehicle at his office. With a widened driveway there will be sufficient parking for an assistant and the parents.

The Board reviewed the criteria for granting a special exception. There were no questions from the audience.

Curt said there may be issues with parking unless something is done to the current driveway. Gravel could be an option for one side if Mr. Jaycox goes to work late or stays home for the day. Jason said it seems this will be an asset to the community. Joe said it is in their best interests to have an area to turn around without backing into the street. If the entrance of the driveway is widened, they may need to speak with the road agent first.

Jason made and Sheila seconded a **motion to accept the plan as stated with the understanding that the provisions will be made to accommodate vehicles in the driveway**. The motion **passed** unanimously.

Minutes:

Joe made and Jason seconded a **motion to accept the March 1, 2016 minutes as amended**. Sheila abstained. The motion **passed**.

At 8:15pm Curt made and Sheila seconded a **motion to adjourn**. The motion **passed** unanimously.