



**OFFICIAL MINUTES  
BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS  
September 27, 2017**

Members present: Rudy Soignet, Clarence Savoie, Marlyn Brooks and Serena Martin

Members absent: Marguerite Erwin, Jacqueline Beary and Alternate - Ronnie Pike

Also Present: Roland Soignet, Zoning Administrator, Liz Guidry, Secretary

Mr. Rudy Soignet stated I'll call the meeting to order of the Board of Adjustments for the City of Thibodaux for Wednesday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, if everybody would please rise and join me in the Pledge of Allegiance. Thank you; Liz, can you do roll call please. **Thank you, you've all been furnished a copy of the minutes for the meeting of August 23rd, are there any additions, deletions of these minutes? Moved by Mrs. Martin to accept the minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Savoie, all members in favor, motion carries.**

Item #5 is **to consider a request by Donny Callais to vary 6' from rear yard setback requirement of 10' to be able to install a patio cover at 105 Academy Drive (R-2 Zoning District). Do I have a motion to introduce; moved by Mr. Savoie to introduce.** Is Mr. Callais available? Please come to the podium state your name and address please and tell us what you would like to do. Donny Callais, 105 Academy Drive came forward and stated I just want to put a little patio cover on the back side of the house and it would go closer to 10' than what the requirement was when I talked to my builder, so he told me I had to get a variance. **Mr. Soignet stated is there any questions from the audience? Does anybody in the audience want to ask questions? Is there anything from the City? Mr. Roland Soignet replied no, the City is good with it. Mrs. Martin stated I'll make a motion that we accept this proposal. Mr. Soignet stated moved by Mrs. Martin to accept, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Brooks, all members in favor, motion carries thank you.** Mr. Callais asked the variance, how long does it last in case the contractor gets held up or something? Mr. Roland Soignet stated as long as he starts within six months. Mr. Callais stated six months, okay. Mr. Rudy Soignet stated he'll have to come back to the City to get his permit. Mr. Callais stated yes, I'll get the contractor to....okay. Mr. Roland Soignet stated yes he's going to come and get his permit. Mr. Callais stated okay, thank you.

Mr. Rudy Soignet stated item #6 **is to consider request by Erika Castle to vary 4' from rear yard setback requirements of 10' and 2' from side yard requirement of 5' to construct 12' x 24' garage at 315 W 10<sup>th</sup> Street (R-3 Zoning District).** Is Mrs. Castle present? Please come up and state your name, address, and what you propose to do. Erika Castle, 315 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street came forward and stated good evening, I propose to have a pre-constructed garage put in to the back end of my property. Mr. Rudy Soignet stated okay I was looking at the form, standing in front of your house to the right hand side of the property line where the old railroad track is at, who's that property for? Mr. Castle replied it's actually in dispute or whatever, my neighbor is Pat Barrilleaux and his wife is Margaret and sometime long ago they said they applied to own the property and it went back to the railroad and then the railroad said it wasn't theirs, so there's something that they're doing right now because they ask me to sign something when they did....Mr. Rudy Soignet stated excuse we have a question. A member of the audience stated I would just like to make a comment I just happen to be here I represent Mr. and Mrs. Barrilleaux. Ms. Guidry stated can she come up to the mic. Mr. Rudy Soignet stated please come to the mic please. The member of the audience came forward and stated I'm sorry, I just happen to be here on another matter but I'm Cassie Braud and I am the attorney for the Barrilleaux's and we did go to court on this issue today and they were declared to be in possession of that property. Mr. Rudy Soignet stated that whole property. Mrs. Braud replied that entire property, yes sir. Mr. Rudy Soignet stated okay so along with your diagram I see 5' and then I see 2' underneath it, does it vary? Mrs. Castle replied it's got a little, I guess because of the railroad it has like a...the way my property line...Mr. Rudy Soignet asked it goes like this? Mrs. Castle replied yes, it's awkward it's not like a straight line it has a little bit of a curve into

their property or to make the property line. Mr. Rudy Soignet stated come look at this real quick right here, are you going to 2'? Mrs. Castle replied I think so, because I needed to have it 5' from the side. Mr. Rudy Soignet stated and then they have 6' and 4'. Mrs. Castle replied I'm trying to think, the lady that I talk to she said it should be 2' and 4' is the variance I needed. Mr. Roland Soignet stated that's the variance she needs, so it looks like it's going to be 3' from the side and 6' from the rear instead of 10'. Mr. Rudy Soignet stated okay. Mr. Savoie stated so 3' off of 5' and 6' off of 10'. Mr. Rudy Soignet stated actually 4'....Mr. Roland Soignet stated yes and then 2' off of 5'. Mr. Rudy Soignet stated I understand where he's at now, but this confused me. Alright good, thanks. So, it's premade? Mrs. Castle replied it's one of the pre-constructed or pre-fab ones from....Mr. Rudy Soignet stated they just roll it on. Mrs. Castle replied yes, that they roll into your yard and its set up; you have to put it on the little pillars. Mr. Rudy Soignet stated are there any questions from the Board? Are there any questions from the audience? Is there anything from the City? Mr. Roland Soignet stated you realize you're going to have to have a permit to bring that in to the City? Mrs. Castle replied yes. Mr. Roland Soignet stated okay and I see you have it 5' from your house, it's going to have to be at least 5' away from any other building on your property, and it looks like you have it. Mrs. Castle replied okay. Mr. Roland Soignet stated yes, okay we don't have a problem with it. Mr. Rudy Soignet stated and we don't either but the point is the 5', if you're not aware how will we make sure that's the way we need it to be presented. Mr. Roland Soignet stated we're going to inspect it when they bring it in and it's going to have to be anchored. Mrs. Castle stated it's got to be...okay. Mr. Roland Soignet stated yes. **Mr. Rudy Soignet stated okay well good. Do I have a motion to accept the variance? Moved by Mrs. Brooks, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Savoie, all members in favor, motion carries thank you.** Mrs. Castle stated thank you.

Mr. Rudy Soignet stated item #7 is to consider a request by M.O.S. III, LLC to vary 1' from 6' height requirement for 7' monument sign or be allowed to have no base for sign at 114 Laura Drive (C-2 Zoning District). Mr. Ory came forward and stated Matthew Ory on behalf of M.O.S. III. Mr. Rudy Soignet stated okay Matthew I understand what you want to do and I went look at it this morning actually. Mr. Ory stated I saw you out there. Mr. Rudy Soignet stated oh really. Do we have any questions? Matthew, I would prefer that it would go according to the zoning the original variance, there's no signage in that area that we've allowed to extend out of the variance, so that's just my opinion; any other opinions on that one, questions; no? So the signage, would you consider entertaining bringing it down to the ground? Mr. Ory replied yes sir; I had actually put in the alternative at the suggestion of some guys at the permit office I believe. Just to back up quickly what happened is, we had miscommunication between myself and Commercial Signs they never applied for a permit and I'm certainly not up here to blame them it's just as much my fault as those guys too, the problem is I have a sign that's already made that is actually 6', so at that point I said well I'll ask to see if I can...I wanted to...their rendering is a brick, its surrounded by brick it matches my building as well as the one footer or the footing is 1', of course that made it 7'. So then I had the alternative that maybe they'll let me drop and lay it flat on concrete, of course that may, I can do something different with shrubbery around the monument sign itself but I guess my biggest problem is I've already...I'm under a contractual obligation with the sign and truly I'm just trying to make it as nice as possible I did this app for my brother and I feel like I've done a fair job so far with that and I'd like to just make it as clean and nice as possible and not have to design and build another sign as I'm set back two weeks already. There's really nothing else to do than ask for permission to, I'd love to put the brick footer but if you guys are not inclined to do that then I would have to ask if I can lay flat on concrete without a base. Mr. Rudy Soignet replied well I don't know how the Board feels, but historically we've stayed with the signage and no one has been allowed to do anything different. My recommendation would be to build the ground up with dirt up to the sign level or concrete up to the sign level, am I correct Roland? Mr. Roland Soignet replied well if he wanted the 1' and the sign is already 6' tall without the footing, you can do that you could raise your....Mr. Ory replied that's what I'm asking, are you saying I could lay it on concrete? Mr. Rudy Soignet replied well if your whole island is the same level, as long as it's....Mr. Ory replied yes sir. Mr. Savoie stated 6' total from the ground. Mr. Rudy Soignet replied from the ground up, yes. Mr. Ory replied yes...no that would be fine. I'm just a little confused...if I can still use my sign I'll just eliminate the 1' base and put the brick casing on the outside, I can still make it esthetically pleasing. Mr. Rudy Soignet stated no, it's not a casing, it's not a casing. I'm thinking the ground level should be even with...your sign should 6' from the ground. Mr. Ory replied no, absolutely I understand that I'm talking about on the outside, it wouldn't raise my sign the brick would then be 6' that surround my sign. Mr. Rudy Soignet stated I don't understand that. Mrs. Martin stated another word the sign and the brick would only come to a total of 6'. Mr. Ory replied that's correct. So, another word it would be like this, the bricks would come down on the outside of the sign and then what I would eliminate is the brick coming under the sign my 1' footer or my 1' footing is what I'm asking and I can certainly have the ground level to make it very flush and nice and I can landscape around it, I'll put maybe flowers as opposed to boxwood shrubs or

something like that. Mr. Rudy Soignet replied I guess what I'm trying to say is as long as the bottom of the sign here is ground level. Mr. Ory replied no, that's correct. I would sink the concrete so where it would flush with the ground that way I can lay my sign right on it and will not give it one extra inch. Mrs. Martin stated that's good. Mr. Rudy Soignet stated you understand Roland. Mr. Roland Soignet replied yes, that's fine. Mr. Ory stated that would be great. Mr. Roland Soignet stated it would be in compliance 6'. Mr. Rudy Soignet stated so variance, as a compliance you're in compliance that's correct. Mr. Ory stated I thought...well it made it sound like the 1' base was required and I kept reading it and I confused myself but either way I'm not going to argue anymore, that would be great if you all allow me to do that. Mr. Rudy Soignet stated that's the way it should be. Mr. Ory stated okay, perfect; thank you. Mr. Rudy Soignet stated alright thank you Matthew. Mr. Savoie stated we have to vote on it or what? Mr. Rudy Soignet stated no, we don't have to vote he's in compliance. Mr. Savoie replied okay. Mr. Rudy Soignet stated there's nothing to vote right? Mr. Roland Soignet replied no, there is something to vote. Ms. Guidry stated a 1' base is required. Mr. Roland Soignet stated a 1' base is required; you have to grant him a variance not to have the 1' base sticking up above the ground. Mr. Rudy Soignet replied oh. Mr. Ory stated right, no one has ever come in front the Council trying to eliminate the 1' and that's what was the confusion, I think Mr. Roland had actually pointed that out and since this is a little bit odd but I'm actually asking to retract now because of my mess up building at 6' as oppose to 5'. Mr. Rudy Soignet stated I understand. Well I'm in favor of the 6' sign from the ground up. Mr. Ory stated yes sir the footing will be into the ground. Mr. Rudy Soignet stated so how can we word that. **Mrs. Martin stated I move he be granted 1' in the ground and 6' above. Mr. Rudy Soignet stated is that good. Ms. Guidry stated no base. Mr. Roland Soignet stated well you are voting to eliminate the 1' base. Ms. Guidry stated to eliminate the base. Mrs. Martin stated sink 1' base in the ground and 6' of the sign. Mr. Roland Soignet stated well you don't have to say it's in the ground you just have to vote....Ms. Guidry stated no 1' base. Mr. Roland Soignet stated right no 1' base that he's allowed to just put the sign on the slab. Mr. Ory stated yes, yes sir. Ms. Guidry stated to eliminate the 1' base. Mr. Rudy Soignet stated yes, is that your motion? Mrs. Martin replied that's my motion, take it yes. Mr. Rudy Soignet stated do we have that understood? Mr. Savoie stated yes. Mr. Rudy Savoie stated moved by Mrs. Martin, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mrs. Brooks to eliminate the required 1' base, all members in favor, motion carries.** Mr. Ory stated I really appreciate it, thank you.

Mr. Rudy Soignet stated is there any other matters properly brought before the Board. Cassie Braud came forward and stated yes sir as I mentioned I was here last month and on behalf of the Bayou Country Children's Museum and the matter was tabled there was a question about the actual footage of the lettering on the sign, I was asked to get that information and since that time I have spoken with the designer of sign Hans Geist and I was able to get that information for the Board in order to move forward with our request. Mr. Roland Soignet stated but we can't rule on it tonight it's not on the agenda. Mrs. Braud stated okay. Mr. Roland Soignet stated no, you would have to wait for the next meeting. Ms. Guidry stated I spoke with Mrs. Shelba Harlan and explained to her...Mrs. Braud stated okay, I'm sorry they did not communicate that to me. Ms. Guidry stated I apologize. Mrs. Braud stated its okay. Ms. Guidry stated I did, I spoke with her and told her that it would have to be on next month's meeting that it doesn't automatically get put back on the agenda. Mrs. Braud stated okay. Ms. Guidry stated because we didn't know, because we need you to submit that information to us so I can get it to the Board members prior to so they can...Mrs. Braud stated okay, okay so they submit a new application or...Ms. Guidry stated I can probably use the same application I just need the information as far as the signage, the measurements. Mr. Roland Soignet stated the measurements. Mrs. Braud stated okay that's fine. Ms. Guidry stated she did pick up another application, Mrs. Shelba did...Mrs. Braud stated she did, okay. Ms. Guidry stated so you might want to get with her. Mrs. Braud stated okay, sounds good; alright I will get with her, thank you all. Mrs. Savoie stated thank you ma'am. Mr. Rudy Soignet stated alright with that being said meeting adjourned.