

Coordinated Development In

MOWER COUNTY

AUSTIN, MINNESOTA

55912



507-437-9527

AUSTIN-MOWER COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Minutes of the 103rd Meeting of the Mower County Board of Adjustment

Members Present: Merrill Chesebrough, Bill Milbrath

Members Absent: Ken Trom, Jen Ulwelling

Others Present: Katie Losness

The meeting of the Mower County Board of Adjustment was called to order by Acting Chair Chesebrough on Wednesday, July 27, 1988, at 8:00 p.m. in Conference Room I of the Mower County Courthouse in Austin, Minnesota. Minutes of the June 29, 1988, meeting were approved as mailed on a motion made by Mr. Milbrath, seconded by Mr. Chesebrough and passed unanimously.

Paul Finley - Variance to Allow An Additional Non-Farm Dwelling in the Quarter-Quarter Section: Ms. Losness read the staff report. Mr. Finley is requesting a variance to allow an additional non-farm dwelling in the quarter-quarter section in Racine Township (N 1/2 SW 1/4 exc S 360 ft., N 570 ft. & S 1/4 NW 1/4 in Section 4, Township 103, Range 14). He wants to move a mobile home on the parcel for his son to live. The surrounding land use is agricultural and zoning is rural.

Acting Chair Chesebrough noted that the Board had been out to the property to view it prior to the meeting. The Board looked to the Statute requirements for granting a variance and decided the following:

- 1) The variance was in harmony with the spirit and intent of the Ordinance because it is an ideal site for a homestead as it is grassy land with a large number of pine and oak trees. It has never been nor could ever be used for agriculture.
- 2) It is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan as rough and broken land should be used for other purposes.
- 3) In view of the trees there is no other use found for the site as it is not good for pasture or timberland. This is unique to the property - wasn't created by the landowner as shown by the original stand of timber. This would not alter the essential character of the neighborhood as there is a house to the south of the site which will be separated by a grove of trees to allow for privacy. There is no other reasonable use for the property.

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Mr. Milbrath noted that the staff had not received any objections or negative views on the variance. The neighbor to the south had indicated approval to the Finleys.

Mr. Milbrath made a motion to approve the variance. It was seconded by Mr. Chesebrough and passed unanimously.

Other Business: The Board discussed the time set for the next meeting. Mr. Milbrath felt that as the season wears on it may be dark for investigations and an afternoon meeting of 4:00 p.m. may be more appropriate with the investigations prior to the meeting. Mr. Chesebrough agreed as he felt that a month from now the sun will set earlier and if we have more than one investigation it will be dark. Mr. Milbrath made a motion that the meeting time be changed back to 4:00 p.m. with the investigation schedule prior to the meeting as determined by staff. The motion was seconded by Mr. Chesebrough and passed unanimously.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Chesebrough, seconded by Mr. Milbrath and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Katie Losness