

Town of Griffith
Board of Zoning Appeals
March 22, 2017

The Board of Zoning Appeals meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman John Mowery with members Carl Kus, Danielle Carlson, Tom Wichlinski, and Ray Elbaor. Also present was Town Attorney; Bob Schwerd, Town Council Liaison; Barry Ballah, and Building Commissioner; Steve McDermott.

The minutes from the February 22, 2017 Board of Zoning Appeals meeting were approved as written.

OLD BUSINESS

Item #1 Nenad Tomic, T&I Investment Group, LLC; 131 Gatlin Drive. Developmental Variance for rear and side yard setbacks. Petitioner has requested a continuance to the April 26, 2017 meeting.

Mr. Tomic has requested a continuance to the April 26, 2017 meeting. Mr. Kus made a motion to continue Nenad Tomic, T&I Investment Group, LLC; 131 Gatlin Drive ***seconded by Mr. Wichlinski. All favored, motion carried.***

NEW BUSINESS

Item #1 Kristine Johnson; 402 N. Broad St. Special Use Variance to open a scalp micropigmentation studio.

Ms. Johnson appeared before the Board. Ms. Johnson distributed photos/examples of the type of tattoo work she is proposing. Scalp micropigmentation is similar to permanent cosmetics and is not considered “artwork”. The scalp tattooing is popular with people that have health conditions, follicle hair transplants, and balding. Ms. Johnson provided proof of certification she has received. The “tattooing” is performed with needles and the work environment is sanitary. Mr. Wichlinski asked for the true definition of micropigmentation. Ms. Johnson stated it is an art form, but not the same art that a tattoo artist does. Ms. Johnson stated it falls under cosmetology. Mrs. Carlson asked where the certification is from. Ms. Johnson stated she attended classes in Norridge, IL. Mr. Kus asked if a tattoo artist could do this type of pigmentation. Ms. Johnson stated they could. Mr. Kus asked if the chemicals used are the same as typical tattoos. Ms. Johnson stated tattooing is done with a coil gun vs. a rotary machine, which she uses. Also, the pigments are different. The scalp coloring comes from carbon for coloring purposes. Mr. Kus asked if it is permanent. Ms. Johnson stated it is permanent, but touch-ups are needed due to fading. Mr. Wichlinski asked if the space will resemble a medical establishment. Ms. Johnson stated she is planning on having a railroad theme in the consultation area, the pigmentation room will have a dental chair for clients and will be kept sanitary. All clients will be by appointment only. Mr. Wichlinski asked what the proposed hours will be. Ms. Johnson stated again that she will see clients by appointment only during the hours of 9 a.m. – 9 p.m., the last client will be seen by 6 p.m., with each procedure lasting 2-3 hours. Mr. Kus asked what advertising will be done. Ms. Johnson stated she will have signage on the building and possibly something on the window but not much more. Mrs. Carlson asked if the common area will look like an office area and if renderings/pictures were available. Ms. Johnson showed the Board a portfolio and mentioned that she would like to have monitors with a rolling screen showing previous clients. Mr. Wichlinski asked if there is another business similar to her proposal nearby. Ms. Johnson stated she is unaware. Mr. Kus asked if Ms. Johnson is currently operating at a different location. Ms. Johnson stated she is practicing at her home. Along with micropigmentation, she performs eyelash extensions. Ms. Johnson added that she already has bookings in hopes that she is able to open at the proposed location. Mr. Mowery stated the proposed micropigmentation is not considered “body art” but very close. Mr. Mowery then asked if the term “tattoo” will be displayed on the signage. Ms. Johnson stated it will not. Mr. Kus asked if the Board determines that it is not a tattoo parlor, a variance wouldn’t be needed. Mr. Schwerd

stated that was correct. ***Mr. Wichlinski made a motion*** stating Kristine Johnson; 402 N. Broad St does not need to request a Special Use Variance to open a scalp micropigmentation studio because it is not considered a tattoo parlor ***seconded by Mr. Kus. All favored, motion carried.***

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

BILLS AND EXPENDITURES

Mr. Wichlinski made a motion to approve a claim for the meeting held February 22, 2017 in the amount of \$35.00 ***seconded by Mrs. Carlson. All favored, motion carried.***

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board of Zoning Appeals a motion was made and seconded to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Tom Wichlinski, Secretary

Veronica L. Horka, Recording Secretary