

1 **Camden County Board of Adjustments**  
2 **Minutes**  
3 **September 10, 2007, 7:00pm**  
4 Upstairs Courtroom  
5 Camden County Courthouse  
6

7 Members Present: Chairman Roger Lambertson Absent: Emory Upton  
8 John L. Sawyer, William McPherson  
9 Janice Hassell, Francis M. Eason, II  
10

11  
12 **Call to Order & Welcome**  
13

14 Chairman Roger Lambertson called to order the September 10, 2007 meeting of the Camden  
15 County Board of Adjustments at 7:01 PM.  
16

17 **Present at Meeting**  
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19 Also present were staff members Dave Parks (Acting Code Enforcement Officer/Permit  
20 Officer/Flood Administrator), and Amy Barnett (Clerk for the Board of Adjustments).  
21 Present for purposes of appealing an administrative decision, rendered by the acting Camden  
22 County Code Enforcement Officer, were Joseph and Judith Coppersmith. Also present, for  
23 purposes of witnessing for the Coppersmiths', were Tyler Coppersmith, Kevin Jones, and  
24 Mike Underwood. The Coppersmith's were represented by legal counsel in the person of  
25 Attorney L. Phillip Hornthall, III. The County of Camden was represented by legal counsel  
26 in the person of Attorney John Morrison.  
27

28 **Consideration of Agenda**  
29

30 Chairman Lambertson called for the consideration of the agenda. Dave Parks recommended  
31 changes as follows: Item 2, Election of Vice Chairman, should be moved down to become  
32 Item #2 under New Business. Item #1 under New Business, Revocation of Variance  
33 (UDO 2006-12-26)-April White, should be moved to Information from Board and Staff.  
34 Item #2 under New Business (before modifications, Appeal-Joseph and Judy Coppersmith)  
35 should be moved up to become Item #1 under New Business. Frank Eason made a motion to  
36 approve the agenda with the aforementioned changes. William McPherson 2nd the motion.  
37 The motion was approved with Chairman Roger Lambertson, John L. Sawyer, William  
38 McPherson, Janice Hassell, and Francis M. Eason, II voting aye; none voting no; 1 absent;  
39 none not voting.

40 **Consideration of the Minutes- June 11, 2007**

41

42 Chairman Lambertson called for the consideration of the minutes from the June 11, 2007  
43 meeting. A decision was made to postpone approval of the minutes until the next Board of  
44 Adjustments meeting, wherein a quorum of persons who were present at the June 11, 2007  
45 meeting would be present. A copy of the June 11, 2007 minutes will be included in the board  
46 packet for the next meeting as a matter of reference.

47

48 **Comments from the Public.**

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50 There were no comments from the public.

51

52 **New Business**

53

54 ***Item #1, Appeal-Joseph & Judy Coppersmith***

55

56 In the matter of Joseph and Judith Coppersmith versus the County of Camden County  
57 regarding 'Alleged Violation of County Ordinance Chapter 151, Section 334-Table of  
58 Permissible Uses, Subsection 6.250-Automobile and Motor Cycle Racing Tracks', the  
59 Coppersmiths' entered an appeal on the decision rendered by the Camden County Code  
60 Enforcement Officer in an attempt to reverse the decision made by the aforementioned Code  
61 Enforcement Officer that the construct located on their property and on the adjacent property,  
62 was in violation of said ordinance chapter, section, and subsection.

63

64 The Coppersmiths' obtained legal representation in the person of Attorney L. Phillip  
65 Hornthall, III. Also present for purposes of witnessing for the Coppersmiths' were Kevin  
66 Jones, Mike Underwood, and Tyler Coppersmith. The county was represented in the persons  
67 of Attorney John Morrison, and Camden County Code Enforcement Officer Dave Parks.

68

69 After all witnesses and counsel were heard from, Francis Eason made a motion to deny the  
70 appeal. The motion was 2nd by John Sawyer. A roll call vote was taken: John Sawyer:  
71 Deny; William McPherson: Deny; Chairman Roger Lambertson: Deny; Francis Eason:  
72 Deny; Janice Hassell: Deny. By a vote of 5-0 (five to zero), the appeal was denied.

73

74 After the conclusion of the September 10, 2007 Board of Adjustments Meeting, a transcript  
75 of the judicial portion of the proceedings was prepared and provided to both sides in the  
76 matter of Coppersmith Vs. the County of Camden County. The aforementioned transcript is  
77 filed in the office of the Clerk to the Board of Adjustments.

78 ***Item #2, Election of Vice Chairman***

79

80 Chairman Lambertson opened the floor for nominations for the office of Vice Chairman of  
81 the Board of Adjustments. John Sawyer nominated William McPherson, who declined.  
82 William McPherson nominated Francis Eason, who is not a voting member and therefore not  
83 eligible to hold office. Chairman Lambertson nominated John Sawyer who accepted the  
84 nomination. No other nominations were made. A vote was taken. The election of John  
85 Sawyer to the office of Vice Chairman was approved with Chairman Roger Lambertson,  
86 John L. Sawyer, William McPherson, Janice Hassell, and Francis M. Eason, II voting aye;  
87 none voting no; 1 absent; none not voting.

88

89 **Information from Board and Staff**

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91 ***Item #1 Revocation of Variance (UDO 2006-12-26) - April White***

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93 Ms. April White applied for a variance to the minimum roof pitch on a house she brought  
94 into the county. The Board of Adjustments granted the variance on certain conditions. One  
95 of the conditions was that she obtain a building permit within 15 working days of the  
96 approval of the variance. Dave Parks has been working with her on trying to get her to  
97 obtain the permit, part of the problem has been obtaining a contractor who will work with her  
98 on this house. Since she lives in Florida she can not act as her own contractor on a house  
99 built on her property, because under code, if you act as your own contractor you have to live  
100 in it for a year. She lives in Florida. Mr. Parks has given her as much time as possible to  
101 obtain a contractor. At this time, Mr. Parks feels she has violated the terms of her variance,  
102 in failure to obtain the building permit. Mr. Parks has sent her email letting her know that  
103 her variance will be revoked and that the construction on the house will have to meet the  
104 minimum 6x12 roof pitch. Mr. Parks sought the advice of the Board in handling this item,  
105 whether or not he should grant a 30 day extension to Ms. White before revoking her variance.

106

107 Mr. Lambertson asked if Mr. Parks had the authority to grant such an extension. His  
108 response was that any extension would have to be preceded by a written request from Ms.  
109 White for an extension, after which he did have the authority to grant the extension.  
110 Otherwise she would have to apply for another variance.

111

112 Mr. Parks informed the board that Ms. White has been in contact with a contractor, a Mr.  
113 Brickhouse, and that he will be in to the Planning Department office by the end of the week  
114 to obtain the building permit. Mr. Parks would like to give her until the end of the week to  
115 comply with the 15 day condition or revoke the variance.

116

117 Mr. Eason made comments: Ms. White has 6 months to comply with a 15 day regulation that  
118 the board stipulated. Also, she waited until the last minute to reply to Mr. Parks' letter. Mr.  
119 Eason said that he has a problem with any extension on this.

120

121 Mr. Lambertson reminded the Board that this is an information item, and that the Board only  
122 needs to give advice as to what to do. Advice was to not extend the variance and to void and  
123 revoke said variance.

124 **Comments from the Board**

125

126 Chairman Lambertson made comments indicating that he would like to see some changes to  
127 the ordinance regarding race tracks. He would like the language to be 'tidied up' as to the  
128 definition of a race track.

129

130 Chairman Lambertson also mentioned a desire for the new members of the Board of  
131 Adjustments to attend the 'Institute of Government' to receive training relevant to their  
132 positions.

133

134 Janice Hassell made a request to Amy Barnett, Clerk to the Board, to attempt to put page  
135 numbers on the board packets. After the conclusion of this meeting, Ms. Barnett attempted  
136 this, and is still looking into a way to accomplish it.

137

138 **Adjournment**

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140 At 9:12 PM, Frank Eason made a motion to adjourn, John Sawyer 2nd the motion. The  
141 motion was approved with Chairman Roger Lambertson, John L. Sawyer, William  
142 McPherson, Janice Hassell, and Francis M. Eason, II voting aye; none voting no; 1 absent;  
143 none not voting.

144

145 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

146

147 Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
148 Chairman Roger Lambertson

149

150 Attested: \_\_\_\_\_  
151 Amy Barnett, Planning Clerk