



Zoning Board of Appeals – Town of Spencer

Minutes

Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting

August 8, 2023, at 7:00 pm

In-Person & Remote

McCourt Social Hall, 157 Main Street Spencer, MA 01562

Memorial Town Hall

Zoning Board Members Present: Alan Collette (in-person), Chair Gina Beford (in-person) and Donna Parker (in-person)

Staff Present: Gloria Agossou, CMRPC-Interim Town Planner (in-person), Monica Santerre-Gervais, ODIS Senior Clerk (Remote), and Margaret Bousquet, Minutes Clerk (in-person)

1. The Chair opened the meeting 7:11pm

2. Public Hearing: Special Permit– Applicant/Owner: Adrian Kase; Location: 42 R Jones Road, Spencer Assessor’s Map R25-20. The applicant is seeking a Special Permit under Sections 4.2.E.14, 4.2.E.15, and 4.3.13 of the Spencer Zoning Bylaw to open a dog grooming business and dog daycare. The property is in the Rural Residential (RR) zoning district.

Adrian Kase and Adam Smith, 42 R Jones Road, were present for the meeting remotely. She confirmed she is starting a dog grooming business out of her house and eventually plans to do a small daycare for dogs getting groomed. Ms. Beford asked if she would be the only employee, Ms. Kase said it would just be her for now. Ms. Beford asked how many dogs she would groom per hour. Ms. Kase said it would be one dog per hour. Ms. Beford asked if it would ever be possible to have more than one dog per hour and Ms. Kase confirmed it may be three. Ms. Kase explained that the daycare aspect would be more of a convenience to the dog owners to drop the dogs off before the start of their workday and pick the dog up at the end of the workday. Ms. Kase said there would not be dogs held overnight at this time.

Mr. Collette asked if the daycare aspect of it was to have dogs during the day? Ms. Kase confirmed it is just for the convenience of the dog owner to drop off at the beginning of the day and pick up at the end. Also, Ms. Kase said the hours would be 7:00am to 5:00pm, at the latest 6:00pm to 7:00pm and would like it to be open Monday through Friday, Saturdays, potentially six days.

Mr. Collette asked how many dogs at one time would be involved in the daycare and Ms. Kase said four per day. Ms. Kase again stated the hours would be 8:00am to 6:00pm.

Mr. Collette asked about the parking area and if there is room to turn around. Ms. Kase mentioned there is room at the end of the driveway to turn around.

Mr. Collette asked where the dogs involved in the daycare would be held and Ms. Kase said they would either be outside or inside in temporary kennels. Ms. Kase reassured the Zoning Board members she would bring the dogs in if there is excessive barking. Additionally, Ms. Kase mentioned they intend to erect a fenced in area for the dogs so they can stretch their legs and use the bathroom, however, the dogs will primarily stay inside in kennels.

Ms. Beford opened the hearing up to the public.

Mike Lamusta, 23 R. Jones Road, asked if they had tried to get a permit anywhere else. The chair said they did. Mr. Lamusta said a property across the street wants to put in a church and there is a kennel at 54 Jones Road and is concerned with the increased traffic on R Jones Road. Also, Mr. Lamusta is concerned with the noise. Mr. Collette said they cannot address the church concerns because it is not something that is there yet.

Paul Wychorski, 27 R. Jones Road, addressed the board and is concerned with the noise and feels that it does not fit the neighborhood.

Mr. Collette said the Zoning Board can condition that dogs are not left outside. Mr. Collette confirmed the petitioner's location is zoned for business.

Francis White, 35 R. Jones Road, addressed the board. and wanted to know if the dogs would be staying overnight and how they would be protected from other animals. Mr. Smith answered that they do not want an overnight kennel and the intent is specifically for dogs during the day.

John Guertin, 49 Jones Road, expressed concerns about the traffic and wants to be sure there is enough room to park and turn around at 42 R Jones Road. Mr. Guertin also asked if there would be signage, Ms. Kase confirmed there would be a sign.

There were no further questions or comments from the public.

Mr. Collette stated he would like to continue the public hearing for two weeks to see the turnaround space in the driveway and a plan where two cars can park. Ms. Beford would like to see where the fence would be.

MOTION: Mr. Collette motioned to continue the petition in two weeks (8/30/2023) to see a turnaround plan, parking plan, and see a visual of where the fenced in area will be.

SECOND: Ms. Parker

DISCUSSION: None

ROLL CALL VOTE: G. Beford-Aye, D. Parker-Aye and A. Collette-Aye (Vote 3-0 motion carried)

3. Approval of Minutes:

6/13/2023

MOTION: Mr. Collette motioned to approve minutes from 6/13/2023.

SECOND: Ms. Parker

DISCUSSION: None

ROLL CALL VOTE: G. Beford-Aye, D. Parker-Aye and A. Collette-Aye (Vote 3-0 motion carried)

6/21/2023

MOTION: Mr. Collette motioned to approve minutes from 6/21/2023.

SECOND: Ms. Parker

DISCUSSION: None

ROLL CALL VOTE: G. Beford-Aye, D. Parker-Aye and A. Collette-Aye (Vote 3-0 motion carried)

4. Town Planner Report

Ms. Agossou had nothing to report.

5. Citizens Input

Mr. Guertin wants to be sure there is a sign to identify parking and turnaround information for 42 R Jones Road.

6. New Business/Adjournment

MOTION: Mr. Collette made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 pm.

SECOND: Ms. Parker

DISCUSSION: None

ROLL CALL VOTE: G. Beford-Aye, D. Parker-Aye and A. Collette-Aye (Vote 3-0 motion carried)

Submitted by Margaret Bousquet, Minutes Clerk

Reviewed by Monica Santerre-Gervais, ODIS Senior Clerk

Approved by the Zoning Board of Appeals on: 8/30/2023

List of Documents used on 8/08/2023:

Items sent to Zoning Board Members prior to Meeting by email:

- Agenda
- Memo from Interim Town Planner
- Special Permit Application- Adrian Kase; Location: 42 R Jones Road
- Drafted minutes for 6/13/2023 & 6/21/2023

Items submitted/ brought to the Meeting:

- **None**