Stephen K. Yamashiro Mayor



Virginia Goldstein Director

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County of Hawaii

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

25 Aupuni Street, Room 109 • Hilo, Hawaii 96720-4252 (808) 961-8288 • Fax (808) 961-9615

CERTIFIED MAIL

June 5, 1996

John S. Nuha, Esq., Commissioner 101 Aupuni Street, Suite 225 Hilo, Hawaii 96720

Dear Mr. Nuha:

Variance Application WH(VAR 96-30)
Variance No. 749
Applicant: JOHN S. NUHA, ESQ., COMMISSIONER
Variance from Minimum Front Yard Requirements
of the Zoning Code, Chapter 25, Article 4, Section 25-124(a)(1)
Tax Map Key: 6-8-021:003

After reviewing your application and the information submitted, the Planning Director certifies the approval of your variance request to allow an existing one story single family dwelling with a 13.75 and 19.90 feet front yard in lieu of the minimum 20 foot front yard as required by Chapter 25, Article 4, Section 25-124(a)(1).

The subject property is located in the Francolin Place Subdivision, Lot 3-A, Waikoloa, South Kohala, TMK: 6-8-021:003.

The Planning Director has concluded that the variance request from the minimum front and side yard requirements should be approved based on the following findings:

SPECIAL AND UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES

- 1. The homeowners at that time, received all of the necessary Department of Public Works, Building Division approvals for dwelling.
- 2. When the plans were approved by the Planning Department, the plans would have had to show that all minimum required setbacks were going to be adhered to for the proposed dwelling in 1988.

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John S. Nuha, Esq., Commisioner Page 2 June 5, 1996

- 3. There appears to have been a construction staking error occurred in 1988 when the dwelling was constructed in the siting of the structure on the property. There also appears that a very minor siting error was done at the time of construction with the encroachments. No other evidence has been found to show otherwise.
- 4. It has been over 8 years since the construction of the existing dwelling which was approved by the County and the applicant is trying to resolve a situation which they had no control over and have honestly conducted a certified survey to ensure to disclosure of all facts concerning the dwelling.
- 5. The variance application was acknowledged as received by the Planning Department on April 22, 1996.
- 6. A survey map prepared by Imata and Associates, Inc. on March 29, 1996, shows the EXISTING ONE STORY SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING with 13.75 and 19.90 feet front yard. The subject dwelling encroaches into the front yard by 6 feet 3 inches and 1 and 1/4 inch.

Therefore, considering the foregoing facts, the Planning Director has determined that there are special or unusual circumstances applying to the subject property which exist either to a degree which deprives the owner or applicant of substantial property rights that would otherwise be available or to a degree which obviously interferes with the best use or manner of development of the subject property.

ALTERNATIVES

- 1. The applicant on their own volition is honestly trying to resolve this long standing problem which was not created by them. The investigation of this particular matter has not shown any deliberate or intentional grounds in allowing the encroachments to occur.
- 2. Any architectural alterations or design changes to the dwelling to conform with the minimum setbacks would create undue and excessive hardships of the applicant when other more reasonable options are available.
- 3. While there are other alternatives available the more practical solution is the granting of the variance.

Based on the above cited considerations, there are no reasonable available solutions without

John S. Nuha, Esq., Commissioner Page 3 June 5, 1996

excessive demands placed on the applicant when a more reasonable alternative is available by the granting of this variance application.

INTENT AND PURPOSE

The intent and purpose of requiring buildings setbacks within a subdivision is to assure that adequate air and light circulation is available between structures and property lines.

The existing shows the existing one story single family dwelling with 13.75 and 19.90 feet front yard. The subject dwelling encroaches into the front yard by 6 feet 3 inches and 1 and 1/4 inch.

These encroachments into the front yard are minor and not visually perceptible that it will diminish the ability for adequate light, air and open space. Therefore, while the Zoning Code requires a minimum 20 feet front yard, it would not impact or be adverse to any adjacent properties or development with the granting of this variance. The rest of the existing dwelling complies with the minimum yard requirements of the Zoning Code.

There was one objection from a surrounding property owner.

Based on the foregoing findings, this variance request would be consistent with the general purpose of the zoning district, the intent and purpose of the Zoning Code and Subdivision Codes and the County General Plan; will not be materially detrimental to the public's welfare; and will not cause substantial adverse impact to the areas character and to adjoining properties.

This variance request is approved, subject to the following conditions:

- 1. The applicant, its assigns or successors, shall be responsible for complying with all stated conditions of approval.
- 2. The approval of this variance shall be included in the conveyance document for the subject property and a copy of the recorded conveyance document shall be submitted to the Planning Department within a year from the effective date of approval of this variance.
- 3. Obtain approval from the Board of Appeals for all Housing and Building Code Violations, if applicable.
- 4. All other applicable State and County rules and regulations shall be complied with.

John S. Nuha, Esq., Commissioner Page 4 June 5, 1996

Should any of the foregoing conditions not be complied with, the Planning Director may proceed to declare this Variance Permit null and void.

Sincerely,

VIRGINIA GOLDSTEIN Planning Director

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