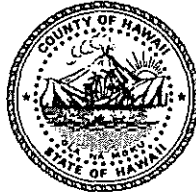


Stephen K. Yamashiro
Mayor



Virginia Goldstein
Director

Russell Kokubun
Deputy Director

County of Hawaii

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

25 Aupuni Street, Room 109 • Hilo, Hawaii 96720-4252
(808) 961-8288 • Fax (808) 961-8742

CERTIFIED MAIL

P 417 370 077

June 19, 1998

Mr. Klaus D. Conventz
P.O. Box 2308
Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96745-2308

Dear Mr. Conventz:

Variance Application WH(VAR 98-027)
Variance No. 931
Applicant: KLAUS D. CONVENTZ
Owner: RAY AND LOIS SAGER
Request: Variance From Minimum Front Yard, Rear Yard and Open Space
Requirements
Tax Map Key: 7-7-018: 012

After reviewing your application and the additional information submitted, the Planning Director certifies the approval of your variance request to allow an existing two story single family dwelling, carport with a 7.7 to 14.8 feet front yard in lieu of the minimum 15 feet front yard; 6.0 to 8.2 feet front yard open space in lieu of the minimum 10 feet open space; 9.5 feet rear yard in lieu of the minimum 15 feet rear yard, and 9.5 feet rear yard open space in lieu of the minimum 10 feet open space, as required by Ordinance 96-160, Chapter 25, Article 5, Division 1, Section 25-5-7(a)(1)(A), Ordinance 97-88 and Article 4, Division 4, Section 25-4-44(a).

The subject property is located at White Sands Beach Estates, Lot 9, Unit III, File Plan 1102, at Laaloa 1st, North Kona, Hawaii, Tax Map Key: 7-7-018:012.

SPECIAL AND UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES

1. The subject property consists of 7,711 square feet of land area.
2. The subject single family dwelling was issued the following building permit:

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- a. Building Permit No. 885837 opened on September 9, 1988 and closed on March 14, 1991 for the construction of the dwelling.
3. A survey map prepared by KKM Surveys, on April 9, 1998, shows the existing two story single family dwelling with a 7.7 to 14.8 feet front yard in lieu of the minimum 15 feet front yard. As such the dwelling encroaches 2 feet 2-3/8 inches to 7 feet 3-5/8 inches into the required 15 feet front yard.
4. The survey map shows the existing two story single family dwelling with a 6.0 to 8.2 feet front yard open space in lieu of the minimum 10 feet open space. As such the dwelling encroaches 1 foot 9-5/8 inches into the required 10 feet open space.
5. The survey map shows the existing two story single family dwelling with a 9.5 feet rear yard in lieu of the minimum 15 feet rear yard. As such the dwelling encroaches 5 feet 6 inches into the required 15 feet rear yard.
6. The survey map shows the existing two story single family dwelling with a 9.5 feet rear yard open space in lieu of the minimum 10 feet open space. As such the dwelling encroaches 6 inches into the required 10 feet open space.
7. When the building permit was approved, the owner received all of the necessary Department of Public Works, Building Division approvals for the dwelling.
8. When approved by the Planning Department, the plans would have had to have shown that all minimum required setbacks were going to be adhered to for the proposed dwelling in 1988.
9. There appears to have been a construction staking error in the siting of the structure on the property. This occurred in 1988 when the dwelling was constructed. There also appears to have been a very minor siting error made at the time of construction with the encroachment. No other evidence has been found to show otherwise.
10. It has been over 10 years since the construction of the existing dwelling was approved by the County, and the applicants are trying to resolve a situation which they had no control over and have honestly conducted a certified survey to ensure the disclosure of all facts concerning the dwelling.
11. The variance application was filed with the Planning Department on April 20, 1998.

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There were two objections from surrounding property owners. One objection stated that the variances sought by the applicant were too extreme. The other objection questioned the effect on adjacent properties. There were no objections by any government agencies.

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 owners on their own volition are honestly trying to resolve this long standing problem which was not created by them. The investigation of this particular matter has not revealed 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 for the applicants when other more reasonable options are available.

Based on the above cited considerations, there are no reasonable solutions available without excessive demands being placed on the owners 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 dwelling on the subject property is presently 2 feet 2-3/8 inches to 7 feet 3-5/8 inches into the required 15 feet front yard and 1 foot 9-5/8 inches into the required 10 feet front yard open space. In addition, the existing two story single family dwelling encroaches 5 feet 6 inches into the required 15 feet rear yard and 6 inches into the required 10 feet rear yard open space. These encroachments into the front yard, rear yard and open space will not diminish the ability for adequate light and air to circulate and will still provide adequate open space. Therefore, while the Zoning Code requires a minimum 15 feet front yard, 15 feet rear yard and 10 feet open space, in this particular case, the encroachments will not visually or physically 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.

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

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

1. The owner, 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. If applicable, approval from the Board of Appeals for all Building Code Violations will be obtained.
4. All necessary building permits shall be obtained from the Department of Public Works, Building Division for all unpermitted construction.
5. All encroachments within the County right-of-way shall be removed.
6. The driveway shall conform to county standards meeting with the approval of the Department of Public Works, Engineering Division.
7. All other applicable State and County rules and regulations shall be complied with.

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

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Royden Yamasato of this department.

Sincerely,


VIRGINIA GOLDSTEIN
Planning Director

EMM: rld

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xc: West Hawaii Office