

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) 961-8742

CERTIFIED MAIL P 417 370 085

June 30, 1998

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

Dear Mr. Conventz:

Variance Application WH(VAR 98-029)

Variance No. 933

Applicant: KLAUS D. CONVENTZ

Owner: AUGUSTINE AND MARY ROSA

Request: VARIANCE FROM MINIMUM FRONT YARD AND OPEN SPACE

REQUIREMENTS

Tax Map Key: 6-8-005:014

After reviewing your application and the additional information submitted, the Planning Director certifies the approval of your variance request to allow an existing one story single family dwelling and attached garage with a 18.66 feet front yard in lieu of the minimum 20 feet front yard, and a 13.18 feet open space in lieu of the minimum 14 feet open space, as required by Ordinance 96-160, Chapter 25, Article 5, Division 1, Section 25-5-7(a)(2)(A), Ordinance 97-88, and Chapter 25, Article 4, Division 4, Section 25-4-44(a).

The subject property is located at Waikoloa Village, Lot 71, Unit I-A, FP1188, at Waikoloa, South Kohala, Hawaii, Tax Map Key: 6-8-005:014.

## SPECIAL AND UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES

- 1. The subject property consists of 12,928 square feet of land area.
- 2. The subject single family dwelling was issued the following building permit:

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Mr. Klaus D. Conventz Page 2 June 30, 1998

- a. Building Permit No. 896286 opened on September 11, 1989 and closed on April 3, 1990 for the construction of the dwelling and attached garage.
- 3. A survey map prepared by Cassera and Christescu Surveys, on April 28, 1998, shows the existing one story single family dwelling and attached garage with a 18.66 feet front yard in lieu of the minimum 20 feet front yard. As such the dwelling and attached garage encroaches 1 foot 4-1/8 inches into the required 20 feet front yard.
- 4. The survey map shows the existing one story single family dwelling and attached garage with a 13.18 feet open space in lieu of the minimum 14 feet open space. As such the dwelling encroaches 9-7/8 inches into the required 14 feet open space.
- 5. When the building permit was approved, the owner received all of the necessary Department of Public Works, Building Division approvals for the dwelling and attached garage.
- 6. 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 and attached garage in 1989.
- 7. There appears to have been a construction staking error in the siting of the structure on the property. This occurred in 1989 when the dwelling and attached garage were 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.
- 8. It has been over 9 years since the construction of the existing dwelling and attached garage were 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.
- 9. The variance application was filed with the Planning Department on May 4, 1998.

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.

Mr. Klaus D. Conventz Page 3 June 30, 1998

## **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 building 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 encroaches 1 foot 4-1/8 inches into the required 20 feet front yard and 9-7/8 inches into the required 14 feet open space. These encroachments into the front 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 20 feet front yard and 14 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.

There were no objections from any surrounding property owners or government agencies.

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 areas' character and to adjoining properties.

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

Mr. Klaus D. Conventz Page 4 June 30, 1998

- 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 encroachments within the County right-of-way shall be removed.
- 5. 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

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xc: West Hawaii Office