

Virginia Goldstein

Director

Russell Kokubun
Deputy Director

# County of Hawaii

## CERTIFIED MAIL Z 472 692 402

#### PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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

November 18, 1999

Ms. Suzanne Coffill Ms. Lee R. Woodill 76-6341 Kololia Street Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96745

Dear Ms. Coffill:

Variance Application WH(VAR 99-081)

Variance No. 1069

Applicant: SUZANNE COFFILL AND LEE R. WOODILL Owners: SUZANNE COFFILL AND LEE R. WOODILL

Request: VARIANCE FROM MINIMUM SIDE YARD AND OPEN SPACE

REQUIREMENTS

Tax Map Key: 7-6-022:065

After reviewing your application and the additional information submitted, the Planning Director certifies the approval of your variance request to allow a two story single family dwelling, carport and open stairway with a 3.29 to 4.97 feet side yard in lieu of the minimum 10 feet side yard and a .10 to 1.58 feet side yard open space in lieu of the minimum 5 feet open space, as required by Ordinance 96-160, Chapter 25, Article 5, Division 1, Section 25-5-7(a)(2)(B) and Article 4, Division 4, Section 25-4-44(a), Ordinance 97-88.

Please accept our sincere apologies for this tardy confirmation of the approval granted to allow the requested variance. We have been working within the department to improve the efficiency of this process which will hopefully result in more timely responses to future applications. Your patience is appreciated.

The subject property is located at Komohana Kai Subdivision, Unit 2, F.P. 1737, at Holualoa 1 & 2, North Kona, Hawaii, Tax Map Key: 7-6-022: 065.

#### SPECIAL AND UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES

1. The subject property consists of 15,010 square feet of land area.

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- 2. The subject single family dwelling was issued the following building permits:
  - a. Building Permit No. K07809 opened on October 30, 1986 and closed on July 20, 1987 for the construction of a single family dwelling.
  - b. Building Permit No. 901512 opened on July 19, 1990 for a Jacuzzi. The permit remains open.
  - c. Building Permit No. 945362 opened on May 19, 1994 for a swimming pool. The permit remains open.
- 3. A survey map prepared by Don McIntosh Consulting on August 27, 1997 shows the two story single family dwelling with a 3.29 to 4.97 feet side yard in lieu of the minimum 10 feet side yard. As such, the dwelling encroaches 5 feet 3/8 inches to 6 feet 8-1/2 inches into the required 10 feet side yard.
- 4. The survey map shows the two story single family dwelling with a .10 to 1.58 feet side yard open space in lieu of the minimum 5 feet open space. As such, the dwelling encroaches 3 feet 5 inches to 4 feet 10-7/8 inches in the required 5 feet open space.
- 5. When the building permits were approved, the owner received all of the necessary Department of Public Works, Building Division approvals for the dwelling.
- 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 dwelling in 1986.
- 7. There appears to have been a construction staking error in the siting of the structure on the property. This occurred in 1986 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.
- 8. It has been over 13 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 and improvements.
- 9. The variance application was filed with the Planning Department on <u>September 13</u>, 1999.

There were no objections from any adjacent or surrounding property owners.

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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 applicant 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. As such, the dwelling encroaches 5 feet 3/8 inches to 6 feet 8-1/2 inches into the required 10 feet side yard and 3 feet 5 inches to 4 feet 10-7/8 inches in the required 5 feet open space. These encroachments into the side 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 10 feet side yard and 5 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.

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:

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- 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. The applicant shall obtain final inspection from the Department of Public Works, Building Division on all permits.
- 4. The applicant shall obtain a building permit for the unpermitted structures.
- 5. The applicant shall comply with all the requirements of the Uniform Building Code.
- 6. 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 Eleanor Mirikitani of this department.

Sincerely.

VIRGINIA GOLDSTEIN

Planning Director

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xc: West Hawaii Office