

From: Dennis White [mailto:dwhite305@comcast.net]
Sent: Friday, June 08, 2018 9:40 PM
To: Melissa Dunn <Melissa.Dunn@alexandriava.gov>
Subject: BZA #2018-0005 & BZA #2018-0006 908 W. Taylor Run Parkway

Ms. Dunn.

I am writing in reference to the owner's requested consideration of requests for: (1) an after-the-fact special exception to retain an addition located within a required front yard, and (2) a variance to retain an addition located within a required side yard.

I live at 3017 Bryan Street. While I do not live next to the property in question, I have driven past it almost every day for the past 9 years. Every one of the more than 6000 times I have driven past that house I think how the owner just doesn't give a care how much of an eye-sore his house/property truly is. The photo below is what I see of the property on one of the "good" days. Its best days only come in winter after 2 to 3 feet of snow have fallen.

If he lived in the squalor he has created it would be one thing but instead this is his day-time "project" house in which he only is present once in a while. So he is not really a neighbor at all and it has been that way for many many years.

I wasn't at all surprised to hear the owner of 908 has both exceeded the building permit and built beyond the required set backs. That is what the owner does. The owner of 908 has been putting around the property doing just enough to keep the city hounds off his back for years. I saw the notices posted on the front door of 908 a few years ago concerning construction debris being stored in the yard. The owner cleaned up some of it to show progress then did nothing more for years. The only real question is if the BZA will realize they are being played by a sly old property owner claiming ignorance and rule to force him to remove the shoddily built structures that were not on the permit and beyond the set-backs.

Not only do I desire these appeals be denied, I believe the city should go further in this matter. I believe the owner's deliberate construction of structures not on the building permit warrants the

2016 Building permit to be utterly revoked. Further the property should be marked as not fit for habitation until such time as the structures built illegally are removed by a licensed contractor. Finally any future construction permit requested by this property owner should only be granted if it is shown that the work will be done by a fully licensed general contractor. That way if the contractor doesn't build to the approved plans the contractor could be sued by the residents in the area or the city.

I wish I could say my heart goes out to this property owner but it does not. I believe the owner is just taking advantage of the limited resources of the city and the gaps in enforcement. Meanwhile, the owner has not been a good neighbor but instead has been a massive source of negative energy for the entire neighborhood for more than a decade.

I did not like having to write this letter. However, I felt it was necessary to speak plainly of how things have been for years and that I am not in support of letting this property owner blatantly ignore building/zoning ordinances. I believe the most compassionate thing for the BZA to do would be to stop this work and force the owner to hire a licensed contractor to improve the property properly. By forcing that action, the property owner would be eventually be able to sell 908 W. Taylor Run Parkway as improved property rather than just for the land's value.

Respectfully,

Dennis White

3017 Bryan Street

