

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND CITY OF EAST PROVIDENCE

COUNTY OF PROVIDENCE

ZONING BOARD OF REVIEW

MINUTES

A workshop meeting of the East Providence Zoning Board of Review was held at 6:00 P.M., on Wednesday, **4 June 2025**, in the City Council Chambers, East Providence City Hall.

The following members were present:

Eugene Saveory – Chairman

Michael Beauparlant – Vice Chairman

John Braga

Gary Pascoa – **ABSENT**

Matthew Gunnip

Jonathan Jacobs – 1ST Alternate

Ashley Rozes – 2ND Alternate - **ABSENT**

Edward Pimentel – Zoning Officer / Clerk

Michael Marcello – City Solicitor - **ABSENT**

Joel Votolato – Assistant City Solicitor

I. OPENING STATEMENT BY CHAIRMAN

Chairman Saveory notes that since this is just a workshop there is no need to swear in the Zoning Officer.

II. SEATING OF ALTERNATE MEMBERS

Chairman Saveory explains to the public that there is a full quorum.

III. APPROVAL OF ZONING BOARD MINUTES

Chairman Saveory asks for approval of the **7 May 2025** Zoning Board of Review Minutes **Motion** by **Mr. Braga** to approve the **7 May 2025** Zoning Board of Review Minutes. The motion is **Seconded** by **Mr. Jacobs** and **Unanimously** approved.

IV. ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT

Zoning Officer Pimentel explains that there is nothing to report.

V. CORRESPONDENCE/ DISCUSSION

Zoning Officer Pimentel explains that there is nothing to report.

VI. STAFF REPORTS

1. Planning Department Staff Report - Previously Submitted

2. Zoning Complaint List – May 2025 – Previously Submitted

Zoning Officer Pimentel notes that zoning complaint list may be inappropriate to discuss in front of the public. **Zoning Officer Pimentel** explains that he will still hand out the complaint list to board members but will not put on the docket anymore and they can have executive sessions to discuss the list.

VII. DOCKET ITEM ORGANIZATION

There are no petitions on the docket to organize.

VIII. CONTINUED BUSINESS

There is no continued business.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

There is no new business.

X. PROCEDURES

Zoning Officer Pimentel inquires about moving the July 2025 meeting from 9 July 2025 to 16 July 2025 so there is no

need for an August 2025 meeting.

Motionby Mr. Jacobs to move the July 2025 meeting from 9 July 2025 to 16 July 2025, the motion is Seconded by ViceChairman Beauparlant.

Motionby Mr. Jacobs to cancel the 6 August 2025 meeting, the motion is Seconded by Vice Chairman Beauparlant.

Mr. Braga suggests moving the September 2025 meeting due to Labor Day.

Motionby Vice Chairman Beauparlant to move the 3 September 2025 meeting from 3 September 2025 to 10 September 2025, the motion isSeconded by Mr. Braga.

Discussion on Motion Forms.

ZoningOfficer Pimentelexplains to the board that there have been massivelegislative changes, and they have been working on major zoning re-writes. Theyhave also been working with the city council about the zoning re-writes aswell.

Zoning Officer Pimentel notes that there are some potential issueswith ADU's and over-intensifying the area.

Assistant City Solicitor Votolato notesthat they are finding out privacy issues and is sure the state will adjust someof the legislative changes in the future. There was a rush for the legislationdue to the housing shortage.

Zoning Officer Pimentel notes that it is creating housingand has been helpful in the situations that involve illegal units since itprovides options on what can be done. With petitions, there are four burdensthat must be met, and the board is to provide findings for each burden.

AssistantCity Solicitor Votolato explains that it is like showing your workfor a math problem in school.

ZoningOfficer Pimentel notes about possibly changing the opening statement to explainthese burdens to the petitioners in the audience.

Discussion on the Zoning Application Instructional Package.

ZoningOfficer Pimentel inquires if whether applicants can request a waiver of the Class1 survey or is it just mandatory.

AssistantCity Solicitor Votolato explains he will look into that question.

ZoningOfficer Pimentel adds that the state is trying to get all the cities and towns onthe same page. They are having zoning petitions be applied for on the onlineportal building permit system. They will still do things the old way with the14 copies as well.

Discussion on Rules and Procedures.

Zoning Officer Pimentel explains that the last time theboard went over the rules and procedures was in 2005. He will also work on theinstructional package, and review rules and procedures.

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next regular meeting of the Zoning Board of Review is scheduled for **Wednesday, 16 July 2025 at 6:00 PM**, in the City of East Providence Council Chambers, City Hall, and East Providence, RI.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Motiontoadjourn by **Mr. Braga**. The motion is **Secondedby Vice Chairman Beauparlant** and**Unanimously** voted to adjourn. **Meeting is adjourned at 7:45pm.**

EdwardPimentel, AICP
ZoningOfficer / Clerk

Secretary