

STAFF REPORT: Planning & Building Services Department



REPORT TO: Planning & Building Committee
MEETING DATE: March 01, 2010
REPORT NO.: PL.10.05
SUBJECT: Committee of Adjustment 2009 Annual Report
PREPARED BY: Lori Carscadden, Secretary-Treasurer, Committee of Adjustment

A. Recommendations

THAT Council receive Planning & Building Services Department Staff Report No. PL.10.05, "Committee of Adjustment 2009 Annual Report" for information purposes.

B. Background

1. Since the Committee of Adjustment was established in September 2004, the Committee has received 132 minor variance applications.
2. The current Committee was appointed by Council in early 2007 and is comprised of:

Shiela Metras, Chair
Robert Waind, Member
Bill Remus, Member

As required by the Planning Act, the Committee members themselves appoint a Chair. Recently, the Committee chose to change Chairs and appointed Bob Waind as Chair. To-date, all three members have had an opportunity to sit as Chairperson for a year at a time, with Bob Waind serving his second year.

3. Committee support is provided by Lori Carscadden, Secretary-Treasurer.
4. As Council is likely aware, minor variance applications are circulated internally and externally and when comments and/or recommended conditions are received they are forwarded to the Committee for their consideration.
5. Town Planning comments and recommendations are provided to the Committee on each application by Planning Services (Bryan Pearce).
6. In 2009, a total of 17 applications were received by the Committee with 16 being granted and 1 withdrawn .
7. It is not anticipated that the minor variance fee will increase from the current fee of \$900.00 per application.

8. The following table is a breakdown of the total number of minor variance applications received and they're status for 2008 and 2009.

Year	# of Applications	Granted	Denied	Withdrawn	Comments
2008	17	16	0	2	<p>Large % of the applications were for relief of either the front, side or rear yards. A few had issues with lot coverage, a condition of consent and one height request for a garage.</p> <p>NOTE: 2 of the 17 applications were appealed to the Board. In one instance the Bd. Ruled in favour of the applicant and the second instance the applicant chose not to proceed with the application.</p>
2009	17	16	0	1	<p>Large % of the applications were for relief of either the front, side or rear yards. A few had issues with lot coverage.</p>

9. Application revenues collected in 2008 and 2009 and the related Member Compensation are reflected below:

Year	Revenue	Member Compensation	Member Expenses (memberships, travel, meals, accomdn., conferences/workshops)
2008	\$12,300.00	\$1,935.00	\$5,721.97
2009	\$14,600.00	\$2,415.00	\$2,926.00

10. In addition to the Member Compensation and Expenses noted, there are Town costs, both direct and indirect.

11. At the May 31st – June 3rd 2010 OACA Conference in Waterloo, Robert Waind was appointed to the “Board of Directors of the Ontario Association of Committees of Adjustment & Consent Authorities”. This position is for a one year period.

12. The Towns’ Committee of Adjustment had the opportunity to participate in the OACA Conference, May 31st – June 3rd in Waterloo wherein Shiela Metras and Bob Waind attended. As well, the OACA Seminar was held on September 25th in Mississauga with Bob Waind and Bryan Pearce attending.

It should be noted that OACA membership and Conference and Seminar fees for Bob Waind is covered through the Association and therefore a portion of those associated costs would not be part of the Towns' budget for 2009/2010.

C. The Blue Mountains' Strategic Plan

- #4 *Supporting the development of social and recreational programs to meet the broad range of needs in the community.*
- #6 *Providing a strong, well managed municipal government.*

D. Environmental Impacts

N/A

E. Budget Impact

Staff are satisfied that the revenues collected substantially address the direct and indirect costs of the Committee.

F. Attached

N/A

Respectfully submitted,

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