

City of Savannah Zoning Board of Appeals

May 22, 2025, SZBA Meeting 10:00 am 112 East State Street, Arthur Mendonsa Hearing Room Action Minutes

May 22, 2025, City of Savannah Zoning Board of Appeals

Members Present: Stephen Merriman, Jr., Chair

Michael Condon, Vice-Chair Benjamine "Trapper" Griffith

Armand Turner Betty Jones Brad Baugh Stephen Plunk

MPC Staff Present: Edward Morrow, Director of Development Services/Current Planning

Sadie Esch-Laurent, Assistant Planner

Sally Helm, Administrative Assistant II, Development Services

Hind Patel, IT Helpdesk & Support

- I. Call to Order and Welcome
- II. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Swearing in of Witnesses
- IV. Notices, Proclamations and Acknowledgements
- V. Item(s) Requested to be Removed from the Final Agenda

1. 114 W. Duffy St. | Variances to lot coverage, side yard setbacks, and maximum building footprint for an ADU | 25-002255-ZBA

Motion

Item removed from the final agenda.

Vote Results (Approved)

Motion: Michael Condon Second: Betty Jones

Stephen Merriman, Jr. - Abstain

Michael Condon - Aye
Stephen Plunk - Aye
Betty Jones - Aye
Armand Turner - Aye
Brad Baugh - Aye
Benjamin Griffith - Aye

VI. Item(s) Requested to be Withdrawn

VII. Approval of Minutes

2. Approval of the April 24, 2025 SZBA Meeting Minutes

∅ 04-24-2025-city-of-savannah-zoning-board-of-appeals-minutes.pdf

Motion

Approval of the April 24, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Vote Results (Approved)

Motion: Betty Jones

Second: Michael Condon

Stephen Merriman, Jr. - Abstain

Michael Condon - Aye

Stephen Plunk - Aye

Betty Jones - Aye

Armand Turner - Aye

Brad Baugh - Aye

Benjamin Griffith - Aye

VIII. Approval of Final Agenda

IX. Consent Agenda

X. Old Business

XI. Regular Agenda

- 3. 3212 Perth St | Variances for lot area, lot width, and side yard setback | 25-001792-ZBA
 - Application 3212 Perth St.pdf
 - New Plat 3212 Perth St.pdf
 - Staff Report 3212 Perth St.pdf

Motion

Approval of the requested three variances in association with creating a nonconforming subdivision in the TR-3 zoning district:

To reduce the minimum lot area requirement from 3,000 square feet to 2,700 square feet;

To reduce the minimum lot width requirement from 40 feet to 27 feet;

To reduce the side yard setback of the existing primary dwelling from 3 feet to 2.3 feet.

With the following condition:

1. The petition number associated with the variance request shall be recorded on the plat.

Vote Results (Approved)

Motion: Michael Condon Second: Stephen Plunk

Stephen Merriman, Jr. - Abstain

Michael Condon - Aye

Stephen Plunk - Aye

Betty Jones - Aye

Armand Turner - Aye

Brad Baugh - Aye

Benjamin Griffith - Aye

4. 35 Pomona Cir | Variance to rear yard setback | 25-002237-ZBA

- Application 35 Pomona Cir.pdf
- Staff Report 35 Pomona Cir.pdf
- BRADLEY POINTE SOUTH SUBDIVISION_6.20.24_REVISED MASTER PLAN.pdf
- HOA Approval Letter for 35 Pomona Circle.pdf

Motion

Approval of the requested variance to reduce the rear yard setback from 25 feet to 17 feet and 5 inches in association with an addition to the primary dwelling in the PD zoning district.

Vote Results (Approved)

Motion: Stephen Plunk Second: Betty Jones

Stephen Merriman, Jr. - Abstain

Michael Condon - Aye

Stephen Plunk - Aye

Betty Jones - Aye

Armand Turner - Aye

Brad Baugh - Aye

Benjamin Griffith - Aye

5. 811 W 53rd St | Variance to rear yard setback | 25-002254-ZBA

- Application 811 W 53rd St.pdf
- Staff Report 811 W 53rd St.pdf

Motion

Approval of the requested variance to reduce the rear yard setback from 20 feet to 13 feet in association with the construction of a primary dwelling on a vacant nonconforming lot in the RSF-6 zoning district.

Vote Results (Approved)

Motion: Stephen Plunk Second: Armand Turner

Stephen Merriman, Jr. - Abstain

Michael Condon - Aye

Stephen Plunk - Aye

Betty Jones - Aye

Armand Turner - Aye

Brad Baugh - Aye

Benjamin Griffith - Aye

6. 1412 E 51st St | Variance for relief from nonconformity | 25-002280-ZBA

- Application 1412 E 51st St.pdf
- Site Plan 1412 E 51st St.pdf
- Staff Report 1412 E 51st St.pdf
- @ Elevations 1412 E 15st St.pdf

Motion

Approval of the requested variance for relief from nonconformity in association with a vertical addition to a primary dwelling in the RSF-6 zoning district.

Vote Results (Approved)

Motion: Armand Turner Second: Stephen Plunk

Stephen Merriman, Jr. - Abstain

Michael Condon - Aye

Stephen Plunk - Aye

Betty Jones - Aye

Armand Turner - Aye

Brad Baugh - Aye

Benjamin Griffith - Aye

7. 0 West St | Variances to rear and front yard setbacks | 25-002285-ZBA

- Application 0 West St.pdf
- Survey 0 West St.pdf
- Staff Report 0 West St.pdf
- Plans 0 West St.pdf

Motion

Approval of the requested two variances in association with the construction of a primary dwelling on a vacant

nonconforming lot in the RSF-5 zoning district:

To reduce the front yard setback from 20 feet to 5 feet;

To reduce the rear yard setback from 20 feet to 9 feet.

Vote Results (Approved)

Motion: Brad Baugh Second: Stephen Plunk

Stephen Merriman, Jr. - Abstain

Michael Condon - Aye

Stephen Plunk - Aye

Betty Jones - Aye

Armand Turner - Aye

Brad Baugh - Aye

Benjamin Griffith - Aye

8. 1605 & 1607 Le Grand St | Variances to lot width, lot area, lot area to establish an ADU, building footprint for ADU, and relief from eaves/roof overhang | 25-001041-ZBA

- @REVISION_1605, 1607 LeGrand St_25-001041-ZBA_Application.pdf
- Staff Report 1605, 1607 Le Grand St.pdf

Motion

Approval of the following variances in association with building two primary dwellings and two ADUs and the recombination of two nonconforming lots in the TR-2 zoning district:

To reduce the minimum lot area requirement from 3,000 to 1,966 square feet;

To reduce the minimum lot width requirement from 30 feet to 21.84 feet;

To reduce the minimum lot area required to establish an ADU from 3,750 square feet to 1,966 square feet; Relief from eaves or roof overhangs;

Although not initially requested, to exceed the maximum lot coverage of 50% by 2%.

And denial of the following variance:

6. To exceed the 40% building footprint maximum of an ADU in relation to the principal dwelling by 2%.

With the following conditions:

The eaves or roof overhangs shall not be less than 1 foot and 6 inches from the property line; Install gutters to prevent runoff and the petition number associated with the variance request shall be recorded

on	the	plat.	
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Vote Results (Approved)

Motion: Michael Condon Second: Stephen Plunk

Stephen Merriman, Jr. - Abstain

Michael Condon - Aye

Stephen Plunk - Aye

Betty Jones - Aye

Armand Turner - Aye

Brad Baugh - Aye

Benjamin Griffith - Aye

9. 809 E 36th St | Variances to lot area and width | 25-002012-ZBA

- Application 809 E 36th St.pdf
- Staff Report 809 E 36th St.pdf

Motion

MPC Staff recommends approval of the requested two variances in association with a nonconforming recombination/subdivision in the TR-1 zoning district:

To reduce the minimum lot area requirement from 3,000 square feet to 2,549 square feet; To reduce the minimum lot width requirement from 40 feet to 34 feet.

With the following condition:

The plat shall be revised to indicate that the proposed dwellings are single-family and not townhouses. The petition number associated with the variance request shall be recorded on the plat.

Vote Results (Approved)

Motion: Betty Jones

Second: Armand Turner

Stephen Merriman, Jr. - Abstain

Michael Condon - Aye
Stephen Plunk - Aye
Betty Jones - Aye
Armand Turner - Aye
Brad Baugh - Aye

Benjamin Griffith - Aye

10. 735 E 40th St | Variance for rear yard setback of ADU | 25-002245-ZBA

- Application 735 E 40th St.pdf

Motion

Approval of the requested variance to reduce the rear yard setback of an ADU that exceeds 15 feet in height in the TR-1 zoning district from 15 feet to 5 feet.

With the following condition: Remove the south-facing windows from the ADU.

Vote Results (Approved)

Motion: Brad Baugh Second: Armand Turner

Stephen Merriman, Jr. - Abstain

Michael Condon - Aye

Stephen Plunk - Aye

Betty Jones - Aye

Armand Turner - Aye

Brad Baugh - Aye

Benjamin Griffith - Aye

11. 220 E 57th St | Extension of time for previously approved variance | 25-002246-ZBA

- Application 220 E 57th St.pdf

Motion

Approval of the requested time extension, not to exceed a period of one year, of the previously approved variance request for the following variances:

Relief to expand an existing nonconforming accessory structure;

Relief from the rear yard setback for an ADU adjoining a lane;

Increase the allowable area for an ADU to exceed 40% of principal dwelling footprint;

Allowance for an expansion to exceed the height of the primary dwelling by 3 feet and 8 inches.

Vote Results (Approved)

Motion: Brad Baugh Second: Armand Turner

Stephen Merriman, Jr. - Abstain
Michael Condon - Aye

Stephen Plunk	- Aye
Betty Jones	- Aye
Armand Turner	- Aye
Brad Baugh	- Aye
Benjamin Griffith	- Aye

12. 15 W 39th St | Variances to rear yard setback, minimum building frontage, and separation between principal dwelling and ADU | 25-002290-ZBA

- Application 15 W 39th St.pdf
- Revised Plan 15 W 39th St.pdf
- Staff Report 15 W 39th St.pdf

Motion

Item continued to the June agenda to allow the petitioner time to go before the Historic Preservation Commission.

Vote Results (Approved)

Motion: Michael Condon Second: Benjamin Griffith

Stephen Merriman, Jr. - Abstain

Michael Condon - Aye

Stephen Plunk - Aye

Betty Jones - Aye

Armand Turner - Aye

Brad Baugh - Aye

Benjamin Griffith - Aye

XII. Other Business

XIII. Adjournment

The Chatham County - Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission provides meeting minutes which are adopted by the respective Board. Verbatim transcripts of minutes are the responsibility of the interested party.