

**WETHERSFIELD ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**  
**PUBLIC HEARING**  
**August 27, 2007**

The Wethersfield Zoning Board of Appeals held a public hearing on August 27, 2007 at 7:00 PM in the Police Department Community Room, 250 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield, Connecticut.

**PRESENT:** Thomas J. Vaughan, Jr., Vice Chairman  
Bruce T. Bockstael, Clerk  
Gina P. DeAngelo  
George McKee  
Shelia Hennessey, Alternate

**ABSENT:** Morris R. Borea, Chairman  
Mike Wrona, Alternate  
Frank Dellaripa, Alternate

**Also Present:** Brian O'Connor, Chief Building Official

Vice Chairman Vaughan, Jr. opened the meeting at 7:00PM. Before the meeting started, the public was welcomed to speak regarding anything except specific cases in the past or on the night's agenda. There was no one present who wished to speak.

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**APPLICATION NO. 5987-07 Christopher Skowronek** seeking a variance to erect/display a temporary sign on Sunday mornings between the hours of 10:00 AM & 11:30 AM at 51 Willow Street, A-1 Residence Zone, (§6.3.G).

Christopher Skowronek, 52 Churchill Road, Wethersfield, CT and Scott Schwartz, 415 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield, CT appeared before the Board seeking a variance to erect a temporary sign.

Mr. Schwartz stated that he is assisting Center Point Community Church and Pastor Skowronek on this application. He stated that Pastor Skowronek holds Services and Sunday School from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM on Sunday mornings, adding that the property is located in the Webb Elementary School on Willow Street. He stated that they are requesting to put up a temporary sign on Sunday mornings to let the parishioners know where they are located.

He stated that because the school is set back they would like to erect the sign between the sidewalk and the school. He submitted pictures of the proposed sign and its location and how it appears from the street. He stated that this is a basic sign which has been professionally prepared; adding that it is of minimum size, but also has to be big enough to be seen from the street. He stated that the sign states the time and location of Services.

Vice Chairman Vaughan, Jr. questioned if this is a double sided sign and questioned what

brought them before the Board if the sign was already erected. Pastor Skowronek stated that the sign is a double sided sign. He stated that he believes there was a complaint placed against the sign.

Commissioner Bockstael questioned what duration of time they are asking for to erect this sign. Mr. Schwartz stated that the Church has entered into a lease with the Board of Education; this lease runs from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008. He stated that it was quite a process to enter into this lease, adding that it had to go before the Board of Education and the Town Council. Therefore they are requesting this application be approved for the duration of the lease.

Vice Chairman Vaughan, Jr. stated that the application states that the sign will be erected from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM; but is questioning if it would be a little earlier and a little later since these are the times of the Services. Pastor Skowronek stated that this is correct; they would actually like to erect the signs from around 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM.

Commissioner McKee questioned if the location of the signs would be the same that is in the picture that was presented. Pastor Skowronek stated that it would be basically in this same location.

Commissioner Bockstael questioned if there is an issue with this sign and the location. Mr. O'Connor stated that there is not.

Vice Chairman Vaughan, Jr. stated for the record that had they come before the Board prior to making and erecting the sign he probably would have asked them to make the sign smaller.

Vice Chairman Vaughan, Jr. questioned if he has heard anything from any of the neighbors since now they have all been notified of this application. Pastor Skowronek stated that one neighbor did come out as he was erecting the Zoning Sign and questioned what the application was for; however, he did not say that he opposed the application.

There were no further questions or comments from the Board.

The following audience member wished to speak in favor of this application:

1. Irene Harrington, 21 Schoolhouse Crossing, Wethersfield, CT - stated that she is shocked that anyone would object to this sign; adding that there are many signs erected all around Town.

There was no one in the audience who wished to speak in opposition to this application.

WETHERSFIELD ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Vice Chairman Vaughan, Jr.

Commissioner Bockstael, Clerk

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**DECISIONS FROM PUBLIC HEARING**

**APPLICATION NO. 5987-07 Christopher Skowronek** seeking a variance to erect/display a temporary sign on Sunday mornings between the hours of 10:00 AM & 11:30 AM at 51 Willow Street, A-1 Residence Zone, (§6.3.G).

Upon motion made by Commissioner Bockstael, seconded by Commissioner McKee and a poll of the Board it was unanimously voted that the above application **BE APPROVED** with the following stipulations:

1. Sign may be erected from 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM on Sundays
2. Sign may be erected for the duration of the lease; July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008.
3. If lease is renewed; applicant must come back for renewal of this application.
4. Sign must be erected in the approximate location that sign has been shown in pictures submitted.

Commissioner DeAngelo requested that Mr. O'Connor clarify as to why this applicant had to get a variance for this sign. Mr. O'Connor explained the process of erecting temporary signs. Vice Chairman Vaughan, Jr. also stated that in approving such applications the Board takes into account if any neighbors object to the application.

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### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Upon motion made by Commissioner Hennessey and seconded by Commissioner Bockstael and a poll of the Board it was unanimously voted that [the minutes of July 23, 2007](#) **BE APPROVED**.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM.

WETHERSFIELD ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS  
VICE CHAIRMAN VAUGHAN, JR.

Commissioner Bockstael, Clerk