NOTICE OF HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to Section 148-10 of the Zoning Law of the Town of Skaneateles of 2020 and Section 267-b Town Law of the State of New York, the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of Skaneateles will hold a Public Hearing on the Application of James & Mary Fox.

The proposal is to construct a detached two-car garage with attic storage and a second story deck with staircase.

The involved Sections of the Skaneateles Town Code are Section 148-8-9-A.1.g.i.a Nonconforming Footprint; and Section 148-8-9-A.1.g.i.b Nonconforming Floorspace.

On nonconforming lots of less than 40,000 square feet on which any portion lies within 1000 feet of the lake line, the total footprint of all principal and accessory buildings shall not exceed 6.0% of the total lot area, whereas the proposed site plan reflects a building footprint greater than 6.0% of the total lot area.

On nonconforming lots of less than 40,000 square feet on which any portion lies within 1000 feet of the lake line, the total floorspace of all principal and accessory buildings shall not exceed 10.0% of the total lot area, whereas the proposed site plan reflects floorspace greater than 10.0% of the total lot area.

The property in question is located at **1430 Thornton Heights Road/1431 Thornton Heights Road** in the Town of Skaneateles, New York, and bears Tax Map ID #057.-01-26.0 & #057.-01-25.0.

A Copy of the application is available for inspection at the Town Hall, 24 Jordan Street, Skaneateles, New York.

Said Hearing will be held on *Tuesday, December 3, 2024, at 7:10 pm* at the Town Hall, 24 Jordan Street, or electronically as required by local and/or Executive Orders applicable to COVID-19. At that time, or for a period of time thereafter, all persons will be heard or have an opportunity to provide written comment on this application.

Denise Rhoads, Chair Zoning Board of Appeals Town of Skaneateles

Dated: November 14, 2024

EGGLESTON & KRENZER ARCHITECTS, PC

The Trolley Bldg 1391 East Genesee Street Skaneateles, New York 13152

October 31, 2024

Revised November 20, 2024

Town of Skaneateles Planning Board and ZBA 24 Jordan Street Skaneateles, NY 13152

RE: Jim and Mary Fox – Site Plan Review and Area Variance 1431 Thornton Heights Road
Tax ID # 057.-01-25.0 & 26.0

NARRATIVE

The Fox property has 22,166 SF of lot area, 87.7 Ft of shoreline on two lots split by Thornton Heights Rd, a private road. The private road and shared lake access extend along the entire south side of both lots. In 2012, the lake lot was improved with a three-bedroom, year-round home that has 2,120 SF (9.6% of lot area) floor space and 1,316 SF (5.9%) building footprint. The existing septic system has since been upgraded to be on the west end of the inner lot, over 280 ft from the lake. An 80 SF shed sets on the inner lot along with a parking area. The ISC is 8.9% and TSC is 14.5 %.

This application is to construct a two-car garage with attic storage above. The 80 SF shed and parking are will be removed from the inner lot. The garage will be set into the sloped grade with direct access from the back for storage and exterior side stairs from the front. The garage conforms to the required 25 ft front yards to the south and east. The steps are allowed to encroach 8 ft into the south front yard. The total living space will increase to 2,657 SF (12.0%) and the total building footprint will increase to 1,904 SF (8.6%). This will require an area variance. The ISC will increase to 9.9% and TSC will increase to 16.0%

A bio swales is being added on the north side of the garage to collect and clean storm water from the new garage consistent with Small-Scale Stormwater Management Guidelines. Silt fences will use used during construction to minimize potential erosion. Site Plan Review is required.

CONSTRUCTION SEQUENCE

- 1) Mark septic area to prevent construction traffic and staging.
- 2) Install silt fence/sediment socks, maintain during construction.
- 3) Remove storage shed.
- 4) Excavate for garage and driveway, install garage foundation and driveway base.
- 5) After attic deck and retaining wall are installed, back fill around garage and install the bio swales. Spread topsoil, seed disturbed areas, mulch. Water during dry periods.
- 6) Frame garage roof and after facias and eaves are complete, install roof gutters and direct downspouts to the bio-swale.
- 7) Install walkway, driveway strips, siding and trim. Finish grading around disturbed areas, spread top soil, seed and mulch. Water during dry periods,
- 8) After lawn is established, remove silt fence, patch disturbed areas.

(315) 685-8144

AREA VARIANCE CRITERIA

The following criteria should be considered in granting an area variance:

1) Whether an undesirable change will be produced in the character of the neighborhood or a detriment to nearby properties will be created by the granting of the area variance.

Granting the requested variances will not change the character of the neighborhood or be a detriment to nearby properties. Thornton Heights is a mix of seasonal and year round dwellings. Most if not all the year round dwellings have garages. The proposed garage will match the exterior finishes of the house.

2) Whether the benefit sought by the applicant can be achieved by some method, feasible for the applicant to pursue, other than an area variance.

The benefit sought by the applicant can not be achieved by any method other than an area variance. The current building footprint and floor space would only allow an additional 14 SF and 97 SF respectfully for adding to the 80 SF shed area. A garage is a reasonable structure for a year round dwelling in Central New York. The garage has been built into the hillside to minimize the visual impact on the lot.

3) Whether the requested area variance is substantial.

The requested variances are not substantial. In that the lot is less than 40,000 SF, the building footprint is limited to 6% of the lot area. The garage will increase the building footprint by 2.6%, and Floor space by 2.0%. The garage will have conforming front, side and rear yard setbacks and be over 230 ft from the lake.

4) Whether the proposed variance will have an adverse effect or impact on the physical or environmental conditions in the neighborhood or district.

Granting the requested variances will not have an adverse effect on the physical or environmental conditions of the neighborhood. The ISC is conforming at 9.9% and the TSC is only 15.9% A new septic system was upgraded to be 280 from the lake. A bio swales will collect and filter storm water that runs off the new roofs,

5) Whether the alleged difficulty was self-created, which shall be relevant to the decision of the Board but which shall not necessarily preclude the granting of the area variance.

This lot became non-conforming with changes in the zoning law over the years since it was created. The zoning law now requires any lot less than 40,000 SF to have no more than 6% building footprint and 10% floor space. While requesting the variance may be self-created, the requested variance has been kept to a minimum and allow the applicant to have a garage for their year-round home. The garage has been built into the sloped lot to minimize its mass and appearance. The exterior will match the house and improve the neighborhood by eliminating parking and storage outside.





