

**Minutes  
Williamson County  
Board of Zoning Appeals  
6:00 P.M. May 25, 2023**

**Members Present**

Chairman Don Crohan  
Vice-Chairman Andrew Ring  
Secretary Karen Emerson-McPeak  
Matthew Roberts  
David Parker

**Staff Present**

John Bledsoe, Codes Compliance Director  
Brenda Beard  
Jeff McCoy  
Kristi Ransom, County Attorney

The Williamson County Board of Zoning Appeals met in regular session on May 25, 2023 in the Auditorium of the Williamson County Administrative Complex. Chairman Don Crohan began the meeting by reading a public statement stating that the Board of Zoning Appeals is made up of five citizens nominated as Board members by the County Mayor and confirmed by the County Commission. One member is a Planning Commissioner, one member may be a County Commissioner and the remaining members are not otherwise connected with County Government. He went on to say the Board will hear from anyone who has anything to say to the Board relevant to the request at hand. However, the Board will not view or hear anything that does not have a direct bearing on the item or issue being heard. He requested that all comments be addressed to the Board.

Chairman Crohan asked the members to consider the minutes from the April 27, 2023 meeting. Vice-Chairman Andrew Ring made the motion to approve the minutes of the April 27, 2023 meeting as presented and Secretary Karen Emerson-McPeak seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

**ITEM 1**

A request by Kelley Johnson and Scott Maulsby (James R. Cheshire, III. Trustee) for a Special Use Permit for a Temporary Special Event – Extensive Impact (Barefoot Republic Camp, held June 5 through June 9 and June 12 through June 16) at 1761 Lawrence Road (Map 025 Parcel 013.00). The property is zoned Rural Preservation 5 (RP-5) and is located in the 9<sup>th</sup> voting district.

Mr. Bledsoe announced the resignation of Sue Workman and introduced David Parker as the new Board member. Mr. Parker has been appointed to serve for the remainder of Mrs. Workman's term

Jeff McCoy read the staff report.

Kelly Johnson, Farm Director for Barefoot Republic Camp represented the item. Ms. Johnson stated that they are adding a small recreational vehicle with air conditioning and misting stations on the premises to give the children a place to cool off. These are being added due to the extreme heat experienced at the camp last year.

Chairman Crohan then opened the public hearing. Seeing no one in the audience to speak on the item Crohan closed the public hearing.

Secretary Karen Emerson-McPeak asked the applicant if they had a rain, thunder, and lightning contingency plan.

Ms. Johnson stated yes. She said the pavilion is the size of a high school basketball court and the inside is protected by the covering. There will be approximately 75 older kids between third and sixth grades that will be placed under the pavilion and the younger kids will go into the barn which is fully enclosed. The plan is instituted when lightning occurs or as soon as they know a storm is coming.

Chairman Crohan asked the applicant if there were any medical issues during last year’s event.

Ms. Johnson stated there were a few kids that overheated and were placed in the medical station in order to cool down. Otherwise, they didn’t have any abnormal problems.

Chairman Crohan asked the applicant if she was requesting that the hours be extended until 10:00 p.m. on Friday night.

Ms. Johnson stated it will end at 7:00 or 7:30 p.m. on Friday night.

Mr. Bledsoe stated that the extended hours will be to allow for the 8:00 a.m. start times.

Chairman Crohan stated he was concerned about traffic on the narrow road when it is getting dark in the evening.

Ms. Johnson stated they will be completely out before it gets dark, but they also have lighting on the premises now. The lighting is at the pavilion and along the driveway heading out, but they won’t need it because everyone will be off the premises by 7:30 p.m.

Vice-Chairman Ring asked the applicant if the expected attendance would be the same number of attendees as last year.

Ms. Johnson stated they will have about 10 to 15 more children attending this year but they will actually have fewer people due to fewer volunteers. Johnson further stated they maximize attendance at for 700, but they don’t expect to get close to 700 children in attendance.

Vice-Chairman Ring made a motion to approve the request for a Special Use Permit for a temporary Special Event – Extensive Impact stating it meets the requirements of Sections 11.05 (D) (7) with the special opening time of 8:00 a.m. and 5.01 of the Zoning Ordinance, along with Section 16.02. Karen Emerson-McPeak seconded the motion. Motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

With no other business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

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Secretary’s Signature

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Date