

9/21/17 meeting - ZBA Application - 37 Ballfield Road

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Posted in group: **Zoning**

Dear Members of the Zoning Board of Appeals,

I am writing in regards to the appeal being made by Thomas Covington Johnson (Covey), concerning the sheds and other buildings being used on his farm to house and store supplies for his domestic farm animals.

Covey's farm has been operational for 30 years, and has added a unique dimension to our island life. Islanders enjoy the opportunity to go out to Covey's farm to see the horses and immerse ourselves in a rural setting without going into town on a boat and driving 15 miles inland.

Most of the buildings on Covey's property have been there for so long that they were considered "grandfathered in" when new zoning code was enforced on Peaks Island. At this point, I am not sure what the zoning board means to achieve by forcing Covey to remove eleven buildings from his property. It seems to be an unnecessarily strict show of force that places an undue burden on the farm. Covey's farm is in a remote interior section of the island and these eleven buildings that have been called into question do not negatively impact any neighbors. In fact, they make it possible for our island to enjoy the benefits of a local horse farm.

I ask you to terminate the notice of violation.

Thank you,
Susan Hanley

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Susan Hanley
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