1	TNCORE	PORATED VILLAGE OF LAWRENCE	
2	BOARD OF APPEALS		
3		BOARD OF AFFEALS	
4		Village Hall	
5		196 Central Avenue Lawrence, New York	
6		November 18, 2010	
7		7:30 p.m.	
8	APPLICATION:	Amar	
9		357 Central Avenue Lawrence, New York	
10			
11	PRESENT:		
12		MR. LLOYD KEILSON Chairman	
13		MR. ELLIOT FEIT Member	
14			
15		MS. ESTHER WILLIAMS Member	
16		MR. MARK SCHRECK Member	
·17		MR. EDWARD GOTTLIEB	
18		Member	
19		MR. RONALD GOLDMAN, ESQ. Village Attorney	
20		MR. MICHAEL RYDER	
21		Building Department	
22			
23			
24			
25		Mary Benci, RPR	
		Court Reporter	

CHAIRMAN KEILSON: We convene the Lawrence
Board of Zoning Appeals. We welcome, lady and
gentlemen. We also welcome Mr. Schreck, who is an
alternate who is sitting this evening because
Mr. Rosen was unavailable. So we always look
forward to having Mr. Schreck's erudite opinions.

MEMBER SCHRECK: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KEILSON: Proof of posting, Mr. Ryder.

MR. RYDER: Yes, Mr. Chairman, we have proof of posting around the Village.

CHAIRMAN KEILSON: We're going to dispense with Mr. Goldman's normal preamble because we only have the one matter.

Actually, first we have an adjournment to consider, the matter of Amar. They've asked for a further adjournment until the next scheduled meeting of the Board of Zoning Appeals which we haven't set as yet, but we'll apprise them of it.

Everybody for?

MEMBER FEIT: I would give them an extension, if he wants, up until the March or April meeting because I don't think the problem is going to be an issue. I have no problem with the adjournment, but if he wants a longer time, I have no problem

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with that.

CHAIRMAN KEILSON: I think we'll ask Mr. Ryder to reach out to them to ask them to reschedule for a more appropriate time of the year when they're prepared.

MR. RYDER: I can do that.

CHAIRMAN KEILSON: Miss Williams, your vote.

MEMBER WILLIAMS: For.

CHAIRMAN KEILSON: Mr. Schreck.

MEMBER SCHRECK: For.

CHAIRMAN KEILSON: So it is adjourned.

(Whereupon, the hearing concluded at

7:31 p.m.)

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Certified that the foregoing is a true and accurate transcript of the original stenographic minutes in this case.

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MARY BENCI, RPR

Court Reporter

1	INCORI	PORATED VILLAGE OF LAWRENCE
2		BOARD OF APPEALS
, 3		77-11 o co 17011
4		Village Hall 196 Central Avenue Lawrence, New York
5		·
6		November 18, 2010 7:31 p.m.
7		M 7 - 1
8	APPLICATION:	7 Sunset Road
9		Lawrence, New York
10	PRESENT:	-
11		MR. LLOYD KEILSON Chairman
12		MD DILION BEIN
13	. •	MR. ELLIOT FEIT Member
14		MS. ESTHER WILLIAMS Member
15	. *	MD T MIDI GOUDEON
16		MR. J. MARK SCHRECK Member
17		MR. EDWARD GOTTLIEB Member
18		
19		MR. RONALD GOLDMAN, ESQ. Village Attorney
20		MR. MICHAEL RYDER Building Department
21		Bulluing Department
22		
23		
24		Mary Benci, RPR
25		Court Reporter

CHAIRMAN KEILSON: Now, we have the matter of Malek, 7 Sunset Road. Will they or their representative step forward.

Mr. Capobianco, please introduce yourself.

MR. CAPOBIANCO: John Capobianco, architect, 159 Doughty Boulevard, Inwood, here this evening on behalf of the Maleks.

I have a letter I'd like to put into evidence of the neighbor immediately to the north, 5 Sunset Road, who has no objection to her sliding the pool towards their property line.

CHAIRMAN KEILSON: Is that the family Braunstein?

MR. MALEK: Yes.

MR. GOLDMAN: That's marked Applicant's number one.

MR. CAPOBIANCO: One of the things that might have been unclear with regard to the presentation that you have before you is the reasons why we're moving the pool.

CHAIRMAN KEILSON: It was commented upon that the papers are very thin in terms of what really is happening. There's one allusion to the fact that the kitchen or something is being pushed out.

MR. CAPOBIANCO: Yes.

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CHAIRMAN KEILSON: And it would have been very helpful to the Board so they can prepare because you know how diligent they are. So we would appreciate in the future if there's more details in the file so that we can better prepare, but thank you.

MR. CAPOBIANCO: Okay. And I know that there were missing photos of the rear of the house showing pictures of the rear property line or the side. Because it's a corner lot their rear is really their side, and their right side is really the rear. And that's why we needed a variance for rear yard on the 30 feet for the garage portion which is over here, all right.

CHAIRMAN KEILSON: Is that an anatomical description or a property description?

MR. CAPOBIANCO: That's a property description.

CHAIRMAN KEILSON: Okay.

MR. CAPOBIANCO: And you can see the orange area which is the extension that we were planning to make onto the kitchen was the whole reason for sliding the pool down. So the pool shifted from this location of about 15 feet, it was located 15 feet south of where it is now. We slid it down

holding the same side-yard dimension of seven feet 1 to their rear neighbor who's had the pool for 2 quite some time, you know, next to them, and they 3 They verbally mentioned they have no objection. 4 5 have no objection to us sliding the pool down and to the north closer to 5 Sunset, but 5 Sunset 6 actually gave the letter that they have no problem 7 8 with them moving closer to the property line seven feet as well. Which would be, you know, bordered 9 by arborvitaes. We hope to create a nice 10 evergreen screening of six-foot high arborvitaes 11 which would run -- or red cedar, whichever live 12 more or better in the shade, or not shade, but 13 give a screen effect on both the west and the 14 north property line. 15

MEMBER WILLIAMS: The west is the house on Boxwood, right?

MR. CAPOBIANCO: The west is the house, right.

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MEMBER WILLIAMS: And those people are the same property owners, no matter where the pool is?

CHAIRMAN KEILSON: Yes.

MR. CAPOBIANCO: The one behind it, that's correct.

CHAIRMAN KEILSON: It's the same one

property.

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MR. CAPOBIANCO: That's correct.

MEMBER FEIT: On the one on the side, I guess that's Braunstein, what is the distance from the property line to the house, to the other house, the Braunstein house?

MR. CAPOBIANCO: From --

MEMBER FEIT: From where your hand is going, right.

MR. CAPOBIANCO: To Braunstein's house?

MEMBER FEIT: Yeah.

MR. CAPOBIANCO: I think it's a 15-foot side yard. I'm not sure a hundred percent, but I didn't check it. But it's a standard side-yard width. I believe it's ten, fifteen; I'm not really certain.

MEMBER SCHRECK: Is the pool going to be the same size as the existing pool?

MR. CAPOBIANCO: The pool, yes, the same size, sixteen --

MEMBER GOTTLIEB: What size?

MR. CAPOBIANCO: It's actually 16 by 38.

And the garage extension which you see is lining up with the existing garage. So we're not going beyond the perimeter of the existing house,

or past the wall of the north wall of the house or 1 the garage, but it requires a two-foot 2 encroachment into the rear yard. You see the 3 right side of the house is really the rear yard. 4 MEMBER WILLIAMS: Right, I know that, yeah. 5 So now we're pulling out the garage? 6 7 MR. CAPOBIANCO: We're pulling the garage forward ten feet and we're lining it up with the 8 existing house. 9 MEMBER WILLIAMS: What's happening in the 10 back? 11 MR. CAPOBIANCO: Behind the garage we're 12 creating a laundry room and a bathroom. 13 MEMBER WILLIAMS: Okay. This wasn't on the 14 15 plan. MR. CAPOBIANCO: No. You know, what happened 16 was when we put the plan in we didn't. We should 17 have put the plan, I apologize. 18 MEMBER WILLIAMS: Now we see it. 19 MR. CAPOBIANCO: Yeah, we had it. We should 2.0 have put it in. 21 MEMBER FEIT: Are the dimensions of the new 22 garage, the proposed garage, the same dimensions 23 as the existing garage? 24

MR. CAPOBIANCO: That's correct.

MEMBER FEIT: Identical dimensions?

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MR. CAPOBIANCO: Exactly.

3 4 MEMBER GOTTLIEB: John, if I understand this right, you need two variances for the garage? Or

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is to maintain a one-and-a-half-car garage, the

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other a variance is because it slightly encroaches

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in the rear yard?

MR. CAPOBIANCO:

That's correct.

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MEMBER GOTTLIEB: That's that portion of it.

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MR. CAPOBIANCO: That's correct. And the

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other variance is the pool side yard has to be

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fifteen, or ten was it?

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MEMBER GOTTLIEB: But you're planting

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arborvitaes. What is the base width of an

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arborvitae when it's fully grown?

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MR. CAPOBIANCO: It's not wide. They're about two and a half, three-foot wide. You know,

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it depends on the kind. You know, if it's an

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emerald green arborvitae they grow very narrow.

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You need them like every time you take a step,

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every three feet, you have to plant them to create

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a screen. And you know, they don't do well unless

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they have sunlight. That's the only problem with

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arborvitae.

MEMBER GOTTLIEB: I think you once referred

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to them as everbrowns.

MR. CAPOBIANCO: Yeah, you wind up with everbrowns.

MEMBER GOTTLIEB: The reason why I asked the base of the arborvitae or the base of whatever shrub we're going to be using is I'm trying to figure out the seven feet, less the tree, is there going to be a walkway around the pool?

MR. CAPOBIANCO: Yeah, there will be a three-and-a-half-foot walkway and a three-and-a-half-foot planting strip, that's correct, and you'll have room to plant in three and a half feet arborvitae.

MS. MALEK: That's what I have now.

MEMBER FEIT: I noticed something on our favorite block and it looks like over there the front yard it doesn't meet code, and I think the rear yard doesn't meet code, and they're existing.

They're existing. MR. CAPOBIANCO:

MEMBER FEIT: Did you file for a variance for those two items, at least I'd like to say kosher them up, because they're technically out of code?

MR. CAPOBIANCO: Well, it's a legal nonconforming house. The code changed after the house was built.

MEMBER FEIT: Yeah, but in other words, all

I'm asking is there any particular reason why you

just didn't ask for that variance in this

application?

CHAIRMAN KEILSON: It doesn't require it.

MR. CAPOBIANCO: It doesn't require it. The only variance we required was a two-foot encroachment. You see what happened was they originally had a 25-foot rear yard and went to 30, and the existing rear yard is 28. Because of the corner lot their side yard, right side yard is their rear yard. So what happened was the 30 is what the existing house became a nonconforming dwelling but it was built prior to the code changing so it's a legal nonconforming dwelling.

MEMBER FEIT: Yeah, no, all I know, usually when we see these plans and when they have one of these legal nonconforming, as long as they're requesting variances they throw in, you know, or request to supposedly bring it within code. It's not that important. I was just curious why it just wasn't done here.

MR. CAPOBIANCO: It wasn't part of the objection letter that we got from the Village, otherwise, we would have made it part of the

application.

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MEMBER SCHRECK: This HVAC equipment or pool equipment, that's going to be moved?

MR. CAPOBIANCO: The pool equipment is going to be fenced in and enclosed with shrubs and a vinyl fence.

MEMBER SCHRECK: But I'm looking at a picture that says side yard looking west and maybe that's from the air conditioning or the heating. Does that have to be moved?

MR. CAPOBIANCO: Let me see. Can I see the picture. That's existing, right?

MR. MALEK: Yes.

MEMBER SCHRECK: When you're extending the kitchen does that have to be moved?

MR. MALEK: It's not anywhere near the kitchen.

MR. CAPOBIANCO: No, it's not near the kitchen. It's on the other side.

MEMBER GOTTLIEB: John, I have to -- I don't have an issue with moving the garage and I understand that the 137 feet increase in surface coverage is for the rear kitchen because the surface coverage doesn't change with the garage moving, right?

MR. CAPOBIANCO: That's correct.

MEMBER GOTTLIEB: Okay. The issues that I really have to tell you that I'm not comfortable with are the seven-foot side and rear yards for the pool. Ten and twenty would obviously make it impossible to have any sort of a pool there, I think. But I sort of like to let you know in advance that if we can bifurcate this and you want to have the garage under one and vote on that separately and vote on the --

MR. CAPOBIANCO: Well, I don't see why the pool is an issue because it's existing, it's already there and it has a seven-foot side yard.

MEMBER GOTTLIEB: Because it's existing I can't do anything about it. It's already there.

MR. CAPOBIANCO: I see, right.

MEMBER GOTTLIEB: And you're only encroaching on one side.

MR. CAPOBIANCO: We're encroaching on both, actually, but it requires ten and we are going to provide seven.

MEMBER GOTTLIEB: In the existing it's only encroaching on one, on the side yard.

MR. CAPOBIANCO: On one side, right.

MEMBER GOTTLIEB: Now you're encroaching on

the rear yard and the side.

MR. CAPOBIANCO: And the side yard, that's correct.

MEMBER GOTTLIEB: I'm very uncomfortable from a practical point of view as to how the pool is going to function as well as safety as well as community. I don't think I've ever approved a seven-foot.

MR. CAPOBIANCO: The pool functions very well. It functions, you know, with a --

MEMBER GOTTLIEB: Well, there's function and there's function. It's very tight. I don't think from a safety point of view it's --

MR. CAPOBIANCO: We have it enclosed with a fence and a retractable gate. I mean, it follows all the other guidelines that you have to have, all the safety issues that you have to have with regards to a pool. It's been in existence for quite a long time and it's something they really need.

CHAIRMAN KEILSON: I think the only issue really is the Braunstein side because the other side has been existing for, whatever, decades.

MR. CAPOBIANCO: Yeah, I mean what happened was there was -- the pool ended approximately 20

feet from the rear, which is what it's supposed to have, a 20-foot setback.

MEMBER GOTTLIEB: Well, according to the subsequent codes, since it was built.

MR. CAPOBIANCO: Well, no even the new code requires 20 feet.

MEMBER GOTTLIEB: That's what I meant by subsequent code. After it was built, then the codes became what they are now.

MR. CAPOBIANCO: That's correct. All right.

CHAIRMAN KEILSON: I think if you could pull it back, either move it over a little bit or drop it a couple of feet.

MR. CAPOBIANCO: You know what, we could bring it back three feet and make it a 10-foot dimension which would give us a little more room, a little more comfort, and the pool would be shortened a little, and we'd slide it back towards the yard a little, because there is a little room here, but I think we could shorten the pool and increase this to ten feet, that we can do.

MEMBER FEIT: What is the distance between the pool, or will be, and the house?

MR. CAPOBIANCO: Right now it's four feet from the pool to the house.

MEMBER WILLIAMS: That's not going to change? 1 MR. CAPOBIANCO: That's where it is. 2 MEMBER WILLIAMS: In other words, the two 3 sides of the pool are not changing in terms of the 4 distance? 5 MR. CAPOBIANCO: The two sides of the pool 6 7 will not change, right. MEMBER FEIT: And on the last side there's a 8 9 -- well, you're running the patio all the way. That's very long. 10 MR. CAPOBIANCO: This will be a patio 11 wrapping around the pool and the fence goes around 12 the pool. 13 14 MEMBER FEIT: So basically right as proposed 15 it's seven, seven and four. MR. CAPOBIANCO: Right. 16 MEMBER FEIT: If you shift it over three feet 17 that already becomes ten. 18 MR. CAPOBIANCO: That would be ten. 19 MEMBER FEIT: Yes. 20 MEMBER WILLIAMS: And the fence will be 21

around the actual pool or only around the larger area?

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MR. CAPOBIANCO: No, it would be actually around the pool and part of the walkway.

MEMBER WILLIAMS: And no fence around the

pool?

MR. CAPOBIANCO: Right. This would have no

fence. This would have the gate, it would be a

retractable gate, and a retractable gate. So it's

like enclosed.

MEMBER WILLIAMS: So the pool itself would have what kind of -- pools scare me. Will it have a cover?

MR. CAPOBIANCO: It will have a cover, a remote, what we call an elephant cover. Actually, you could run on it if you had to, or if you fell in you could get up and walk on it. They show elephants in the advertisement.

MEMBER GOTTLIEB: So now you bring up another issue. The pool is only four feet from the house?

MR. CAPOBIANCO: The pool is four feet from the house from where it is now as it exists.

MEMBER GOTTLIEB: Mr. Ryder, is that currently to code?

MR. RYDER: Yeah.

MEMBER GOTTLIEB: You're allowed to have a pool four feet off the house?

MR. RYDER: As long as you have safe passage for emergency personnel. The four-foot

requirement that he's showing should be 1 sufficient. 2 MEMBER GOTTLIEB: That meets code, because I know John would not bring it up if it doesn't. 4 CHAIRMAN KEILSON: No doubt. 5 6 Any other questions from the Board? Any opposition from the audience? 7 MR. GOLDMAN: Mr. Capobianco, you have an 8 inquiry from the Board. 9 MEMBER WILLIAMS: That area --10 MEMBER SCHRECK: That four-foot area between 11 the house and --12 MEMBER WILLIAMS: That area there, where is 13 the door to the pool to that area? Is there a 14 15 sliding door or something there? MR. CAPOBIANCO: No, no. The door is here on 16 the other side of the fence (indicating). 17 MEMBER WILLIAMS: They technically cannot get 18 into the pool area? 19 MR. CAPOBIANCO: They can't get into the pool 20 area. Otherwise, you would have to have a 21 retractable self-closing door from the house and 22 an alarm would go off when you left the house. 23

MEMBER GOTTLIEB: Thank you, Esther. I didn't realize that.

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MR. CAPOBIANCO: Yes, that's true, Esther. 1 That's why we kept the fence on this side. 2 MR. RYDER: Great question. 3 MEMBER GOTTLIEB: I'm sorry, I have to ask 4 5 you. Where the pool is proposed is there a patio there now? 6 7 MR. CAPOBIANCO: Yes. MEMBER WILLIAMS: Look at the picture. 8 MR. CAPOBIANCO: Yeah, it's on the --9 MEMBER GOTTLIEB: The pictures that were 10 delivered just this evening? 11 MEMBER WILLIAMS: Can I ask you another 12 question. Where is the equipment now to the pool, 13 and where is it going to be moved to? 14 MR. CAPOBIANCO: The pool equipment now that 15 services the pool, the filter and the heater, is 16 back in actually the northwest corner of the 17 18 property. MEMBER WILLIAMS: 19 Now? MR. CAPOBIANCO: Now. 20 MEMBER WILLIAMS: Where is it going to go? 21 MR. CAPOBIANCO: Now I'm sliding it up on 22 this side. It will be in the rear yard. 23 MEMBER WILLIAMS: That's that little box 24

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there?

MR. CAPOBIANCO: It will be this little box 1 which is fenced in and has shrubbery around it. 2 That will be in the rear yard. 3 MEMBER WILLIAMS: In other words, how close 4 is it now -- beforehand, it was in Braunstein's 5 backyard -- parallel to Braunstein's backyard. 6 MR. CAPOBIANCO: It was right here in their 7 backyard. 8 MEMBER WILLIAMS: Now it's parallel? 9 MR. CAPOBIANCO: Now it's just slid right 10 11 down. MEMBER WILLIAMS: That's parallel to their 12 house. And they're okay with that? 13 MR. CAPOBIANCO: They're okay with it. 14 MEMBER WILLIAMS: And they know it? 15 MR. CAPOBIANCO: They know it. 16 MR. RYDER: John, there will be a barrier? 17 MR. CAPOBIANCO: A fence and a barrier, yes, 18 19 yes. CHAIRMAN KEILSON: Ready for a vote? 20 MR. GOLDMAN: The Board is deliberating. 21 Sorry. I need to hear MEMBER GOTTLIEB: 22 again what was changed. 23 CHAIRMAN KEILSON: What was changed from the 24

drawing is that the pool is being moved over to

the left three feet.

MEMBER GOTTLIEB: Okay. It's being shortened by three feet; is that correct?

CHAIRMAN KEILSON: Correct.

MEMBER GOTTLIEB: So the pool is going to be 16 by 35?

MR. CAPOBIANCO: No. What we're talking about doing was doing a little bit of both. We're going to slide the pool down south and shorten it a foot.

MEMBER GOTTLIEB: So the pool will be 16 by 37?

MR. CAPOBIANCO: That's correct.

MEMBER GOTTLIEB: And you're just pushing the pool closer to the patio?

MR. CAPOBIANCO: That's correct. And the pool is approximately -- it's exactly that size now, right.

MEMBER WILLIAMS: If you move the pool this way, are you still going to have enough room to walk with the gate with the fence?

MR. CAPOBIANCO: Yes. Because what's going to happen is that the pool will slide and then we'll do the pool on an angle and then take it around on an angle.

MEMBER WILLIAMS: What's the minimum amount of walking space? 2 MR. CAPOBIANCO: Four feet. I wanted to keep 3 it four feet. 4 MEMBER WILLIAMS: I'm just concerned with 5 6 safety issues. 7 MR. CAPOBIANCO: Right, between the gate and 8 the pool. MEMBER WILLIAMS: Okay. 9 CHAIRMAN KEILSON: Okay. So we're going to 10 vote. We're consulting and we're making a 11 decision. Mr. Schreck. 12 MEMBER SCHRECK: I vote for. 13 CHAIRMAN KEILSON: Miss Williams. 14 15 MEMBER WILLIAMS: For. CHAIRMAN KEILSON: Mr. Feit. 16 MEMBER FEIT: As amended, for. 17 CHAIRMAN KEILSON: Mr. Gottlieb. 18 19 MEMBER GOTTLIEB: Against. CHAIRMAN KEILSON: For. All right. 20 MR. CAPOBIANCO: Thank you. 21 CHAIRMAN KEILSON: How much time do you need? 22 MR. CAPOBIANCO: Eighteen months. 23 24 MR. RYDER: John, can I have revised plans showing the conditions that the Board put on with 25

the setbacks? 1 MR. CAPOBIANCO: Yes. 2 MR. RYDER: Revised plot plans. 3 MR. CAPOBIANCO: Showing the new location of 4 the pool, yes, I will. I get it. 5 6 MR. RYDER: And just note it as per the Board 7 of Zoning Appeals. MR. CAPOBIANCO: As per the Board of Zoning 8 Appeals, I will. 9 10 MR. GOLDMAN: And the Board of Building Design has to be consulted. And how much time do 11 12 you need to do this? CHAIRMAN KEILSON: He said eighteen months. 13 14 MR. CAPOBIANCO: Eighteen months. 15 MR. GOLDMAN: The Board is retiring to Executive Session. I have a legal matter with 16 which to discuss with them, as well as a pending 17 matter of litigation, and the Board has voted to 18 retire to Executive Session. We don't expect to 19 return on the record. 20 (Whereupon, the hearing concluded at 21 7:50 p.m.) 22 23

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Certified that the foregoing is a true and accurate transcript of the original stenographic minutes in this case.

Court Reporter

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