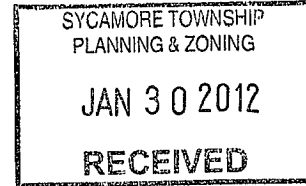


January 23, 2012



Sycamore Township Board of Zoning Appeals

8540 Kenwood Rd

Cincinnati, OH 45236

Zoning Board of Appeals,

This is our family's Letter of Intent of a Variance, in regard to our being in violation of Code 10-14.4 and 10-3.5. Our house is at 6565 Michael Dr on a corner lot which is .342 acre according to the Hamilton County auditor.

Our purpose and background for this request:

- A. We have owned this house for 4.5 years and have had our swing set on the property since the transfer of ownership from Jeff & Susan Schoeny
- B. Mr. & Mrs. Schoeny owned the house prior to us and were residents for approx 4 years with the exact same swing set in the exact same location for 3 years.
- C. Back in September 2011, we experienced an issue with a neighbor's contractor because they were blocking our driveway. They now are wishing to retaliate. Ms. Alison Craft(nee Ro) has lived in the house longer than we have been there and has seen a swing set in this location for well in excess of 5 years.
- D. Because the Schoeny's had the same swing set in the same location prior to our moving in, we did not think that we were in any type of violation. We have no intention of infringing on our neighbors rights; we have many children in our neighborhood who use and enjoy our swing set and we welcome them to use it with proper adult supervision.

The code states that we must have such a structure in our backyard, but if you look at our site plan, it is virtually impossible to put it in our backyard because of the pre-existing swimming pool. We are limited as to what is deemed "rear yard".

We live on an uncommonly shaped corner lot and so our "front yard" borders two streets as opposed to just one for the most homes. Our structure is set further away from Michael Drive than it is from Lisa Lane, the other street that we are on the corner of. Due to our corner lot and minimal "rear" yard area, I believe that this is an adequate hardship to warrant a variance.

In conclusion, this is may not truly be about our swing set bothering the complaint caller, but about retribution toward us specifically. We have always respected our neighbors. Taking down the swing set will not hurt us, as we understand zoning laws; but it will impact our 4 year old daughter and 10 yr old son. They love being outside and playing on the playset with friends in the neighborhood and they have been able to use it for the last 4 years. It appears this may be out of spite and our children will be the ones impacted. A swing set has been on this spot for close to 7 years without bothering anyone, including the offended party. We don't have anywhere else to put it due to our lot layout.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nicole (Morris) Schlaack &amp; Rich Schlaack".

Nicole(Morris)Schlaack & Rich Schlaack