

Chairman Strickland asked if there was anyone to speak in opposition to the request. No one spoke. Chairman Strickland asked if there was anyone who had contacted Mrs. Braswell's office. Mrs. Braswell stated that there had been several calls, some with inquiries and some in opposition. Chairman Strickland asked if anyone had submitted letters in opposition. Mrs. Braswell stated that no letters had been submitted.

There being no further questions, Chairman Strickland called for a motion. Mr. McCall made a motion to approve the request as presented, citing criteria "d." Mr. Alvarado seconded the motion. The motion was called and carried unanimously with a vote of 4 to 0.

**Agenda Item # 3: VAR-2018-04 --- Russell & Christina Baker (9364 Georgia Highway 135, Naylor)**

This case was not heard as it was withdrawn by the applicant.

**Agenda Item # 4: VAR-2018-05 — Swilley Hill Church of God (4333 Hickory Grove Road, Valdosta)**

Chairman Strickland announced the case. Mrs. Braswell stated that the applicant was asking for two variances--to the minimum side yard setbacks and to the required number of parking spaces as a result of a proposed addition to an existing church. The church is located at 4333 Hickory Grove Road in a R-A zoning district. The applicant is proposing an addition that will be ten feet from the east lot line instead of the required setback of 20 feet. Additionally, the applicant is required to improve 29 parking spaces; the applicant is proposing to improve 15 parking spaces, therefore requesting a variance of 14 parking spaces. The property contains plenty of open space for parking and other outdoor recreational activities. The applicant desires to protect and preserve the open areas as much as possible. Staff discussed both variances, and ultimately recommended approval for the requested ten foot variance and the request to improve 15 parking spaces rather than the full required 29 spaces. To note, though, Planning and Zoning did not support the variance to the number of parking spaces required to be improved. Considerations were given to the minimum amount of variance needed to accomplish the applicant's needs.

Mr. McCall stated that it looks like the addition is encroaching on the front yard setbacks. Mrs. Braswell stated that the applicant had applied for an administrative variance for the front yard setback variance. Mr. Brantley asked why there was a larger parcel surrounding the smaller parcel. Mrs. Braswell stated that was a tax map, and that sometimes tax maps and true parcel lines conflict.

There being no further discussion, Chairman Strickland asked if anyone would like to speak on behalf of the application. Jimmy Cone, architect, 1806 Plum Street, spoke on behalf of the application. He stated the Pastor and some of the congregants were in the audience, and the Pastor would like to speak. Mr. Cone stated he was available if there were any questions.

Chairman Strickland asked if anyone else would like to speak on behalf of the application. Reverend Andy Pearson, 3863 Dasher Road, Lake Park, spoke on behalf of the application. Reverend Pearson asked those affiliated with the church to stand. He stated the church was established in 1923, and wants to build a new sanctuary and update existing bathrooms. Reverend Pearson stated they want to asphalt some of the property for parking, but would like to keep a portion of the property as grass, for additional parking as well as for outdoor recreation activities.

There being no further discussion, Chairman Strickland asked if anyone would like to speak in opposition of the application. No one spoke. Chairman Strickland asked if anyone had contacted staff's office. Mrs. Braswell stated no one had contacted her office.

There being no further discussion, Chairman Strickland called for a motion. Mr. Alvarado made a motion to approve both variances as requested, citing criteria "d." Mr. McCall seconded the motion. The motion called and carried unanimously with a vote of 4 to 0.

**Agenda Item # 5: VAR-2018-06 — James & Joann Bartenhagen (6542 Bemiss Road, Valdosta)**

Chairman Strickland announced the case. Mrs. Braswell stated that James and JoAnn Bartenhagen were requesting variances on property located at 6542 Bemiss Road, that consists of 4.1 acres, and is zoned MAZ-I and MAZ-II. The applicants want to replace three existing nonconforming accessory structures with two proposed nonconforming accessory structures that exceed the maximum floor area allowance for accessory buildings. The accessory structures are a total of 3300 square feet, when only 3000 square feet are allowed. The applicants