# Preliminary Packet for BZA Meeting February 4, 2020 at 2 pm

#### Albemarle Coun Community Development Department 4011 re Road Charlottesville, VA22902-4596 .e: (434) 296-5832 Fax: (434) 972-4126 Planning Application OWNER INFORMATION 05000-00-00-04900 Owner(s): BUFTON, EVELYN & JOHN R MAUS VA201900001 Application # PROPERTY INFORMATION **ACREAGE** Legal Description Magisterial Dist. Rivanna Land Use Primary Residential -- Single-family (incl. modular homes Current AFD Not in A/F District Current Zoning Primary Rural Areas APPLICATION INFORMATION Entered By 7380 GORDONSVILLERD GORDONSVILLE, 22942 Street Address Buck Smith V Application Type Variance 11/26/2019 Project BUFTON AND MAUS PLC LAW OFFICE 11/26/19 Received Date Received Date Final Submittal Date 12/02/19 Total Fees Closing File Date Submittal Date Final Total Paid Revision Number Comments Legal Ad SUB APPLICATION(s) Sub Applicatio Comment Type

Address

P O BOX E

Date

CityState

GORDONSVILLE

Phone

Zip

22942

PhoneCell

APPLICANT / CONTACT INFORMATION

Signature of Contractor or Authorized Agent

Name

BUFTON, EVELYN & JOHN R MAUS

ContactType

Owner/Applicant

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☐ Variance = \$538 to be paid once app	olication is deemed complete
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for preparing and mailing notices a	nd published notice = \$435
FEES for re-advertisement and no	tification of public hearing
after advertisement of a p	uhlic hearing and
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Preparing and mailing or delivering each notice after fifty (50)	\$215
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Published notice (published twice in the newspaper for each public hearing)	Actual cost based on a cost quote from the publisher
	(averages between \$150 and \$250)
Project Name: Bufton and Maus PLC law office	
Parcel ND NI 05000 00 00 04000	
Zoning:	Rural Areas (RA)
Physical Street Address (if assigned): 7382 Gordonsville Road, Gordons	ville, VIrginia 229442
Contact (who should the main contact about this project): John R. Maus Street Address 7380 Gordonsville Road	
City Gordons ville State Virginia	Zip Code 22942
Phone Number 540-894-1006	Zip Code22342
Ennail jackmauslaw@gmail.com	
Owner of Record; Evelyn Bufton and John R. Maus	
Street Address 7380 Gordonsville Road	
City Gordonsville State Virginia  Phone Number 540-894-1006	Zlp Code 22942
Emailjackmauslaw@gmail.com	
Applicant (if different from the owner): same as owners	_
Street Address	
- J	
Phone Number  Email	
	RECEIVED
	by fax
•	DEC 1 0 2019

Department of Community Development

401 McIntire Road Charlottesville, VA 22902 Voice: (434) 296-5832 Fax: (434) 972-4126

Variance Application Revised 11/02/2015 Page 1 of 3 County of Albemarle

FOR OFFICE USE	ONLY VA#2	01900001	SIGN#_		
ZONING ORDINAN	NCE SECTION: _				
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# **Application for Variance**



	Variance = \$538 to	be paid	once application	is	deemed c	omplete
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☐ Initial notice fee to be provided in conjunction with an application, for preparing and mailing notices and published notice = \$435

# FEES for re-advertisement and notification of public hearing after advertisement of a public hearing and a deferral is made at the applicant's request

~	Preparing and mailing or delivering each notice after fifty (50)	\$215
7	Preparing and mailing or delivering each notice after fifty (50)	\$1.08 for each additional notice + actual cost of first-class postage
	Published notice (published twice in the newspaper for each public hearing)	Actual cost based on a cost quote from the publisher (averages between \$150 and \$250)

Project Name: Bufton and Maus PLC la	w office		_
Parcel ID Number: 05000-00-04900		Zoning: Rural Areas (RA)	
Physical Street Address (if assigned): 738	32 Gordonsville Road	Gordonsville, Virginia 229442	
Contact (who should the main contact a Street Address 7380 Gordonsville Road City Gordonsville Phone Number 540-894-1006	about this project): John State Virginia	R. Maus Zip Code 22942	
Email jackmauslaw@gmail.com  Owner of Record: Evelyn Bufton a	and John R. Maus		
Street Address 7380 Gordonsville Road			
City Gordonsville Phone Number 540-894-1006	State Virginia	Zip Code 22942	
Email jackmauslaw@gmail.com			
Applicant (if different from the owner)			
Street Address			
City Phone Number Email	State	Zip Code	

#### Variance is defined as follows

A variance is defined as a reasonable deviation from those provisions regulating the shape, size or area of a lot, or the size, height, area, bulk or location of a structure when the strict application of this chapter would unreasonably restrict the utilization of the property, and the need for the variance would not be shared generally by other lots, and provided that the variance is not contrary to the purpose of this chapter, provided that a variance shall not include a change in use. (Albemarle County Code Chapter 18 Section 3)

# REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS & OTHER INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED for THE APPLICATION TO BE CONSIDERED COMPLETE AND OFFICIALLY SUBMITTED

- Nine (9) folded copies of any and all plans or additional information

  One (1) copy of a recorded plat or boundary survey of the property requested for the variance. If there is no recorded plat or boundary survey, please provide legal description of the property and the Deed Book and page number or Plat Book and page number.

  Drawings showing all existing and proposed improvements on the property, with all dimensions and distances to property lines, and any special conditions on the property that may justify the request.
- Written description of your request (include dimensions, measurements or sizes in feet). This is to also include evidence as noted below.
- As the owner/applicant I certify that any delinquent real estate taxes, nuisance charges, stormwater management utility fees, and any other charges that constitute a lien on the subject property, which are owed to the County of Albemarle and have been properly assessed against the subject property, have been paid.

### Please be aware that the board shall grant a variance if the evidence shows:

- (i) That strict application of the terms of the ordinance would unreasonably restrict the utilization of the property;
- (ii) That granting the variance would alleviate a hardship due to

a physical condition relating to the property or

due to improvements thereon at the time of the effective date of the ordinance; or

(iii) That granting the variance would alleviate a <u>hardship by granting a reasonable modification to a property or improvements thereon requested by, or on behalf of, a person with a disability</u>

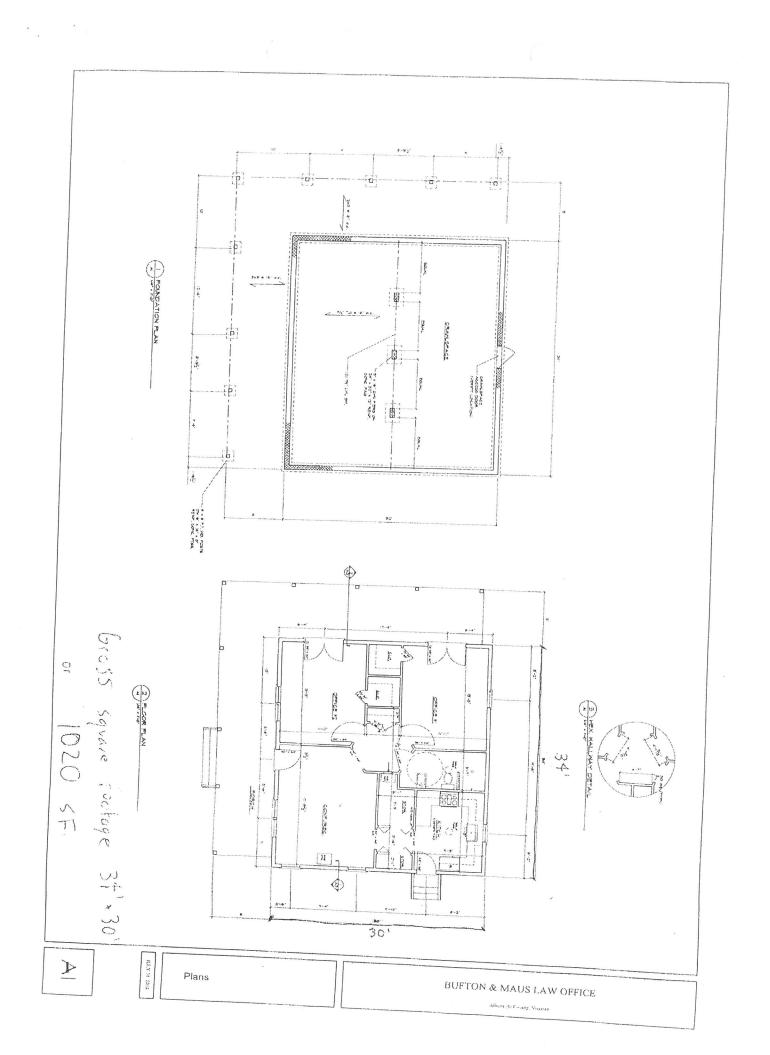
and

- (iv) All of the following:
  - 1. Good faith acquisition and hardship not self-inflicted. The property interest for which the variance is being requested was acquired in good faith and any hardship was not created by the applicant for the variance.
  - 2. <u>No substantial detriment.</u> Granting the variance will not be a substantial detriment to adjacent property and nearby properties in the proximity of that geographical area.
  - 3. <u>Condition of situation not general or recurring.</u> The condition or situation of the property is not of so general or recurring a nature as to make reasonably practicable the formulation of a general regulation to be adopted as an amendment to the ordinance.
  - 4. <u>Use variance prohibited.</u> Granting the variance does not result in a use that is not otherwise permitted on the property or a change in the zoning classification of the property.
  - 5. Special use permit or special exception not available. The relief or remedy sought by the variance application is not available through a special use permit or special exception authorized by this chapter when the application is filed.

Please be aware that the evidence required above needs to be provided by the applicant and should be provided with the written description as noted above.

# Owner/Applicant Must Read and Sign

John R. Maus Print Name	Date /
Print Name	540-894-1006
	Daytime phone number of Signatory
oard of Zoning Appeals Action/vote:oard of Zoning Appeals Chairman's signature:	



From Col. Pallon Est.

attached admitted to record. This deed was presented to me in said office and with certificate annexed and plat Te ete: W. S. Maynin

In the Clerk's office of Albemarle Circuit Court Sept. 22, 1917.

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Clerk.

Ctoxy Charlottes ville & Gordo! 300' Road

# WRITTEN DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST FOR VARIANCE

The owners request a variance from any and all of the provisions of the Albemarle County Code that would prevent them from using the law office constructed on their property for a Major Home Occupation.

As far as the owners know, the applicable provisions of the Code are (1) Albemarle County Code §18-10.4, which provides that the side setback for primary structures in Rural Areas is 25 feet, and (2) Albemarle County Code §18-5.2A, which provides, in relevant part, that "[A]ny accessory structure that does not conform to the applicable setback and yard requirements for primary structures shall not be used for a home occupation."

There may be additional provisions of the Albemarle County Code on which the County Attorney's Office may rely on in order to oppose the owners' right to use their law office for the purpose for which it was always intended, namely to conduct a law practice that involved, among other things, meeting with clients and other professionals in their office.

At its nearest point to the side fence (which is presumed to be the property line), the owners' law office is  $14\frac{1}{2}$  feet from the property line. At its farthest point, the law office (which parallels the house rather than the property line) is  $30\frac{1}{2}$  feet from the side fence line.

# **Evidence in Support of Request for Variance**

Under Sec. 34.4(i) of the County's Zoning Ordinance, the applicable criteria for the Board of Zoning Appeals to grant a variance are:

- 1. The strict application of the terms of the ordinance would unreasonably restrict the utilization of the property,
- 2. The property interests for which the variance is being requested was acquired in good faith and any hardship was not created by the applicant for the variance,
- 3. Granting the variance will not be a substantial detriment to adjacent property and nearby properties in the proximity of that geographical area,
- 4. The condition or situation is not of so general or recurring a nature as to make reasonably practicable the formulation of a general regulation to be adopted as an amendment to the ordinance,

- 5. Granting the variance does not result in a use not otherwise permitted on the property, and
- 6. The relief or remedy sought is not available through a special use permit or special exception authorized by the Code.

The owners adopt all of the evidence that they previously submitted to the Board of Zoning Appeals on October 1, 2019 in connection with their appeal of the adverse decision of the Zoning Administrator denying them a zoning clearance for a Major Home Occupation. Furthermore, the owners state that:

- 1. It is self-evident that the owners' inability to use a 1020 square foot office building, the floor plans for which included a conference room and two offices as a place at which to meet clients and other professionals in connection with their practice of law, would unreasonably restrict the owners' utilization of their property,
- 2. As previously proven to the Board, the property interest for which the variance is being requested WAS acquired by the owners in good faith reliance on a building permit issued by Albemarle County. Any hardship was not created by the owners,
- 3. Granting the variance will not be a substantial detriment to the adjacent property or nearby properties. When the owners initially appealed to the Board of Zoning Appeals, notices were sent to all adjoining landowners and none voiced any objection to using the subject property for a major home occupation. The property on the other side of the fence to which the County alleges that the owners' building is too close is a cow pasture,
- 4. The condition or situation is the result of miscommunication with the County's Department of Community Development that the owners hope is not so recurring in nature that a general regulation should be adopted by amending the zoning ordinance,
- 5. Granting the variance does not result in a use not otherwise permitted on the property. The County has conceded that, if the owners' law office were no closer to the property line than 25 feet, the owners would be entitled to pursue a Major Home Occupation, and
- 6. The remedy or relief sought is not available through a special use permit or special exception.