

The Franklin County Advisory Board of Adjustment met in regular session on Wednesday, February 2, 2011, in the annex of the Franklin County Courthouse.

PRESENT:	Vance Millender	Chairman
	Joe Hambrose	Member
	Larry Hale	Member
	Mitch Griner	Member
	Gil Autrey	Member

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Millender, who thereafter presided. The first item of business was the approval of the minutes of the meeting held January 5, 2011. On motion by Member Hambrose, seconded by Member Hale and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the minutes of the meeting held January 5, 2011, as mailed.

The only item on the agenda was a request for a variance to construct a sand dune on property described as Lots 462-470 Summer Camp East as requested by White Sands Group, LLC. Mr. Rick Carney, the owner, was unable to attend and asked Attorney Claude Walker to represent him. Alan Pierce, Franklin County Planner was present to represent the County. Mr. Pierce told the Board that this is an unusual request, but because of the location, he wanted to make sure there was opportunity to voice opinions. Mr. Shuler, the Board attorney stated that he felt a variance is necessary as this is development within the Critical Habitat Zone. Mr. Pierce went on to say that the owners plan to construct this dune along the above reference property which would include about 800 linear feet of shoreline, the applicant has agreed to use clean, unpolluted, compatible sand for this beach project. Mr. Walker spoke and told the Board that Hurricane Dennis washed away a large portion of the beach front when it came through and now Mr. Carney wants to replace this dune system.


Ms. Donna Butterfield appeared before the Board and voiced her objection to this intrusion into the Critical Habitat Zone. She talked at length about the need to keep this area in its natural state and not try to change nature. She went on to ask that an environmental study be done prior to approving this request.

After much discussion, Mr. Shuler, County Attorney, stated he had no objections provided there be no filling or dredging in jurisdictional lands and no encroachment past the High tide mark. There was some discussion concerning where this line is located.

On motion by Member

Griner, seconded by Member Hambrose, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to recommend to the Board of County Commissioners that they approve this variance request.

There being no further business to discuss, it was agreed to adjourn at 10:30 a.m.


Vance Millender, Chairman

Attest:

Rachel L. Ward, Zoning Administrator