

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Residents of Chilmark:

This has certainly been an extraordinary and challenging year for the world as we need to find ways to cope with the stresses, interruptions and family health issues caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. When the pandemic outbreak occurred we had a brief hiatus and did not conduct any public hearings until the appropriate procedures were developed and consistent with the requirements for conducting public hearings and receiving comment. The Board of Appeals was able to continue its business of serving the Town by convening its meetings and hearings via zoom conference calls. The Board members visit each site to understand exactly what's being proposed before an application is heard. They conducted these inspections at safe social distances with masks.

Chairman Russell Maloney and Vice Chairman Frank LoRusso continued to perform these duties in 2020 to ensure continuity during this challenging year. The Zoning Board of Appeals still had a very busy year. It heard a total of 18 petitions in 2020 with two continued to 2021. The Board diligently reviews every application to make sure all projects meet the Zoning By-Law specifications that have been approved by Chilmark voters. Many times before a Special Permit is voted by the Board, the applicants continue their hearing while they revise their plans to meet the bylaw specifications, a process that can span several months. The types of petitions and the decisions made in 2020 are shown below. The total is greater than 18 because many applications are filed under multiple bylaws.

<u>Type of Petition</u>	<u>Approved</u>	<u>Denied</u>	<u>Continued</u>	<u>Withdrawn</u>
Alter pre-existing, non-conforming use or structure	2	0	0	0
Built-in pools	11	0	2	0
Set back exceptions	5	0	0	0
Guesthouse	2	0	0	0
Residential Building Size	1	0	0	0

Respectfully submitted,

RUSSELL MALONEY - Chairman
FRANK LORUSSO - Vice Chairman
WENDY WELDON
CHRIS MURPHY
ALLISON BURGER
JOE CHAPMAN - Alternate
JOAN MALKIN - Alternate