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ZBA Hearing RE: Law Boathouse on Lake Charlevoix

Sun, Aug 14, 2022 at 4:14 PM

Chris Boal <c.r.boal@gmail.com> To: clerk@hayestownshipmi.gov Cc: LuAnne Kozma <luannekozma@gmail.com>, Ellis Boal <ellisboal@voyager.net>

Dear Kristin Baranski and ZBA Members,

I have been working in the design and construction industry for 24 years. I was trained as an architect, and worked for architects and developers, and I now work for a large commercial construction company in Minneapolis, MN. In the early 2000's, I designed my father's (Stewart Boal Jr.) house at 9290 Woods Road, 49720, on Lake Charlevoix, and am familiar with the Hayes Township Zoning Ordinance.

I am concerned about the proposed channel-basin-boathouse of Scott and Debra Law, a few residences to the west of my father's place at 9290 Woods Road on Lake Charlevoix.

I write today particularly about the project's proposed covered angled walkway between the boathouse and the main residence, as pictured on the six pages of plans in the attached file, "Walkway Details.pdf" collected from the Laws' plans. I can see that these pages were prepared by different planners for the Laws on various dates, but what is common to all of them is the walkway. From scales on the drawings, the walkway is approximately 100 feet in length.

The Township Zoning Ordinance, Article II, Section 2.02 – Definitions, defines an "Accessory Building or Structure" as "any building or structure that is customarily incidental and subordinate to the use of the principal or main building or structure." Further, "an accessory structure attached to a main building or structure shall be considered part of the main structure."

Further, the Township Zoning Ordinance, Article III, Section 3.05 (1) - Accessory Buildings, states that "A building which is structurally connected to principal building by a roofed porch, breezeway or similar structure, shall be considered part of the principal building and thus not subject to the regulations for accessory structures."

Ellis Boal (my uncle) informs me that the Township Zoning Administrator wrote an affidavit last November 19, 2021, which included the following:

"19. Pursuant to Section 3.05(1) of the Zoning Ordinance, Exhibit 2, a building that is structurally connected to the principal building is considered part of the principal building and not subject to regulation as an accessory structure."

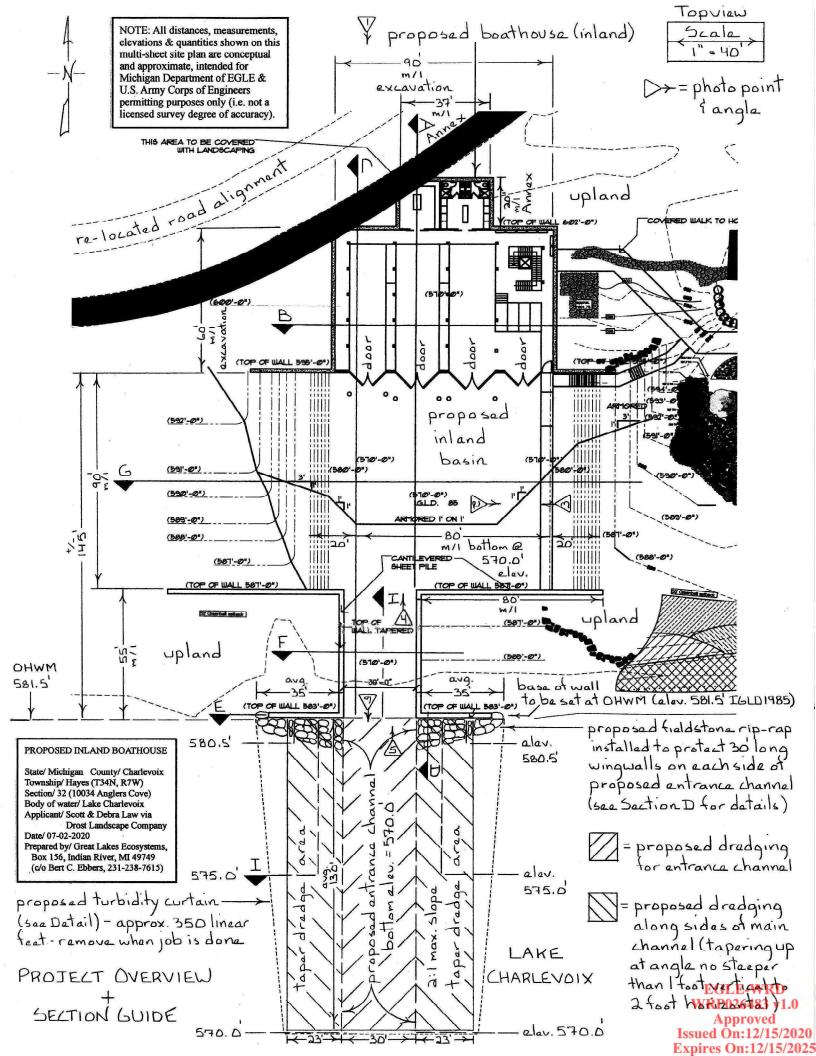
"20. The boathouse is to be attached to the house making it part of the house and not an accessory structure."

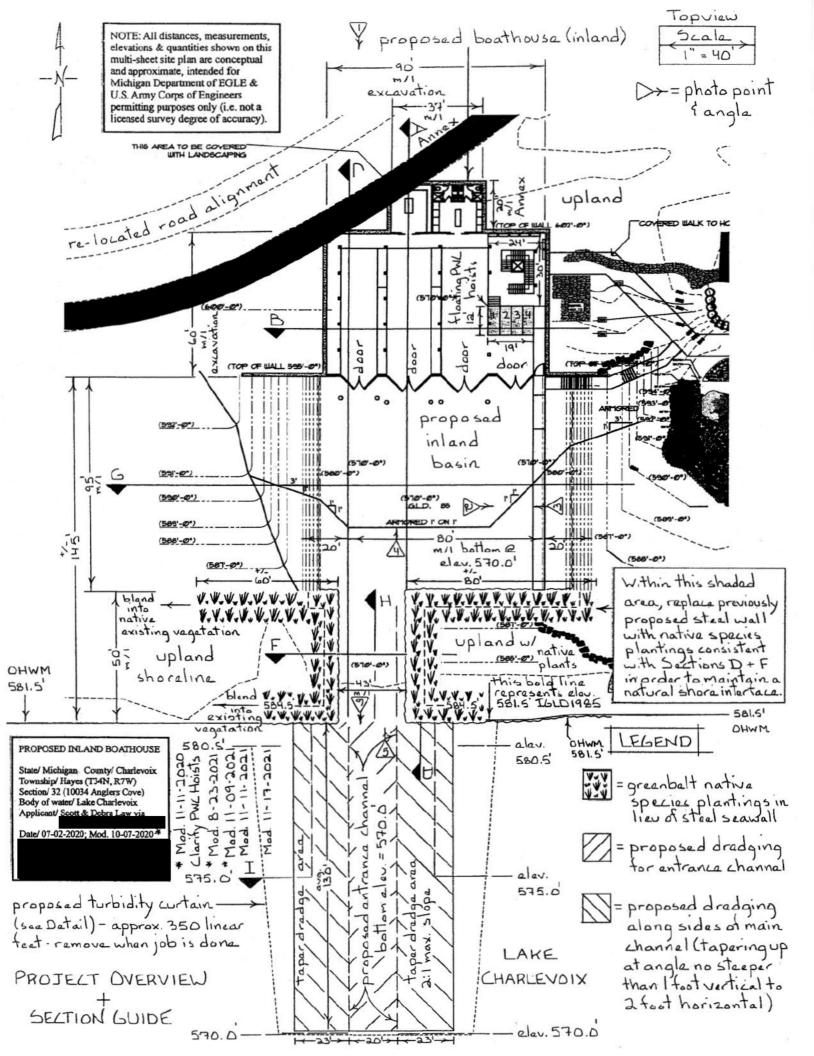
I do not believe that other builders or architects looking at the attached plans would consider the boathouse as "part of" the main residence, due to the proposed 100' covered walkway/breezeway. In my experience, a detached boathouse structure is "customarily incidental and subordinate to the use of a residence". In this case, the Law's boathouse, as shown on attached plans, should be considered a separate structure and evaluated as an Accessory Building or Structure in the Township Zoning Ordinance.

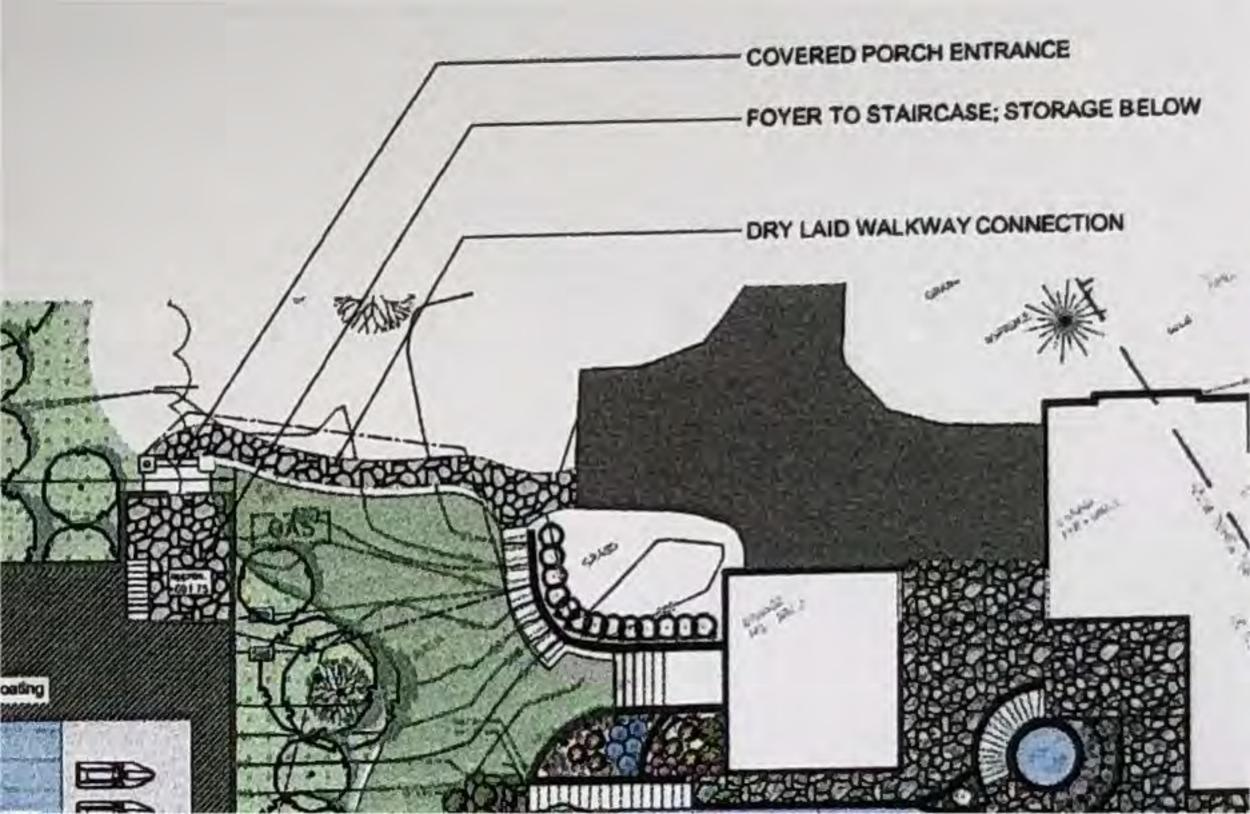
I agree with the Zoning Administrator's affidavit that the Law Boathouse should be connected to the house to be considered a part of the main building. However, in this case the proposed 100' covered walkway/breezeway does not keep to the spirit of the Township Zoning Ordinance or the Zoning Administrator's affidavit. I believe others in the design and construction community would agree. Accordingly, I support the appeal as it concerns the boathouse.

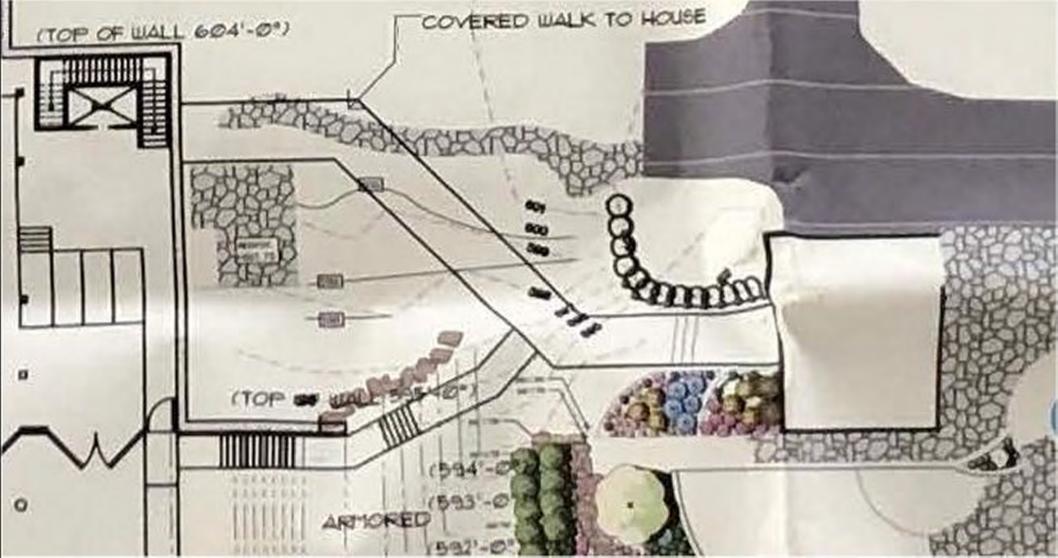
Chris Boal 1448 Park Dr. Mound, MN 55364 c.r.boal@gmail.com (720)-505-7417

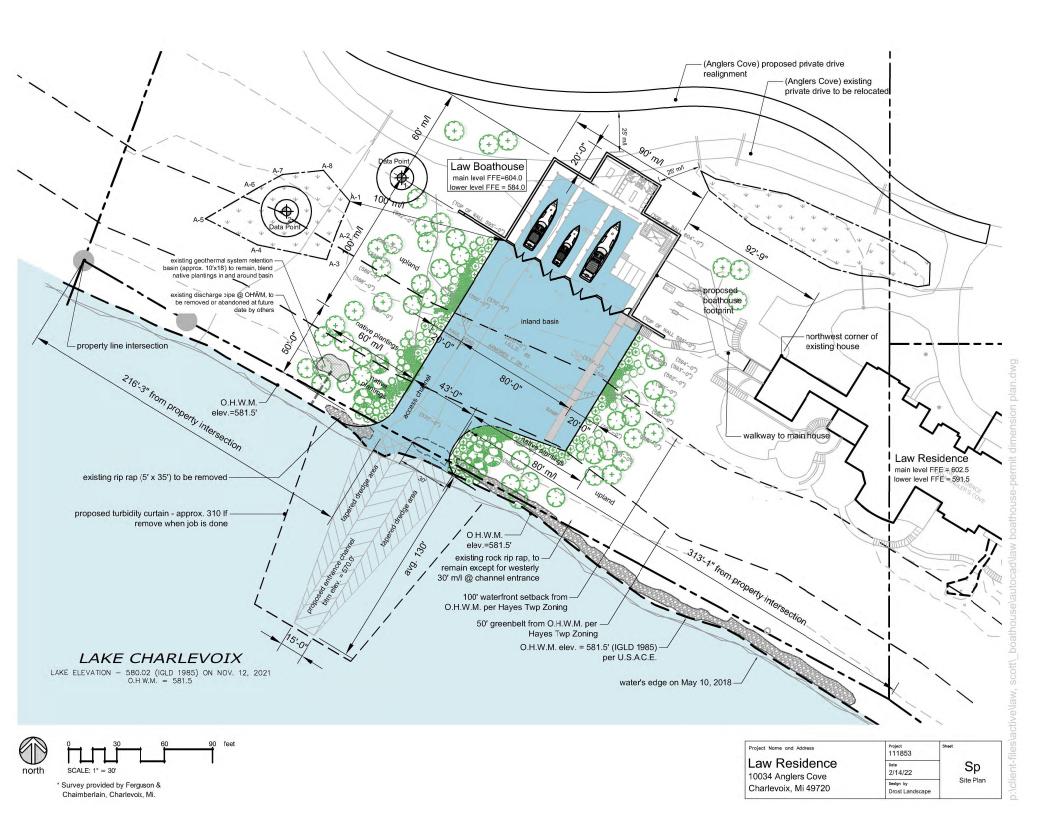
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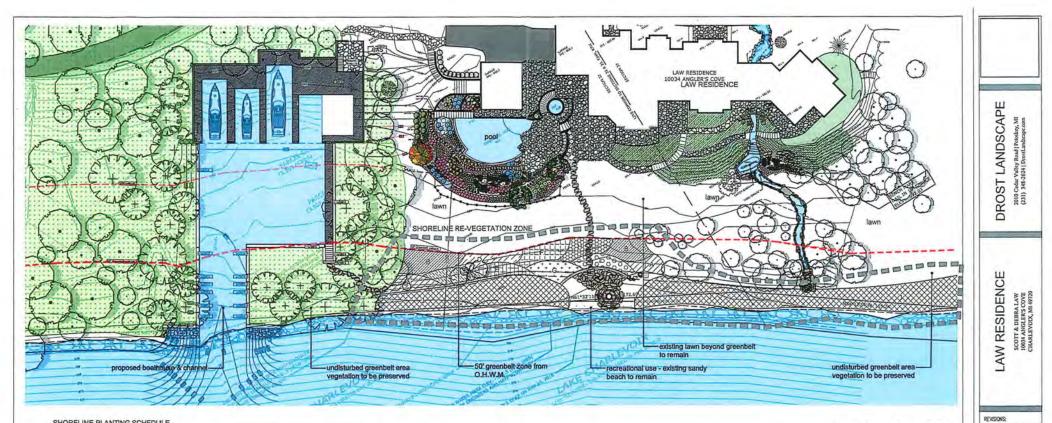












SHORELINE PLANTING SCHEDULE

Botanical Name	Common Name	Qty	Spacin
Archtostaphylos uva-ursi	Bearberry	500 sf	24" 0.0
Carex eburnea	Bristleleaf Sedge	800 sf	18" 0.0
Schizachyrium scoparium	Little Bluestem	300 sf	36" o.c
Juniperus conferta	Shore Juniper	280 sf	6' o.c.
Physocarpus opulifolius	Common Ninebark	250 sf	6' o.c.
Sporobolus heterolepis	Prairie Dropseed	350 sf	36" 0.0
Symphyotrichum tradescantii	Shore Aster	320 sf	24" 0.0
Iris versicolor	Blue Flag Iris	320 sf	30" o.c
Potentilla anserina	Silkweed	300 sf	24" 0.0
Ammophila breviligulata	American Dune Grass	7,030 sf	36" 0.0

SCALE 1" = 30

PLANTING PLAN Project Num PROINLIM Drawn By: DG Date: 10-5-2019 Sheet:

L1.01

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11-11-2019