

MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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May 2, 2016

Via Email Notification Frederic M. Wentz, Esq. & REGULAR MAIL

DETERMINATION OF THE ZONING OFFICER

Mr. & Mrs. Domenick Braccia 1146 Stump Road North Wales, PA 19454

Liberation House LLC 1146 Stump Road North Wales, PA 19454

RE:

1146 Stump Road

North Wales, PA 19454

I have reviewed various information provided concerning the use of the property at 1146 Stump Road currently being occupied by Liberation House LLC, which provides housing to individuals receiving

- Zoning Hearing Board application of Liberation House LLC, requesting appeal from determination of the Zoning Officer
- Letter from Harry G. Mahoney, Esq. dated December 21, 2015, Re: Liberation House/Montgomery Township

treatment for various addictions. The following information was reviewed:

- Questions posed by the Township for specifics of use of the property and Liberation House LLC response dated February 4, 2016
- Questions posed by the Township for specifics of use of the property and Liberation House LLC response dated April 18, 2016
- Opinion letter from Kenneth Amey, AICP dated January 22, 2016, Definition of Family

FAMILY -- Any group of individuals living together permanently or long-term, as opposed to transiently or short-term, as the functional equivalent of a family where the residents may share living expenses, chores, eat meals together and are a close group with social, economic and psychological commitments to each other. A family includes, for example, the residents of residential care facilities or group homes for people with disabilities. A family does not include larger institutional group living situations such as studenthousing, dormitories, fraternities, sororities, monasteries or nunneries.

Based on the review of the information above, Liberation House is a housing provider for recovering alcoholics and substance abusers and are considered "handicapped" under the 1988 amendments to the Federal Fair Housing Act. In accordance with the Montgomery Township Code, Article II, Definitions, Section 230-5, Family, includes, for example, the residents of a residential care facilities or group homes for people with disabilities, so long as the residents live together as a single housekeeping unit on a non-transient basis. Therefore the proposed use is in compliance with Montgomery Township Zoning Code.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact this office.

Sincerely,

Bruce S. Shoupe

Director of Planning and Zoning

Cc:

Township Solicitor

Marianne McConnell, Deputy Zoning Officer

Regular Mail – Liberation House LLC, 1146 Stump Road North Wales, PA 19454 Frederic M. Wentz, Esq