



TOWN OF FAIRHAVEN
BOARD OF APPEALS
Town Hall, Fairhaven, Mass. 02719

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April 29, 2016

Mr. Charles K. Murphy, Sr., Chairman
Fairhaven Board of Selectmen
Town Hall
Fairhaven, MA 02719

Dear Mr. Murphy,

RE: 2016 re-appointments to the Zoning Board of Appeals

I am the current chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals. As I recall, re-appointments to the Board of Appeals are usually made by the Board of Selectmen in May. In past years the Selectmen have asked for input from the Board of Appeals chairman regarding the re-appointments. To that end I would like to offer the following:

- 1) **Joseph Borelli** (1997) has served on the Board for a number of years and is an experienced and dedicated Full Member of the Board;
- 2) **Alberto B. Silva** (2007) has served on the Board for a number of years and is an active Associate Member of the Board;
- 3) **Jaime DeSousa** (2012) has served on the Board for a number of years and is an active Associate Member of the Board;
- 4) **Rene Fleurent, Jr.** (2007) has served on the Board for a number of years and is an active Associate Member of the Board. However, Mr. Fleurent is also an elected Planning Board member, who as an appointed Zoning Board member, is often called upon to grant variances to the very zoning regulations the Planning Board created. This has resulted many times in what appears as a conflict of interest when residents appear before the Board of Appeals seeking relief from the Zoning Regulations and Mr. Fleurent argues against the request because of his Planning Board experience. I believe an open-mindedness towards a variance request from a resident is necessary to serve on the Board of Appeals and this often is not the case with this member.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,
Board of Appeals


Peter DeTerra, Chairman