



ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS  
TOWN HALL WELLESLEY, MA 02181

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82-45

Petition of Family Counseling Service

The Special Permit Granting Authority held a Public Hearing in the second floor hearing room of the Town Hall at 8 p.m. on Thursday, October 14, 1982, on the petition of FAMILY COUNSELING SERVICE requesting a renewal of a Special Permit under the provisions of Section II and Section XXV of the Zoning Bylaw which will allow them to continue to operate a mental health clinic at 219 WASHINGTON STREET, said property owned by WELLESLEY FRIENDLY AID SOCIETY, located in a Single Residence District.

On September 28, 1982, the petitioner filed a request for a hearing before this Authority, and thereafter due notice of the hearing was given by mailing and publication.

Presenting the case at the hearing was Goldie Clifford, Business Manager, Family Counseling Service, who stated that there have been no changes since the petition of two years ago. Parking is available in front and in back of the building. Ms. Clifford presented a letter to the Board from Wellesley Friendly Aid Society supporting the continued use of the space by Family Counseling Service, signed by Eleanor Mullen, Executive Director of Friendly Aid Society.

There were no others present either favoring or opposing the petition.

Statement of Facts

Family Counseling Service (Region West) Inc. is a non-profit mental health clinic. It has been renting space from the Wellesley Friendly Aid Society, at 219 Washington Street, in a Single Residence District, since 1950. The hours of operation are Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. It is licensed by the Department of Public Health to operate as a mental health clinic.

The Board of Appeals granted a Special Permit to Family Counseling Service on November 25, 1980 for a period of two years.

Arthur LaConte, Building Inspector, reports that a Public Safety Certificate has never been issued to Family Counseling Service due to non-compliance to the Town of Wellesley Public Safety regulations. The Building Department has notified Family Counseling Service of violations several times, with no response.

The Planning Board, at its regular meeting of October 12, 1982, voted to offer no comment on the petition.

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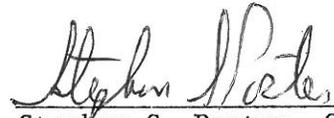
Decision

This Authority has made a careful study of the evidence submitted. A Special Permit was granted to Family Counseling Service in 1980 on the basis that it is a semi-public institution of a philanthropic character (Section II 8 (c)).

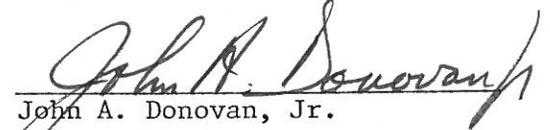
This Authority is of the opinion that the services provided by the petitioner in the past and at the present time appear to be in harmony with the general purpose and intent of the Zoning Bylaw.

Therefore, a Special Permit is granted for a period of one year from the date of this decision, with the following condition:

1. That all applicable State and local laws shall be complied with as well as recommendations and requirements of the Fire Department and the Building Inspector.



Stephen S. Porter, Chairman



John A. Donovan, Jr.



Franklin P. Parker

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