

*Application to Serve on
Town of Groton Zoning Board of Appeals*

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Alternate Phone: _____

Email: _____ Length of residence in Town of Groton: _____

Education:

Relevant experience, community affiliations and/or why you would like this job:

Signature of Applicant

Return application to: Groton Town Clerk, PO Box 36, 101 Conger Blvd., Groton, NY 13073

A Synopsis of Zoning Board of Appeals Responsibilities

1. The ZBA is basically a “people’s court”:

- ✓ In order to appeal to the ZBA there must first be a decision issued by an enforcement official.
- ✓ Application for relief may be filed by anyone “aggrieved” by a decision of the enforcement official.
- ✓ The Board has authority which resembles a court: It may subpoena, swear witnesses, ask its own questions, and issue orders.
- ✓ The Board listens to all sides: the aggrieved, the municipality, and comments from the public.
- ✓ After hearing all public comment, the Board has a time period to render its decision which may affirm, reverse, or modify the enforcing officer’s decision.

2. There are two types of appeals to the ZBA:

- ✓ An ***appeal for an interpretation*** claims that the enforcing officer’s decision was wrong and incorrectly applied the zoning regulations. This kind of appeal seeks a reversal of the officer’s decision.
- ✓ An ***appeal for a variance*** can only be made after a permit has been denied or someone has been served with some sort of enforcement action. This kind of appeal admits that the denial was correctly issued and seeks to have the strict terms of the regulation varied in the appellant’s favor.

3. A Zoning Board of Appeals Member:

- ✓ Must have an interest in the future of the Town.
- ✓ Must have foresight and good judgment.
- ✓ Needs to be willing to devote time and energy to the job.
- ✓ Has to become familiar with all aspects of the community.
- ✓ Does not need to be technically trained.