

Berkeley Heights Environmental Commission 29 Park Avenue Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922 (908) 464-2700 ext. 2116 www.BH-EC.org

MEMO

August 3, 2020

TO: Zoning Board of Adjustment

Subject: 14 Pine Grove Rd., Block 2201, Lot 2

Findings of Fact:

• The applicant proposes to construct a 15' x 30' above-ground pool.

- The site does not appear to be in a flood plain, a riparian zone or a wetland.
- Recharge value appears to be between 6 and 12 inches per year.
- Slope of 8 to 15 percent.
- Existing and proposed impervious coverages (10.77%) for structures are below the maximum allowed (15%).
- Accessory items increase from 8.94% to 12.24%, which exceeds the maximum 10%.
- total lot coverage increases from 19.71% to 23.01%, which is below the maximum of 25%
- DEP has adopted groundbreaking green-infrastructure rules to reduce pollution and flooding from stormwater runoff.
- Application does include General Construction and Design & Grounds and Landscaping Considerations.
- No indication of whether trees will be removed.

Recommendations:

- Homeowner should apply for permit if trees are to be removed.
- In light of the new DEP green infrastructure rules and recharge value, retain stormwater runoff on the property with green infrastructure. Connect any downspouts or sump pumps to rain gardens or vegetative swales. Information on rain gardens can be found at http://water.rutgers.edu/Rain Gardens/RGWebsite/rginfo.html.

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