

## **ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

The Zoning Board of Appeals is a local judicial board that acts upon requests for variances from the Zoning Regulations or the Flood Plain Management Ordinance, as well as appeals of decisions of the Zoning Enforcement Officer in upholding those standards. In making its decisions regarding variances, the Board considers whether the circumstances of the property are unique such that they result in an exceptional difficulty or unusual hardship in meeting the standards that are otherwise uniform for all other properties in the same zoning district. The Board welcomes the comments of neighbors during the public hearing portion of any application and considers all information in judging the appropriateness of any variance.

During the 2011-2012 fiscal year, the Board processed 38 applications for variances of residential district regulations and 2 appeals of decisions by the Zoning Enforcement Officer. The Board held 4 special meetings this year to accommodate a 60% increase in applications over the previous fiscal year.

Chris Costa, Zoning Enforcement Officer, is available Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to noon in the Land Use Department of the Town Hall to assist with applications and to answer questions concerning land use in Old Saybrook.

The Zoning Board of Appeals meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall, first floor conference room. Kim Barrows of the Land Use Department supports us as our administrative clerk.

**Rexford H. McCall**, *Chairman*