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Town of Durham

APR 17 2019

Planning, Assessing
and Zoning

Planning Board
Town of Durham, NH
8 Newmarket Road
Durham, NH 03824

RE: Letter of Intent for re-development of 56 Main Street

I am writing to share my intentions for the re-development of 56 Main Street. I am planning a renaissance of the Durham restaurant scene. I am a 50-year resident of Durham who has a comprehensive understanding of the town's make up and needs. The premise of this proposal is rooted on the overwhelming evidence that the residents of Durham could be the most underserved demographic in the State of New Hampshire, and combined with UNH's 2,500 faculty and staff, hundreds of business partners of the IOL, countless events held by the university, numerous visits from student's parents, and the planned Main Street hotel and West Edge Research Park, there is an established adult market in dire need of upscale dining options.

Clark's Restaurants, LLC will offer an upscale authentic Italian restaurant as the anchor tenant of this renovation, providing an upscale dining option, wine bar, Italian market, and an event space to begin filling the void left with the closing of the New England Center.

We are proposing a renovation of the basement, currently home to The Knot, and first floor, former home of The Red Carpet and Durham Bike Shop. We will demolish the storage space behind the building and rebuild a one story structure to house a modern kitchen and office fronting Jenkin's Ct. The second floor apartments will remain as is.

We require Planning Board approval:

- Replacing the storefront windows
- Rehabilitating the awning
- Building the new 1,000 sq. ft. kitchen structure.

Although I currently live in Middleton, I am not a carpet bagger. I attended Oyster River Schools and UNH, established two restaurants, our first health club and three multi-unit apartment buildings in town. I have served on the Town Council, Town Gown, ZBA, Economic Development Committee, Energy Committee and Master Plan Committee.

I am hopeful the residents of Durham are ready to re-claim downtown, and believe this project could be the start of something transformational.

Doug Clark