

Bruce Scamman

From: Michael Behrendt <mbehrendt@ci.durham.nh.us>
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2020 2:02 PM
Subject: ATO project - comments from UNH *

To the Planning Board (and applicant),
Please see the comments from Jamie Silverstein, Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life at UNH, in response to my questions.

Michael Behrendt

Durham Town Planner
Town of Durham
8 Newmarket Road
Durham, NH 03824
(603) 868-8064
www.ci.durham.nh.us

From: Silverstein, Jamie [mailto:Jamie.Silverstein@unh.edu]
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2020 1:51 PM
To: Kirkpatrick, Ted; Bencks, Doug; Michael Behrendt
Cc: Todd Selig; David Kurz; Audrey Cline
Subject: Re: ATO fraternity

Good Afternoon,

Alpha Tau Omega is in good standing and an official recognized chapter at UNH. I had been in the original planning meetings when they were looking to build onto the remaining structure as well. Thank you for sending over these plans. I have no reservations and believe they are a wonderful addition to our community (the new version of this chapter) and will have a good oversight advisory board and housing corporation overseeing the house. I know they will have their national house corporation overseeing the management of the property and use best practice in making sure this will become a place of community and brotherhood rather than just a place for social events.

Let me know if you have any additional questions or concerns.

All my best,

Jamie

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
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Second comment:

My other comment to one of the documents is to echo Chief Kurz and say that I would recommend making sure that they build a private house directors suite and look to hire a full time house director that lives at the house to be a liaison to the chapter/chef/cleaning team and housing corporation. The chapters that have live in directors (adults to manage the physical structure and policies) have a longer lasting organization while housed.

From: Michael Behrendt <mbehrendt@ci.durham.nh.us>

Sent: Friday, February 14, 2020 1:46:06 PM

To: Kirkpatrick, Ted <ted.kirkpatrick@unh.edu>; Silverstein, Jamie <Jamie.Silverstein@unh.edu>; Bencks, Doug <Doug.Bencks@unh.edu>

Cc: Selig, Todd <tselig@ci.durham.nh.us>; Kurz, David <dkurz@ci.durham.nh.us>; Audrey Cline <acline@ci.durham.nh.us>

Subject: ATO fraternity

Good afternoon Ted, Jamie, and Doug,

You are probably aware that ATO is seeking to establish their fraternity in the former Elizabeth DeMeritt House on Garrison Avenue. The Planning Board is holding a public hearing on their preliminary application on March 11. Their plan is to retain the existing building (I am certainly pleased about that), build a 2-1/2 story addition on the right side, and create a parking lot with 30 spaces. They said they plan to have 34-40 members living there. They will need a variance for parking to be located in the wetland overlay district and several conditional uses.

You can see the documents related to their application

here: https://www.ci.durham.nh.us/boc_planning/design-review-application-18-garrison-road

After the preliminary review they will submit a formal application, probably shortly afterward.

- What is the status of the fraternity with UNH? Are they recognized officially as a fraternity? They said they have a non-house chapter now.
- Do you have any comments or concerns about their proposal?

Thank you.

Michael Behrendt

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