

June 11, 2020

To Todd and planning board members:

I am writing this letter as a follow up to last night's planning board meeting. First off, I would like to apologize if anyone was insulted or bothered by what I stated in my letter in regard to inconsistencies with the Gerrish subdivision process. I never intended it to be taken that way. I am fully aware of the 3-step process, but felt when it was public comment time, that was the time to share my public concerns. Although many of my concerns are with this actual plan, I have many more concerns with how this process is being handled within the town. If I am not to comment on this during these times, then I would like to know what the appropriate time is. It truly feels as though the neighborhood concerns are more of a nuisance to you rather than just what they are intended to be; valid concerns. As neighbors, we have been responded to many times with answers such as, "this is not the time.", "there is no reason to do that".

During many of the letters I have read, and comments made from the applicants and their team, as well as, board members, we keep hearing about experts. Many of my neighbors are experts in multiple pieces of this process; engineers, eco systems, and law. I assumed that this process with the planning board was for the applicants to express their desired plan, but that the board would be open to hearing comments from people who may oppose it...why do I feel we are being a nuisance to you?

I heard Sally speak last night about how all the board members have minds of their own and I do fully believe that. This is why I started going to the town meetings regarding this process...because I had trust in the town and planning board. I no longer feel this same trust I had months ago. Just last night alone, as I watched from my house, I watched board members some (not all) rolling their eyes, seeming so disinterested, covering their faces with their hands, and even saying things such as, "It's 9:00...I don't really care". I would like to know how I am supposed to have trust in people that are deciding on something that I am fighting for, when I am not even sure they are really even listening to me?

A good friend once told me "perception is reality". It may not be your reality, but that is the reality of how I feel. I am not happy about the decisions that were made last night, but please know this letter is not written in response to the outcome. I know there is still another step to this and I will continue to bring up concerns. What this letter is intended to do is make you see from a different perspective how it feels to be on the other side and what it looks like from where I sit.

I thank you for your time and hope you all enjoy your weekend!

Stay safe & be well,

Christine Conlon

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