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NEWTON
Parks & Recreation
ROBERT J. DERUBEIS
COMMISSIONER

June 13, 2012

Alice E. Ingerson, Ph.D.
Community Preservation Program Manager
City of Newton, Massachusetts

Dear Alice:

I am writing to request a further extension to complete the Community Commons project. At this time, the two outstanding items are signage and the wind harp.

The signage proposal came in at \$11,130 from Richmond Point Associates. I am concerned with this price and believe that it is too much signage for the site both physically and monetarily. I have reached out to Margaret Doris, requesting that she take another look at the current proposal and refine it so that it is more in line with the space. At the present rate it would dictate sealed letter bids. A review of the original proposal addressed a single sign.

The wind harp is in lieu of the sundial. My concern with such an item is that it will be prone to vandalism. When you have a free standing structure that is meant to be a focal point, it becomes a target of vandals. This is the nascent stage of discussion on this item, so to give an amount would not be prudent.

To give you a cost estimate while these negotiations are continuing would bring about an arbitrary number that may not be a true barometer, when and if consensus is met.

Thank you for your continued assistance with this matter. This further delay is not for a lack of communication. Derek Mannion, Assistant Superintendent of Maintenance has displayed due diligence in moving the project along. Since the September CPC meeting, we have added the second planter, fixed the security light, added plants, rectified the water source at the bubbler and replaced the concrete walkway so that it is compliant for handicapped accessibility.

Sincerely,

Robert J. DeRubeis

Robert J. DeRubeis
Commissioner

Cc: Derek Mannion, Assistant Superintendent of Maintenance

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