

Noble and Devine Holding Company, LLC

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To: Land Use Committee of the City of Newton Board of Aldermen
From: Walter Devine, Christopher Noble, and David Casey

Re: 271-283 Auburn Street, Ward 4 Special Permit Application

Date: June 3, 2015

RECEIVED
Newton City Clerk
2015 JUN -9 PM 6:04
David A. Olson, CMC
Newton, MA 02459

SUMMARY OF MEETING WITH RESIDENTS

Dear Mr. Chairman, and Committee Members,

Pursuant to our discussion of our Application for a Special Permit concerning a proposed 94 seat restaurant at our building a notice of a meeting regarding the proposal was delivered to residents of Ward 4 via email messages from the members of the Board representing Ward 4. The meeting was held on Wednesday May 27th at 7:00 PM at the site of the Auburndale Library, and at the site of the proposed restaurant.

Approximately 30 people attended the meeting, including Ward 4 Alderman Jay Harney, and Alderwoman Amy Sangiolo. After some introductions and biographies of David, Chris and Myself, a brief presentation ensued, outlining our plan for the restaurant, and then the floor was opened for any questions or comments. The enthusiasm for the project was very strong from the residents in attendance. It was brought up by a resident that the Development at Turtle Lane no longer contained plans for a restaurant, and Stephen Vona, who was present at the meeting acknowledged this to be the case.

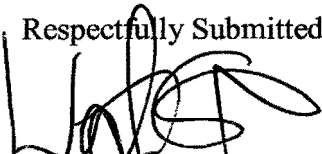
Traffic concerns were voiced as Lexington Street and Comm. Ave. can, and regularly do back up as far as the lights at Central Ave. at times, while acknowledging that this fact it would only be for a limited time at rush hour that this would be the case, and it is not anticipated that the addition of the restaurant into the mix would add a great number of cars to the equation from 5:00 to 6:00, and after that the Auburndale Village center pretty much completely clears out.

After more public comment, and support of the project, Alderwoman Sangiolo suggested that if we were willing to have people who expressed or held a desire to see the space, perhaps we could walk down the street and continue the meeting there, so that is just what we did. Approximately 20 or so of the

attendees walked down Auburn Street and over to the site of the proposed Ward 4. To a person, all the people who walked down to see the space were impressed with the feeling they felt at the location, and were even more enthused by the possibility of having "a place of our own to go to". Several asked about bicycling to the restaurant, and were glad to hear of the plans to incorporate a bike rack on the premises. Another suggested we follow up with the owners of Wally's Ice Cream Parlor, as they tend to serve a high percentage of customers who have walked or biked to their location, and we have reached out to them at this time.

In short the feedback from the residents who showed up to the meeting was universally positive, and many wanted to know what they could do to assure that the project moves forward. We will continue to reach out to the residents of the area, and be available to them at any time they desire, as it is our goal that Ward 4 becomes a valued and integral part of the fabric of the community.

Respectfully Submitted,



Walter E. Devine, II