

**From:**  
**Tim Adler**  
**25 Boynton Rd**  
**Medford, MA. 02155**

**May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2012**

**To: Land Use Committee of the Board of Aldermen**

**Re: (Petition #93-12) Summary of Recent Communication with the Planning Department**

*Friday May 11th, 2012:* The Planning Department released the staff analysis memo which revealed to us, for the first time, their view that we should redesign the house to avoid the need for a special permit. This was unexpected because we had not previously received this feedback during any of our prior communication with the Planning Department, including at the Development Review on November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2011 where Derek Valentine represented the Planning Department and other city departments were also represented.

*Monday May 14<sup>th</sup> 2012:* Tom Timko contacted Alexandra on Monday May 14<sup>th</sup> 2012 to seek clarification and understanding of the basis for the negative view expressed in the planning memo. Our understanding from Alexandra's response was that the Planning Department were primarily concerned about the potential for setting a precedence, but that we should proceed to make our case to the Aldermen on the Land Use Committee at the public hearing.

*Wednesday May 16<sup>th</sup> 2012:* The day after the public hearing, Alexandra Ananth requested to arrange a meeting on Friday.

*Friday May 18<sup>th</sup> 2012:* We held a 10:00am conference call at which Eve Tapper, Alexandra Ananth, Tom Timko and Tim Adler participated. During this we were informed that it was a courtesy call to tell us that, in their view, the Aldermen will deny our application, and further that we should save any more time and effort by withdrawing our application prior to the Working Session.

The Planning Department's recommendation to withdraw our application prior to the working session does not reflect the many months of work that has gone into the design, the months invested in the special permit process, nor our understanding of the Special Permit process.

We were also informed on this call that we would not be scheduled for the working session on May 22nd, 2012, and we would instead be scheduled for a later date. Since this was contrary to what the Chairmen of the Land Use Committee proposed, we requested on multiple occasions during the call that we be allowed to continue to the May 22<sup>nd</sup> Working Session, as agreed at the Public Hearing.

Later the same day, we received confirmation that we are back on the agenda for the May 22<sup>nd</sup> working session, and we also received a copy of the second Planning Department memo regarding our project. Our comments with respect to this memo are separately enclosed.

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Sincerely,



Timothy Adler