

March 10, 2021

Dear Planning Board and Conservation Commission Members,

We are writing to address the inflammatory remarks of a handful of residents of the Gerrish Lane/Ambler Way neighborhood. We recognize they have a right to express concerns and opinions about our proposed development. However, it is our assertion that they are now campaigning to discredit our reputation, as well as disparaging our team of professionals. While our project is before the Planning Board, we as individuals are not.

Many other communities have rules regarding the public hearing section of meetings. We suggest that Durham consider creating some too, in order to maintain civility and equity among voices. In the meantime, we respectfully request that the Planning Board and Conservation Commission chairs set ground rules for public hearings, (such as time limits and keeping to the topic at hand,) and to enforce rules when necessary.

After the February 11, 2021 Conservation Commission meeting John Carroll wrote a letter to commend the Commission on holding their ground. He also took that opportunity to attack our professional team, "...But Project Engineer Sievert cannot be fully objective in any sense. Nor can Project Wetlands Scientist Mark West. They are both on the applicant's payroll and therefore cannot be fully objective. It appears you are putting too much trust in them." His claims are unsupported, and he shows no regard for the highly respected and accomplished careers of both men.

Chris Conlon of Gerrish Lane made this claim about us, "...There seems to be, at least to us, many smoke & mirrors being presented to the Planning Board & Conservation Committee around what this development is going to look like... We understand that they are willing to say pretty much anything at this point to make people feel this is the only option for this pocket neighborhood to be built." Mrs. Conlon seeks to portray us as evasive and unscrupulous. She has no basis for her opinions but feels entitled to publish them in our community.

After the February 22, 2021 Conservation Commission meeting John Carroll wrote an offensive and unsubstantiated letter, "You were very wise not to vote on anything last night as the results of such a vote would have been badly misused by the applicant (and, sadly, by the Town Planner as well), and all your effort and deeper thinking would have been made meaningless..." Mr. Carroll's obvious goal is to suggest that the Town Planner and we the applicants, are not to be trusted.

Our team of experts has demonstrated that the Bagdad Road driveway is not a viable entry to our proposed site. However, Gail Kelly recently wrote, "...the Mulherns will have inflicted it upon themselves – first, by claiming they owned the entire ROW, which they didn't (the ROW was jointly owned by all the property owners on it); then by persuading the one other homeowner on the ROW to relinquish his ownership interest..." This statement is riddled with

misrepresentations and it is clear that Ms. Kelly's intention is to insinuate that we are dishonest and manipulative. Furthermore, it irrelevant to the application we have submitted.

Durham is a "welcoming community." We stand up for all of the good in our town but denounce the bullying techniques used by a minority group of the Gerrish Drive/Ambler Way neighborhood. Unfounded attacks on personal character should not be permitted in any public forum.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We appreciate your service to the community.

Marti Mulhern and Mike Mulhern