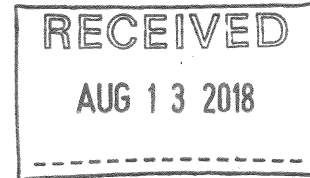


Leonard Jason, Jr.  
276 South Road  
Chilmark, MA 02535



August 13, 2018

Martha's Vineyard Commission  
P.O. Box 1447  
Oak Bluffs, MA 02557

Honorable Board,

The rush to close the hearing on the hospital's desire to convert Wildflower Court into doctors' offices is premature. The first thing we should determine is whether the hospital is in compliance with the first MVC decision. I do not believe they provide daycare for the help, which was a requirement of this decision. When did the MVC amend the decision to reduce the number of beds to 61? It makes me wonder who we are dealing with.

We are told the hospital lost a million dollars on Windemere. That may or may not be accurate. We need to know what the real bottom, **bottom** line shows. Creative accounting can demonstrate that Windemere loses money annually, when it stands alone. Does Partners benefit from providing services to Windemere, and if so, how much?

I have been told that Partners spent \$10 million to purchase the MV Hospital and Nantucket Hospital. That investment has been repaid many times over, and Partners continues to reap those profits because of the rate of reimbursements. Someone more knowledgeable than I needs to explain the rural health floor and how it has affected Partners' bottom line.

To say Windemere loses money and we can't afford it is not accurate. What other services does the hospital provide that loses money? Is it their intent to eliminate those services as well?

Finally, we are told that how we care for the elderly is changing. The current conditions are far from perfect. One bathroom serves four residents, and we can't find the healthcare workers that are needed. All these statements are accurate, and were accurate in 1995 when I was on the Windemere board. We might begin by paying the help a higher wage so that the most vulnerable of our society will be cared for.

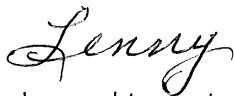
It appears that their solution is to be part of a "greenhouse program" whose success is based on a better mix of residents. Does this sound familiar? It was the same thing we were told when the hospital first appeared in front of this body to get permission to build Windemere. That model lasted less than a year. The only direct result, if you allow this to happen, will be that Partners will no longer be responsible for the long term care of this island.

Three questions that should be asked are:

1. Does Partners really lose money with the Windemere operations? If so, how much?
2. How many doctors are they going to hire, and what are their disciplines?
3. Are they prepared to stand by the earlier commitments of previous hospital boards to be responsible for the long term care of Island residents?

This discussion cannot take place on such a critical issue in one public meeting. I urge you to reopen the hearing so that the public can weigh in on a matter that will forever affect the lives of our community.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lenny".

Leonard Jason, Jr.