

To whom it may concern at the oak bluffs planning board and the MV commission.

I could speak to the science of an artificial turf field; However, I have noticed people tend to grab onto whatever science, real or fake, that supports their emotional view of the subject. Once this happens there is no amount of real science they will listen to. Nor does their appear any fake science that is so ridiculous that they ignore it.

Therefore, let's talk about what this is all about, emotions. People have all kinds of emotional reasons why they do not want fake grass. Long time ago folks on the island wanted to be able to ice skate all winter long regardless of the weather. So, we built the ice rink we filled it with Fake ice. Of late there has been Fake Ice available in the summertime.

Years later we built the YMCA on put a Fake pond in it, we can go swim all winter long.

Both of these projects are not natural. Both contain vast amount of scary chemicals; both consume huge amount of energy to maintain their unnatural condition.

If you apply the logic of those opposed the track and field project you should by rights demand that these entities be shut down tomorrow. We cannot do that; these entities provide so much for the community. They are good for our health, not just our bodies but our spirit our mental health. They are a source of fun and joy and community spirit.

As one large donor to the Y once told me, if the only thing the Y does is keep one child from turning to drugs then it is all worth it.

All the same can be said for the proposed track and turf field project. Apply the Logic that allows the Y and the Rink to operate. Continue to ignore the concerns they present in their huge energy consumption and all the global warming ramifications. Focus on the children.

Stop the Circus, let us build the track and turf field the island children so desperately need.

Thank you, John Packer, Vineyard Haven 1/12/21