Dec. 4, 2019

Adam Turner
Executive Director
Martha's Vineyard Commission
turner@mvcommission.org

Dear Mr. Turner

Please accept this addendum to my Nov. 18, 2019, letter regarding DRI 645-M6. I write to ask this body not to further exacerbate the existing problems neighbors and abutters are experiencing with the Barn by approving the addition of either the proposed light tower or takeout window. As my earlier letter pointed out, the issues of noise, loitering, congestion and parking to name a few that are being experienced on and around 13 Uncas Avenue have spilled over onto Hiawatha Avenue. That unwanted activity compounds the issues we abutters on Hiawatha Avenue have with trash collection, propane deliveries, commercial deliveries and service calls for the Barn that are routinely made from Hiawatha Avenue. Clearly, Barn management is either unable or unwilling to manage the current, long-standing and well-documented negative activity associated with their property. How can they be relied on to manage any increase in that activity?

Additionally, the Nov. 18th meeting of the LUPC was the first I and other Hiawatha Avenue abutters of the Barn with whom I spoke learned of the proposal to erect a light tower on the property. I was at that meeting, and I was at the LUPC meeting a couple of years ago to consider the Barn's request for similar parking lot lights. The LUPC denied that request, citing such lighting was inconsistent with the lighting that had been approved for installation elsewhere on the Vineyard, including for the Lagoon Pond bridge replacement project. It was the right decision then and remains so today. The existing lighting at the Barn along with its lighted outdoor sign and Oak Bluffs' street lighting provide adequate lighting without adversely impacting the Barn's neighbors or taking away from the character of the surrounding residences that border the Copeland and Cottage City historic districts. Nothing has changed since its installation to warrant such intrusive -- as well as aesthetically out of character with the neighborhood -- lighting as what is being proposed. The proposed light would serve only to attract more of the same unwanted and unmanaged activity to the area cited above.

I implore this body not to exacerbate existing problems with the addition of either the light tower or takeout window. Both are out of character with the surrounding homes and businesses and would only serve to worsen an already untenable situation.

Sincerely, Peggy Barmore

Cc: Lucy Morrison (morrision@mvcommission.org)