

LEIGH SMITH
847 FRANKLIN ST.
VINEYARD HVN, MA
02568

To: Martha's Vineyard Commission
Oak Bluffs, MA 02557

April 15, 2017

Dear Commissioners:

I write as one who's been a year-rounder for 30 years now, and a home owner in Tisbury since 1966. I am very much in favor of the M.V. Museum being at the location of the former St. Pierre School which stood there before I first came here, in existence many years.

Any notion that neighbors have not been sufficiently informed is indeed puzzling. My husband who died in January 2012 visited the premises on an appointed visiting day in fall 2011, with interest and regret he would not be around to see the finished product.

The Museum will certainly be a wonderful educational tool for the children of our town and the other five towns, as well as for visitors. It pleases me that the location is a convenient walk from ferries, enabling visitors to see we have other interests than getting them to spend money (which they're welcome to do) in the many shops and several restaurants also conveniently located.

The request of neighbors to have some large trees put in place before added construction seems reasonable; of course not where they would interfere with the great view of the harbor. This year I have experienced considerable (totally unusual) building both across the street and also half a block down the street. I cannot say any of it has bothered me in the least, while these needed additions have been put in place throughout the winter.

I greatly hope you will look favorably on the plans described by Phil Wallis, of the Museum, who has known and loved Vineyard Haven since childhood summers, as have so many others.

Thank you for your work on this and other matters.

Sincerely,

(Mrs.) Leigh B. Smith