

Gerald S. and Linda B. Jones
PO Box 2471
61 Kanomika Rd.
Edgartown, MA 02539
508-939-9298 (cell 617-750-0515)
geraldsj@gmail.com

June 17, 2020

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

RE: DRI 682 Meeting House Place Subdivision

Dear Commission

We continue to vehemently oppose the Meeting House development the MVC is reviewing. This is one of the largest to "hit" the Island in a long time and needs to be completely denied; no more back and forth. We are aware the developers made efforts to reduce the scope, and thus the overall detrimental impact, but such efforts do not improve the project at all.

The cynic in me would have done the same as a developer: start off very big (but apparently not so big as to have it denied right away), make adjustments along the way, so it appears to be much more appropriate. When, even as it is now, is NOT.

It is certainly one of the largest development proposals in recent memory. There are not a lot of threats of this scale remaining on MV. We've been reminded that this property was zoned by the Town of Edgartown as "R-20," thus 20,000 square foot minimum lot size, back in the 1970s. The town's rationale at the time, I believe, was to have small lots to provide affordability.

Today, the appalling irony is that such affordable "inventory" is being proposed to be repurposed for high-end dwellings. Approving this will give signals to developers that the flood gates are open, now.

Is it the Commission's intent to refine/update zoning intentions, setting new or revised approval guidelines, in Edgartown and on Island? It is distressing that there is not enough conservation money to prioritize this property for acquisition.

We appreciate the care with which the Martha's Vineyard Commission conducts the DRI process, we thank you for your time and consideration, however we continue to believe approving this is a huge mistake.

Respectfully yours,

Linda and Gerald Jones