Dear Lucy,

I understand it may not be possible to speak tonight so, rather than attend, I am sharing these few thoughts. I ask that you convey them to the Martha's Vineyard Commission this evening. As an abutter, Tea Lane Associates is not opposed to removing the "by appointment only" condition. The owner makes a compelling case that this condition creates more log jams and traffic problems than it solves.

Our primary concern is the applicant's proposal to remove the parking attendant requirement, beginning in the summer months. In the past year, we have had Fine Fettle customers park in the Tea Lane lot and walk across our property to buy product. It has not been a significant problem...we intercept them, ask them to leave and they do. We have not complained about these incidents because we have been able to handle them ourselves.

We are hopeful that this problem will remain minor but, in anticipation of a busy summer, we have appreciated having the parking attendant requirement in place. It functions as a safety net for the protection of our parking lot, our business and our agents.

We propose that, should you decide to remove the parking lot attendant requirement, this be done on a conditional basis with a mechanism specified so that this requirement can be reinstated quickly if needed. We do not want to see our business this summer affected by unanticipated traffic issues. This will be the first season Fine Fettle will operate without requiring appointments. There is no way to predict what the traffic will be.

Again, we are hopeful it will not be a problem. We just want to have a remedy in place should a problem arise. I believe that we can all work together on this and that this can be a good summer for everyone.

Thanks for considering this request.

Sincerely,

Abby Rabinovitz