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To The Martha's Vineyard Commission,

Recently, I have been made aware of the Hob Knob's request to improve both their employee living quarters and their guest parking. I think these are both admirable endeavours and I am writing to you in my full support.

The Hob Knob is a beautiful spot that represents and serves both Edgartown and Martha's Vineyard with dignity. I have recommended it to many of my readers who are going to the island for the first time and I have never had anything but glowing feedback. I'm sure you are already very aware of the standard Hob Knob sets for itself and the community. Going above and beyond to accommodate their guests, the Vineyard's guests, is what they do; therefore, accommodating them would be an act of kindness that would benefit everyone.

The second reason that I am writing to you is the story that follows:

One night, after a heavy rain, I was waiting at the School St bus stop in Edgartown when an older black woman walked over to the stop. She was wearing a housekeeper's uniform. Having worked in housekeeping myself, I know how hard a job it is regardless of age. I took off my raincoat and spread it out on the bench so she could sit down. She was hesitant but grateful and she sat down. She was tired. We struck up a conversation and she told me that she worked at The Hob Knob. I asked a lot of questions. Over the course of the conversation, I learned that this woman liked her job a lot. The work was hard—having done her job, I can attest to that—but the owners were kind and they treated their staff well. She really liked her bosses and that made all of the difference. Eventually, the woman's bus came. She thanked me for the kindness, got on the bus, and waved at me through the window. I put my coat back on and waved as the bus left the stop.

I have never shared this story with anyone until now. I think of that evening now and again and it always makes me smile. It was a very Vineyard moment. More than anything, that conversation is what gives me such a high regard for The Hob Knob and it's place in Edgartown. The Hob Knob clearly holds their employees in high regard. I think standing in the way of their accommodating them would be a sadness.

Thank you for your time. I hope you have found it helpful.

All the best,  
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