Dear Ms. Morrison

Martha’s Vineyard Commission

Public Hearing DRI #714 38 Wing Road/Aidylberg 3

A previous commitment prevents me from participating in tonight’s Public Hearing and thus I would like to present the following letter in support of the project.

Thank you,
Matthew Stackpole

I write to enthusiastically support Island Elderly Housing’s “Aidylberg 3” proposal to construct five units of low-income elderly housing on property bequeathed to IEH by one of its founders Margarite Bergstrom. In the mid 1990’s I had the privilege of being invited by Ms. Bergstrom to join the IEH Board and, like everyone with whom Bergie had contact, could not refuse her. The vision, passion, and commitment she and Co-Founders Margaret Love and Carol Lashnits had for what they knew was an unmet island need was unwavering and inspiring. It resulted in the creation of an essential component of and contributor to the Island’s quality of life for residents and their families. As you know the need for low-income elderly housing has continued to grow and, thanks to the Board and the IEH staff’s relentless efforts, IEH has continued to respond to it.

Island Elderly Housing’s track record speaks strongly to the quality of its facilities and programs ably provided by a dedicated, competent, compassionate professional staff. This proposal would be a welcome addition to their properties and on-going efforts.

The fact that both Bergie and Margaret Love left their personal property to IEH to further its mission is another insight into their commitment. The need they saw for this type of housing is today widely acknowledged on the island, and I think nothing would have pleased them more than knowing of this proposed use of Bergie’s property.

I strongly urge the approval of this proposal. Thank you for your consideration,

Thank You,
Matthew Stackpole

Past Board, and Current Honorary Board, Member