



**Town of West Tisbury**  
PLANNING BOARD  
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November 8, 2022

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

Dear Commissioners:

At our meeting of November 7, 2022, the Planning Board discussed an article that was posted on the Vineyard Gazette on November 6, 2022 reporting on the Stillpoint project currently before the Commission. This was not an item listed on our agenda so the discussion took place as unanticipated business.

The board was alarmed to read of the applicant's proposal before you and the plan to ask for permission to plan for and conduct numerous weddings and private parties. The numbers reported were for using the premises as a profit-making venue –clearly a commercial use. At the initial Site Plan Review discussion, the subject was barely mentioned; and although the comments do not appear in the minutes, several Board members remember clearly stating that such uses would not be allowed in the RU district. In fact, as we discussed on Monday, such uses are directly at odds with the proposal to have a quiet, peaceful meditation center.

Further, the proposal to provide amplification of any kind, music or otherwise, does not fit into a residential neighborhood and the Planning Board would not support it. The applicant's initial discussion with the board was presented as providing a non-disruptive space for people to meet and learn how to appreciate each others' positions in life respectfully. Weddings were simply mentioned as an "if we need to down the road" possibility.

Finally, the parking spaces on the property would not support a wedding attended by 80 to 100 people at any given time and the Rural District does not allow for such events under our zoning bylaws.

We respectfully submit this letter to you for your consideration.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

  
Virginia C. Jones, Chairman