

RE: Submitting statement for LUPC meeting tonight

Adam Turner

Mon 10/19/2020 2:18 PM

To: Susan Desmarais <obsusan@icloud.com>;

Cc: Lucy Morrison <morrison@mvcommission.org>; Alex Elvin <elvin@mvcommission.org>;

Thanks susan. Your response is now in the record..

adam

-----Original Message-----

From: Susan Desmarais <obsusan@icloud.com>

Sent: Monday, October 19, 2020 2:13 PM

To: Adam Turner <turner@mvcommission.org>

Cc: Susan Desmarais <obsusan@icloud.com>

Subject: Submitting statement for LUPC meeting tonight

Hello Adam,

I'm writing as I cannot find any of my prior submissions to the MVC regarding the MVRHS athletic complex project on the website. As you may know or remember my position from the inception of this proposal has been about the direct health impact from exposure to carcinogenic chemicals in the field materials on the young athletes. In a more general sense I am alarmed about likely effects to the ponds and our sole source aquifer for fresh water. My position has not shifted, in fact if anything I am more concerned than I was at the outset. Part of my alarm stems from what appears to be willful blindness by some school officials and members of the public. Why are we not practicing restraint? Actively seeking more natural developments? With all the resources this island has in terms of landscaping and land management expertise it is absurd to be involving off island entities, with nothing invested(except profits) in this community. Why are we rolling the dice with the health of children and their developing bodies?

In the last year I've become alarmed at the possible economic fallout from this proposed project. With the massive school department budgets, the disrepair of school buildings and now the financial uncertainty of COVID it is irresponsible to take on a project of this magnitude. And I find it noteworthy that the supposed "donors" who will fund this project have never been named or come forward. And I wonder, if they are people who are invested to the point on donating substantial sums of money why don't we hear a peep from them? School monies need to spent on benefiting the most students not confined to benefitting only those who

participate in athletics. We are fortunate to live on an island where outdoor access is almost unlimited! We need to be sure students have safe, clean buildings. They shouldn't be moving buckets to catch leaks on rainy days.

In conclusion...as I have stated before...its one thing to take risks when the possible danger is abstract. Its whole different scenario when you or someone you love becomes a statistic. Lets not be people who gave something like Monsanto the benefit of the doubt. Lets stand on the side of caution, protection and safety for our children, our island and our waters.

Susan Desmarais
Oak Bluffs

PS - I'll "see" you at the meeting today at 5:30.