

Letter to Planning Board of June 7th

Fred Rick Huss <frdhuss@aol.com>

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To: Oak Bluffs Planning Board <planningboard@oakbluffsma.gov>

Dear Planning Board:

I ask that the planning board vote NO to the Tabernacle addition that faces my cottage. My family has lived in my cottage for over 105 years. For over a century, we have enjoyed a view of Trinity Park. Now that view will be marred with addition and the collateral damage that the addition brings in the form of a bio-retention pond and the possible loss of trees in the park. I hope the planning board notes the location of the mature trees that will be disturbed in order for the pond, or pit, as I call it, to be dug in Trinity Park. Bob Haggerty, local tree arborist has told me that the roots of the trees may not survive being dug out for the pit. My family's cottage will face the pit that may in time cause the loss of the trees.

I ask the planning board, how can a group of cottage owners, many of whom just bought their cottages in the last decade, come in and change the historic Tabernacle with their idea of the last three years to add a huge addition. Even when they know it will be empty with no sewer hook ups, they still want it because it seems it must be built during their tenure. They want it even with a debt of \$2 million as they don't want to be burdened by a capital campaign. What gives them the right to change the view of my cottage of the past 100 years just because they've moved here and decided the Tabernacle wasn't good enough as it is today. I will hear the hum of the ac or heat unit for this addition year round. How can the planning board let this happen? The Tabernacle is hallowed ground to me and my family. The planning board must say "no" to this foolishness.

I urge you to respect the historic nature of the Campground and to honor the heritage of the Tabernacle. Vote no on an empty building and let the MVCMA board be content to replace the roof which has the full support of the community.

Regards,
Fred Rick Huss