

From: Mary Anne McNulty, the Summerside Inn [mailto:maryanne.mcnulty8@gmail.com]  
Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2023 2:03 PM  
To: Philip Rafuse <PJRafuse@irac.pe.ca>  
Subject: Re: LA22-023 MaryAnne McNulty v. City of Summerside I Our File 15042-243dk

Dear Mr. Rafuse,

I have indeed read all of the material forwarded to me regarding the appeal. In response, I submit the following statement.

It is my contention that, while City Council may have followed procedural guidelines in granting the restricted usage application to the property in question, their decision is inherently wrong and will have serious consequences for residents of this neighbourhood.

Council was supposed to determine, not whether Summerside needs a men's shelter, which it assuredly does, but whether this property is a suitable location for this type of shelter. This question was never adequately addressed by Council in making their decision.

All the material submitted in response to this appeal innocuously refers to the proposed project merely as a men's shelter. This is disingenuous. The proposed facility is meant to shelter, among others, individuals who are drug addicts, who may in fact be carrying drugs or weapons (as was stated by the project manager himself) which they will be asked to surrender voluntarily to staff, and which will be returned to them upon leaving the shelter and re-entering our neighborhood.

In addition, the shelter may be used to house individuals released from "other institutions", i.e. jail or prison.

The apprehension and fear these possibilities have generated amongst residents of this neighbourhood cannot be overstated. There are many elderly citizens, single and widowed women living alone, and young families here. There is a waterpark a block away used daily by groups of children throughout the summer. Summer street is a busy corridor for school children heading to Water Street and back on their lunch hour.

Additionally, this is a heritage district that is meant to draw tourists to our city. It must be safe, clean and walkable to serve that purpose. My own property at 98 Summer St. is a long-established Bed and Breakfast, making the proposed shelter a threat to my livelihood and that of my family. The total lack of common sense shown in proposing to site such a shelter next to a home and business wholly dependent on tourism is both staggering and inexcusable.

This is decidedly NOT an appropriate location for this type of shelter. The fact that the City Councilor representing our area voted against the application testifies strongly to this fact. She is well aware of the negative impacts it will have to our neighborhood and residents have clearly made their worries known to her.

Both the Province and City Council have ridden roughshod over the residents of this neighborhood in this process. Our concerns have been repeatedly dismissed, down played and even ridiculed by their representatives. The public meetings meant to allow local residents a

chance to voice to our concerns were instead used as a platform by various groups on the horrors of homelessness in general, which no one disputes.

Again, yes, Summerside is in desperate need of men's shelters in addition to affordable housing and drug rehabilitation programs. That is not at issue. The issue was, and is, whether THIS PARTICULAR neighbourhood is a suitable location for THIS PARTICULAR type of shelter. The answer can only be no, it is not.

I would again ask IRAC to listen to myself and other residents who will be forced to live with the consequences of their decision, and decide to overturn City Council's decision to approve the restricted use application for the property in question.

Sincerely,

Mary Anne McNulty

On Wed., Mar. 1, 2023, 4:12 p.m. Philip Rafuse, <PJRafuse@irac.pe.ca> wrote:  
Attention: MaryAnne McNulty, Appellant

Good afternoon,

By now you have had ample time to review the record and response filed by legal counsel for the City of Summerside.

The Commission requests that you file a written submission responding to the record and response. In your submission you are also free to expand upon your grounds for appeal and file any documents you wish to submit in support of your appeal.

The deadline for your submission is Thursday, March 23, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.

Sincerely,

Philip

Philip J. Rafuse, LL.B, NSBS  
Appeals Administrator

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