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From: Michael O'Donnell [<mailto:odonnemi@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, June 04, 2014 8:01 PM

To: Planning

Cc: Petersen, Sally; Lumm, Jane

Subject: Jesuit Community Special Exception Request

Kirk Westphal, Chair

I just learned of the recent Planning Committee meeting and its decision on the Jesuit Community request for a special exception use.

As a resident of Ann Arbor I find that decision incredulous....

The news article speaking of the dissenting reasoning is not rationale or founded in fact.

I am a practicing Catholic and a member of St Mary's Student Parish.

The addition of the Jesuit Community to our Parish and the Community as a whole has been nothing short of wonderful. These highly educated, compassionate men have done more for the greater Ann Arbor Community than most of the citizens residing here and probably more than most of the appointed or elected officials.

Their collective work with the homeless shelters, Interfaith Hospitality Network/Alpha House, Social Justice among many other efforts is amazing, especially considering their primary role is the spiritual care of UM students and resident Parishioners. These are humble hardworking men who desire nothing more than a quiet residence to call home. They act as a family, even have a "head of the household" and responsibilities for the running and upkeep of their home. Their recent residence was immaculate. I know residents in the area and there was never a concern on any level, of having them as neighbors. I would be delighted if they were my neighbors.

I personally know a current City Council Member who also happens to be running for Mayor and have voiced my strong feelings that the decision should be reversed. I know Mr Westphal, that you are interested in becoming our City Council representative in Ward 2. I can assure you that we will be watching the outcome of the next meeting very carefully and relaying to all our fellow Parishioners as well as those in St Francis of our concerns. I am not sure I will be in town for the next meeting but if so, I will plan on attending. I will be encouraging others to write and attend if possible. I would think we could easily find 7 times the number of individuals who spoke against the request, to speak on the behalf of these Jesuits. Even though the City Planning Commission decision does not directly affect me, I find the decision not to grant the exception personally insulting, noting that the Jesuit Community took the high road in even requesting the exception. I am sure there are other homes with more than 4 non related members living off the books as the saying goes.....

Please reconsider the request and vote in the affirmative.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Michael J. O'Donnell, MD  
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Sent from my iPad