

From: Gary Green [<mailto:gglhs@aol.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 28, 2015 12:46 PM
To: City Council - All
Cc: Lavertu, Karen
Subject: Planning Board Membership

To: the Honorable Mayor, City Council members and the citizens of Dover.

The purpose of this email is to inform all that we sold our condo in Dover and for the time being at least, have no plans to find another residence that will qualify me to retain my membership on the Dover Planning and Zoning boards. It is with great regret and sadness that we had to make this decision.

I am writing to the City Council to thank them for their faith in me and for appointing me to the Planning Board and recently to the Zoning Board.

For almost 10 years I have enjoyed all of my volunteer work not only by serving on many Committees, Boards and Commissions but also as a volunteer at the Dover Police Department. I first enjoyed working with Director Steele as Chair of the Dover Utilities Commission and then with Director Bannon as Vice Chair of the McConnell Center Advisory Committee. Both Directors Steele and Bannon were very cooperative in assisting me with any request or question.

In 2010, I applied for membership on the Dover Planning Board in spite of several friends telling me that all decisions involving development were already made before they ever reached the Planning Board for consideration and a vote. This also in spite of claims of denial from city officials.

Sadly, I found at least in part, some of those claims had a foundation of truth. Most recently, as Chair of the Planning Board Sign subcommittee I had to instruct the members to not be to be swayed by any outside interference. Members of that committee reported to me that they were told that they were wasting their time because votes had already been tallied to reject any efforts they were making to find a workable sign ordinance in accordance with the mission statement provided by the Planning Department. I even had to brush aside an attempt by the Director of Planning to disband the subcommittee.

While I recognize and believe that we have an excellent Planning staff from the Director of Planning on down, I have informed the Director of Planning many times that I was appointed by the City Council who are elected by the citizens of Dover. Accordingly, I always strived to represent them and held myself accountable to them and Dover citizens.

The development community is well served by all city departments. Planning developed and utilizes a Developer's handbook, provides over and above assistance and heads an active Technical Review Committee. It is the responsibility of the Planning Board to make sure that citizen interests also are being best served.

Again, with sadness and regret, I tender my resignation from the Dover Planning Board and the Dover Zoning Board.

I would appreciate it if this letter could be read into the record.

Thank you.