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also hand delivered and stamped

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10-24-12

Mayor Michael Koblenz
East Hills Village Hall
209 Harbor Hill Rd.
East Hills, NY 11576

Mayor Koblenz:

I am writing to you in your capacity as the chief legal officer of East Hills.

The Architectural Review Board (ARB) is scheduled on Nov. 5, 2012, to review and possibly vote on an application to remove 16 trees from 15 Fir Drive. This issue was raised at the prior meeting of the ARB.

I request that you create a mutually convenient opportunity for me (and other interested residents and parties) to visit the trees up close on the site prior to the meeting in daylight hours to allow us to see the trees in order that we may more fully participate in the discussions in the meeting.

As you know the deliberations of the ARB are quasi-judicial in nature, and testimony is taken from the public regarding issues of public interest, to wit the proposed removal of trees on private property and issues of housing construction, among other things.

(The issue of tree removal is of public interest as described in the legislative intent of the village tree protection law of which the ARB is the administering agency.)

The builder has proposed removing 16 trees, including major healthy old-growth behemoths that are presumably integral to the "tree canopy" which is the object of village protection.

Without access to the property, members of the public like, myself cannot have full knowledge with which to participate and testify about the significance of the trees, their health, and other issues relevant to the ARB process. And hence we cannot properly represent the public interest in protecting these trees by denying or modifying the builder's request.

We would also like to have access for an expert in trees and other relevant matters prior to the ARB's deliberation and vote.

Please respond expeditiously to me via phone, email, fax and mail. My fax is 631-520-0696. Other contact information is above.

I believe weekends might be best, i.e. the weekend of Nov 3-4.

Thank you.

signed
Richard Brummel
Cell 516-669-1741

cc Spencer Kanis,
Chair ARB