
From: Tom Willan <tom@ironmanbuildings.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 8, 2022 11:54 AM
To: Violante, Todd; Peters, Steven; Bollig, Jerome; Smith, Sarah; Doolan, Michele; Kiefer, Timothy
Cc: Gault, David; Julia Willan; Management, Risk; Lowndes, Daniel; Lane, Roger; Parisi, Joseph
Subject: RE: Reply to Corp counsel opinion
Attachments: PDF public statement to zlr board 03082022.pdf

Good day everyone,

I hope everyone is in a good mood and they are ready to get down to the business of approving our FP-B zoning. We ask to speak tonight and be made a panelist right away for the meeting. We understand we will speak and address the board when it is our turn. Please find attached my public statement I want to read into the record tonight at our zlr board meeting. We ask that the hard copy statement be made part of the official record. I haven't received any specific link to be accepted as a participant of the meeting. Please let us know that we are going to be able to speak and participate. We were wondering if Mr. Gault is going to be part of the meeting tonight where we can ask him some legal questions as it pertains to our petition 11788? Please let us know, and we look forward to putting this long nightmare behind us?

Thanks, Tom and Julia Willan

From: Violante, Todd <Violante@countyofdane.com>
Sent: Monday, March 7, 2022 10:48 AM
To: Peters, Steven <Peters.Steven@countyofdane.com>; Bollig, Jerome <Bollig.Jerry@countyofdane.com>; Smith, Sarah <Smith.Sarah@countyofdane.com>; Doolan, Michele <Doolan.Michele@countyofdane.com>; Kiefer, Timothy <Kiefer.Timothy@countyofdane.com>
Cc: Gault, David <Gault@countyofdane.com>; Julia Willan <julia@ironmanbuildings.com>; Management, Risk <Risk.Management@countyofdane.com>; Lowndes, Daniel <Lowndes@countyofdane.com>; Tom Willan <tom@ironmanbuildings.com>; Lane, Roger <lane.roger@countyofdane.com>; Parisi, Joseph <Parisi@countyofdane.com>
Subject: RE: Reply to Corp counsel opinion

I hope everyone is doing well.

To supplement Mr. Willan's email below and submitted materials, the Corporation Counsel legal opinion to which he refers can be found in Legistar via the following link:

<https://dane.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=10570119&GUID=D7C9CD8F-8588-4D4A-AE0F-714074AC0615>

This is the Corp Counsel opinion that was requested at the last ZLR meeting at which zoning petition 11788 was discussed.

Consistent with prior practice and the ZLR Rules and Procedures, if the committee would like to add Mr. Willan's reply below and previously attached response to the Legistar record, it can be accomplished at tomorrow's work meeting by way of a formal motion.

Thanks, take care, and have a good day.

Todd

From: Tom Willan <tom@ironmanbuildings.com>

Sent: Monday, March 7, 2022 10:36 AM

To: Peters, Steven <Peters.Steven@countyofdane.com>; Bollig, Jerome <Bollig.Jerry@countyofdane.com>; Smith, Sarah <Smith.Sarah@countyofdane.com>; Doolan, Michele <Doolan.Michele@countyofdane.com>; Kiefer, Timothy <Kiefer.Timothy@countyofdane.com>; Parisi, Joseph <Parisi@countyofdane.com>; Lane, Roger <lane.roger@countyofdane.com>; Violante, Todd <Violante@countyofdane.com>

Cc: Gault, David <Gault@countyofdane.com>; Tom Willan <tom@ironmanbuildings.com>; Julia Willan <julia@ironmanbuildings.com>; Management, Risk <Risk.Management@countyofdane.com>; Lowndes, Daniel <Lowndes@countyofdane.com>

Subject: Reply to Corp counsel opinion

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Dear Distinguished Board members, and DCS,

Please find attached our response to the Corporation counsel opinion we received after 3 ½ weeks. Most of my writings in this submission is the actual Dane County ordinance and Dane County farm preservation ordinance that the board needs to read so they can actually understand this is a rezoning petition, it has nothing to do with conditional use, conditional zoning, or any imaginary active uses as suggested by Mr. Gault. We are rezoning to FP-B so we can use the permitted by right uses of the ordinance to use our 75-year-old agricultural building we have over 100k in financial considerations in that we are vested use by way of the building permit rule. We don't have to be actively doing anything in order to get approval to rezone and it is actually illegal to use a property for other than permitted by right uses. We have also included screen shots of our web pages as part of the document so you have actual tangible evidence you can read supporting our position. We ask that this document along with all email correspondence regarding petition 11788 , and the video and transcript hearing notes from the February 8, 2022 meeting be made a part of the official record. Please verify that this is being done. We also ask that the record in legistar be corrected so all documents are listed in the order they were filed for easy judicial review and reference. It is absolutely ridiculous that a zoning department would just file legal documents in any non-chronological order? We have not heard from anyone regarding our concerns. We will see everyone tomorrow and look forward to ending this long-term nightmare Julia and I have had to endure!

Thanks, Tom and Julia Willan

PUBLIC STATEMENT FOR ZLR HEARING 03/08/2022 PETITION 11788

Five score years ago, a great American, in whose symbolic shadow we stand today, signed the Emancipation Proclamation. This momentous decree came as a great beacon light of hope to millions of Americans who had been seared in the flames of withering prejudices and injustice. It came as a joyous daybreak to end the long night of their captivity.

But one hundred sixty years later, some citizens of Dane County are still not free. One hundred sixty years later, the life of property owners in Dane County is still sadly crippled by the manacles of systematic corruption and the chains of discrimination in the Dane County zoning department. One hundred sixty years later, some of the property owners of Dane County lives on a lonely island of poverty in the midst of a vast ocean of material prosperity. One hundred sixty years later, some citizens of Dane County are still languishing in the corners of a Zoning Abyss and finds themselves an exile on their own land. So, we have come here today to dramatize this shameful condition being perpetrated by DCS over rezoning petition 11788.

In a sense we have come to our ZLR board hearing tonight to cash a check. When the architects of our republic wrote the magnificent words of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, they were signing a promissory note to which every American was to fall heir. This note was a promise that all men, yes, black men as well as white men, and the Willans would be guaranteed the unalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

It is obvious today that Dane County has defaulted on this promissory note insofar as her citizens of 4407 Vilas Hope Rd are concerned. Instead of honoring this sacred obligation, Dane County has given the Willan's a bad check, a check which has come back marked "insufficient funds." But we refuse to believe that the Dane County bank of justice is bankrupt. We refuse to believe that there are insufficient funds in the great vaults of opportunity of this County.

So, we have come to cash this check — a check that will give us upon demand the riches of freedom and the security of justice from Dane county zoning tyranny. We have also come to this ZLR meeting to remind this board of the fierce urgency of now to vote for FP-B zoning. This is no time to engage in the luxury of cooling off or to take the tranquilizing drug of gradualism. Now is the time to make real the promises of democracy. Now is the time to rise from the dark and desolate valley of discrimination and segregation to the sunlit path of equal justice for all. Now is the time to lift our County from the quick sands of discrimination and injustice to the solid rock of brotherhood. Now is the time to make justice a reality for not just the Willans, but for all of God's children.

It would be fatal for the ZLR board to overlook the urgency of the moment. This Spring moment of a new beginning for legitimate discontent will not pass until there is an invigorating summer of freedom and equality from the wraths of Dane County zoning. Twenty-twenty-two is not an end, but a beginning. Those who hope that the Willans will just go away and will now be content will have a rude awakening if Dane County zoning returns to business as usual. There will be neither rest nor tranquility in Dane County until the Willans are granted their citizenship rights. The whirlwinds of revolt will continue to shake the foundations of our County until the bright day of justice emerges.

But there is something that I must say to my fellow citizens who stand on the warm threshold which leads into the palace of justice. In the process of gaining our rightful place we must not be guilty of wrongful deeds. Let us not seek to satisfy our thirst for freedom by drinking from the cup of bitterness and hatred.

We must forever conduct our struggle on the high plane of dignity and discipline. We must not allow our creative protest to degenerate into physical violence. Again and again we must rise to the majestic heights of meeting legal force with soul force. The marvelous new militancy which has engulfed the Willan's community, must not lead us to a distrust of all government employees, for many of our fellow citizens, as evidenced by their support of petition 11788, have come to realize that their destiny is tied up with our destiny. They have come to realize that their freedom is inextricably bound to our freedom. We cannot walk alone.

As we walk, we must make the pledge that we shall always march ahead. We cannot turn back. There are those who are asking the devotees of civil rights, "When will you be satisfied?" We can never be satisfied as long as the Willans are the victim of the unspeakable horrors of Zoning police power brutality. We can never be satisfied, as long as our bodies, heavy with the fatigue of 10 years of fighting, cannot gain the zoning district we are legally entitled to. We cannot be satisfied as long as Roger Lane is allowed to violate the Willan's civil rights. We can never be satisfied as long as our children and grandchildren are stripped of their selfhood and robbed of their dignity by hidden signs stating "For Dane County zoning members only". We cannot be satisfied as long as a Citizens of the Town of Cottage Grove cannot let their vote be counted and a then more citizens of Dane county believes because his vote isn't counted by Dane County, he has nothing for which to vote. No, no, we are not satisfied, and we will not be satisfied until justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream.

I am not unmindful that some of our citizens of Dane County have come out of great trials and tribulations. Some of them have come fresh from narrow jail cells. Some of them have come from areas where their quest for freedom left them battered by the storms of persecution and staggered by the winds of police power brutality. You have been the veterans of creative suffering. Continue to work with the faith that unearned suffering is redemptive.

Go back to your comfortable homes distinguished board members, go back to Waunakee, go back to your districts, knowing that somehow this situation can and will be changed. Let us not wallow in the valley of despair.

I say to you today, my friends, so even though we face the difficulties of today and tomorrow, I still have a dream. It is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream.

I have a dream that one day this County will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: "We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal."

I have a dream that one day in Dane County the Willans and the politicians of Dane County will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood.

I have a dream that one day even the Dane County Zoning and planning department, a county department sweltering with the heat of injustice, sweltering with the heat of oppression, will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice.

I have a dream that my two, almost three little grandchildren will one day live in a County where they will not be judged by what a zoning administrator may say, or by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character.

I have a dream today.

I have a dream that one day, down at County hall, with its vicious arbitrary zoning, with its Zoning administrator having his lips dripping with the words of interposition and nullification; one day right there in Dane County, little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls as sisters and brothers.

I have a dream today.

I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough places will be made plain, and the crooked places will be made straight, and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.

This is our hope. This is the faith that Julia and I go back to 4407 Vilas Hope rd with. With this faith we will be able to hew out of the mountain of despair a stone of hope. With this faith we will be able to transform the jangling discords of our County zoning into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood. With this faith we will be able to work together, to pray together, to struggle together, to go to jail together, to stand up for freedom together, knowing that we will be free one day.

This will be the day when all of God's children will be able to sing with a new meaning, "My county, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing. Land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrim's pride, from every mountainside, let freedom ring."

Let freedom ring from the Rolling hills of Dane County!

Let freedom ring from the curvaceous slopes of Dane County!

But not only that; let freedom ring from the Town of Cottage Grove!

Let freedom ring from 4407 Vilas hope rd!

Let freedom ring from every hill and molehill of Dane County. From every hillside of Dane county, let freedom ring.

And when this happens, when we allow freedom to ring, when we let it ring from every Town of Dane County, and every agricultural property, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual, "Free at last! Free at last! Thank God Almighty, we are free at last!"

We ask this board to let freedom ring tonight from Dane County by voting for the FP-B zoning unconditionally as the citizens of the Town of Cottage Grove have in petition 11788! We thank everyone for hearing us out!

Sincerely Julia and Tom Willan