

Lane, Roger

From: Laura Houlihan <laura.anne.houlihan@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 17, 2021 4:59 PM
To: Lane, Roger; Planning & Development
Subject: Request to deny the CUP for 7069 Applewood Drive

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To Whom it May Concern,

I'm writing to you today to strongly request that you deny the CUP for 7069 Applewood Drive as well as attempt to provide some insight into the negative impact that this daycare has brought and will continue to bring if allowed.

Before I begin, I want to thank you for your time and for reading my e-mail. I greatly appreciate it.

This entire Bright Beginnings Daycare ordeal has been extremely stressful for everyone that lives in Applewood. I have seen tears from neighbors that have lived here for 30+ years...I've seen disappointment, sadness, stress and anxiety from neighbors that have never shown any ounce of that (ever), and even some of the little kids that live here are worried about how it will change their little way of life. Personally, I'm deeply shocked, disappointed and saddened by the position we have been put in as taxpayers and members of the community - many of us that live here in Applewood also own businesses, are thoughtful about how we impact where we live, we care deeply about where we reside and how we treat the community we are a part of. Applewood is our home, our safe place, our happy place.

Unfortunately, I'm disappointed to report that the Tuttle, over the past few months have shown arrogance and a deep lack of respect for the Applewood Community. Sadly, it seems they have no desire to fully understand the unique nature of Applewood and what we have built over the last 50+ years - they don't seem to want to accept the negative impact they have put upon Applewood and the families that live here. Their, "I don't care, I'm doing it anyway" sentiment has been quite difficult to swallow for many of us that are friendly, kind hearted and thoughtful people. They have completely disregarded our neighborhood rules and covenants and forged ahead with actions that violate our covenants - as if the rules that apply to the rest of us, don't apply to them. It's hurtful and despicable in my opinion to operate in such a manner. Furthermore, I feel its important to mention that I watched the Tuttle in past Zoom meetings with the planning commission. They have smirked, raised eyebrows, laughed and rolled their eyes more than once, which I found to be rude, hurtful and extremely disrespectful. Their lawyer was also quite condescending in his tone. I found him at times unnecessarily aggressive, arrogant and rude. I want to also add that their lawyer/Tuttle application contained information that is misleading and dishonest. It is all very disappointing to me that people would behave like this and produce misleading information just to get their way. I still would really like to know, what is so funny about our situation...The stress, lack of respect and lack of care for the people living in Applewood that the Tuttle have imposed, is anything but laughable. If there was any chance of the Tuttle winning me over, it was lost the moment I saw them behaving that way while others were speaking. This is not how a responsible business owner behaves and certainly not one that belongs in Applewood.

Bright Beginnings Daycare opened in early September and with that brought a level of stress and anxiety that is very disheartening. The traffic has increased quite a bit on that end of the neighborhood and there have been some close calls. The Applewood neighborhood has a single road access, and there are no sidewalks or

streelights - the pedestrian traffic in the road is significant. Recently, I was driving down and a stream of unfamiliar cars made its way towards the daycare home, I will add, their speed was higher than it should have been in the turn and one of the cars was half in my lane, I had my daughter in the car with me and was forced to slam on my brakes. After experiencing that, I now will not allow my daughter to ride her bike during the hour of pick-up. Which was met with lots of tears and sadness by my daughter. I just cannot risk it. These people coming in and out for drop off and pick-up don't live here, they just don't value the people and the neighborhood as if they lived here and the daycare itself, is simply just not supporting our neighborhood in a positive way. It has negatively impacted our friendly, safe, kind hearted and respectful neighborhood. Applewood is not set-up to support a daily run, in and out type business, with daily traffic needs, etc... we are a very small community of single family homes (owner occupied homes), living peacefully and happily, adhering to our covenants and caring for each other. It is not a business park, nor is it a place for a daycare facility or school and it certainly should not be a place to take advantage of others and what we have built in Applewood to make money.

With that said, I feel its important to communicate that Applewood is unlike most neighborhoods - while other neighborhoods may not notice a difference by having a daycare in their midst, we will, and have. While other neighborhoods are used to through traffic and higher volumes of travelers, we are not. While other neighborhoods are large enough to accommodate this type of thing, ours is not. Applewood is small, quiet, tight knit and very very low traffic. Allowing a daycare business to operate in our neighborhood brings a significant amount of stress to the families that live here and greatly disrupts our way of life. Our feeling of security when our kids are out riding their bikes or when our elderly are out walking is just one of many things that will be impacted. There is a sense of security, predictability if you will, and family up here...having a home without the homeowners living there - operating solely as a business just doesn't feel right. It feels stressful, cold, heavy and sad to all of us. Walking past the home everyday, I feel upset and in a way, violated, I don't like feeling that way in my own neighborhood. We all bought our properties in Applewood to be a part of something unique and special. Each and every home owner here is dedicated to preserving the integrity of what Applewood is and every one of the families that lives here adheres to and respects our neighborhood covenants. What it is not, is a business park or place to run a daycare business. This daycare has already and will continue to disrupt the happiness, beauty and sacred spaces we have created up here as a tight knit community. As a parent, I worry everyday that my daughter is out on her bike (or any other child that lives up here), that someone dropping off or picking up their kids in a hurry will make a mistake that impacts her/their safety. I worry that other businesses will come in and set up shop because we have now set a new precedence that you can buy a home, not live there and have an employee run a business out of it. I worry that our neighborhood will succumb to others looking to make money off of our unique and safe spaces...that after a while, it will no longer be what it once was and that our property values will decrease. Applewood Hill is a magical, beautiful, quiet and safe place for the families that choose to live here. It is not a place to run a daycare business, if the Tuttlés lived here themselves for a number of months, they would very quickly realize this.

As a female business owner myself that gives back to the community and is thoughtful about how and where I conduct business, I just wouldn't do something like this to a neighborhood. There are many other locations that would be better suited for this daycare. This neighborhood is maintained by and lived in by people that care deeply about its safety and integrity and fully understand the heart beat of Applewood...I simply cannot say the same for the Tuttlés, they seem as though they are just looking for the next thing to make more money on - they are not interested in becoming part of our community nor are they interested in supporting our neighborhood covenants.

In closing, there are many many kids in the neighborhood that ride their bikes, scooters, roller skates, etc...in the street because we don't have sidewalks, elderly that walk in the street, dog walkers and runners...We take care of each other up here...we look out for each other in a way that people just driving through simply do not. Our homes are occupied by the families that own them, not by an employee of a business or a sole business. This daycare has already disrupted, brought stress and a feeling of being violated to our neighborhood. Allowing them to continue and to add more kids and more traffic without any regulation or consequence would devastate

this community, our safety, peace of mind and the happiness in our neighborhood. It would ruin what this neighborhood has been built on and has maintained for 50+ years. It is imperative that you deny the CUP for Bright Beginnings Daycare at 7069 Applewood Drive. There are 40 families (100% of residents) that have signed a petition against this daycare and we are all counting on you to help us to keep our neighborhood peaceful and safe. There are 40 families counting on you to see and understand the negative impacts this will create and has created for all of us. Thank you again for your time.

Warm Regards,
Laura Houlihan
6948 Applewood Drive