

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL and U.S. MAIL

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January 20, 2017

Mr. Steve Palmer
Town Planner
New Canaan Town Hall
77 Main Street
New Canaan, CT 06840

**Re: Application of Grace Farms Foundation, Inc. for
Second Amended Special Permit (Pending)
Grace Farms, 365 Lukes Wood Road, New Canaan**

Dear Mr. Palmer:

This letter is written in anticipation of the meeting on January 24th and after receiving on Wednesday a copy of the preliminary "Grace Farms Report," dated January 17, 2017, prepared by Glenn Chalder, of Planimetrics, the planning consultant hired by the Planning & Zoning Commission to assist in evaluating the Application of our client Grace Farms Foundation, Inc. ("Grace Farms").

In view of the issues raised in the Grace Farms Report, the need to discuss them and the revisions being contemplated to the pending Draft Special Permit, internally and with your office and Mr. Chalder, and with Grace Farms' neighbors, Grace Farms shares the Town's concern that the remaining time under the statutory guidelines for this Application will be too compressed to ensure a fair result for all parties.

Accordingly, Grace Farms has agreed to withdraw the current Application, so that we will have time to address the comments received to date, in a comprehensive manner, after which we will re-submit a Revised Application, and incorporate therein by reference the current Application and Record.

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As we have discussed, Grace Farms will re-file its Application, as revised, within sixty (60) days, after which the Commission can schedule a public hearing with adequate time to address the issues, deliberate, and decide.

Additionally, as a demonstration of its good faith in this process, which everyone seems to agree has taken far longer than ever anticipated, Grace Farms is willing to implement the following temporary interim measures immediately, to last until the Commission rules on its re-submitted, revised Application sometime this spring (without prejudice to Grace Farms' right to seek either to omit these or to seek different measures as part of the revised Application):

1. The sound sculpture on the pond will be turned off.
2. The existing walking trails, including those east of the brook, will be clearly marked, with appropriate signage posted, and measures will be taken to direct visitors to stay on the trails and not to stray toward the boundary fence/property line.
3. The following changes to lighting and Foundation program activities will be implemented:
 - (a) The lights in each of the River Building "Volumes," except the Court (gymnasium), presently turned off by timers when not in use, will be turned off manually between 7:00 PM closing and 8:00 PM (to allow for cleaning) each evening when that Volume is not in use. Further, Grace Farms includes herein its present evening schedule (a total of 20 events) for the River Building from February through May, and agrees that this number of events shown will not increase while its Application is pending. NOTE: Grace Community Church, besides its use of the Court, anticipates use of the Commons a total of two events per month between now and May.
 - (b) The Court "Volume" will continue to be used, since Grace Community Church conducts outreach activities therein every evening until 9:30 PM.
 - (c) The security lighting outside the structures and in the parking lots has been evaluated and will be minimized or reduced as far as possible, without compromising security and insurance requirements.

Robinson+Cole

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Please place this letter into the Record as Grace Farms' formal notice of withdrawal. Grace Farms looks forward to refining its Application and to working with you, with its neighbors, and with Mr. Chalder in the process.

Please accept my very best regards.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edward V. O'Hanlan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Edward V. O'Hanlan

EVO'H/ gec