



Waveny Care Network

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I write to respond to Skip Hobbs' letter published last week. It very important that the Town learn what Waveny is doing (see www.ccrccfornc.org) and understand the misinformation campaign that Mr. Hobbs is waging.

Waveny's proposal to build a CCRC at Lapham Road is not a campaign issue, and Waveny has not asked the support of either the elder care issues behind it. Many people understand already. But for many, especially young families for whom retirement and elder care have not become a concern, these are new issues. Waveny needs to explain what is at stake.

We anticipated that in spring 2010 we would formally submit a proposal, which Town government would discuss in open forums and submit to a referendum.

Mr. Hobbs now writes, asking to decide the issue by vote in three weeks. The only plausible reason for his haste is his hope that in this short term his purposely inaccurate statements will not be exposed. Many of us at Waveny have personally entreated him to be truthful, to no avail. Therefore, permit me to dispel Hobbs' inaccuracies in the order he tells them:

First, the \$1M new annual revenue, to be used as the Town chooses: perhaps open space improvement or acquisition?

Second the mulch pile site is not open space in a natural state, and is not accessible to park users. Waveny will fund alternative leaf disposal as part of the project.

Third, the identical deed restrictions that allowed Waveny to build on Farm Road apply to the Lapham Road site. This legal issue will be reviewed by the Attorney General and the Superior Court.

Fourth, leasing Town land will make the CCRC affordable to the range of incomes within the Town. If Waveny were to purchase private land, the CCRC unit price would be much higher, and affordable rental units and scholarships would not be available.

Fifth, the law allows residents to be preferred for admission over non-residents in a CCRC, just as it has at Waveny for years.

Finally, Waveny does not seek to avoid – and does not control -- the approval process that the Town government will use. Waveny welcomes a voters' referendum.

What Waveny seeks, and what Mr. Hobbs will not agree to, is a measured, informed approach, an unemotional balancing of the Town's elder care needs and resources on the one hand, and the Town's real property and open space needs and resources on the other.

Please let this process continue in an orderly fashion. We implore Mr. Hobbs to see that winning should not be sought at the expense of truth. The Town and its quality of life will wind up the loser.

Harry Rein
Chairman, Board of Directors
Waveny Care Network