
From: john mccllland <jmac110@msn.com>

Sent: Sunday, February 26, 2023 12:40 PM

To: washgrove@comcast.net

Subject: Re: Business License

Importance: High

Kathy,

Due to your recent email(s) regarding business licenses, a conversation with Mark Hansen (who brought up the impact of the Latino church's operation/noise on my business), the comprehensive plan (equity, diversity and inclusion sections) and conversations with the planning commission (chair and prior members) - the purpose and validity of the Town ordinance and business permits is of question. Prior emails regarding the Town of Washington Grove ordinances (with specific emphasis on the commercial corner and just recent) never received a response nor the required Town/mayoral action.

A brief synopsis follows:

- The board of zoning appeals intentionally ignored required provisions for a special exception that would have prevented the approval of the current commercial corner special exception use. Per the BZA chair, Mark Hansen - also a Montgomery County attorney by profession, the current political climate (especially in MOCO) would potentially expose the Town to a potential law suit if the church's special exception application was denied - while I am the only business owner operating at the Washington Grove commercial corner who is a white, heterosexual male - and thus less likely to prevail in "any court of competent jurisdiction under the b Rules, Maryland Rules of Procedure".
- The mayor and Town Council refused to take required action of voiding the noncompliant actions of the BZA.
- The mayor literally told the commercial corner's landlord that an artist studio could operate there in direct violation of the Town's Code of ordinances and disregard for the health risks involved - just call it an art office. IF a business license even exists, it is a fraud.
- The "church" now allows for band practice (unrelated to church services and not religious

songs ever heard during those aforementioned services) - which now take place 2-3 times per week in addition to the church services. This is a violation of the business license.

- Fumes from the art "office" have caused evacuation of the premises due to reported headaches and breathing difficulties.
- The church's advertising square footage (in addition to the nonmoving van) far exceeds that which is permitted
- Reference the previously sent emails (reforwarded today) for specifics on applicable Town Ordinance code etc.

The Town of Washington Grove's comprehensive plan as well as its lack of enforcement and adherence to the Town's own Ordinances have caused significant financial damage to my business as well as damage to the health and well-being of all working here. It was an error believing in the rule of law - at least according to the Town of Washington Grove's Code of Ordinances.

As requested repeatedly in the past - please forward to the mayor, town council, planning commission, and the board of zoning appeals

Regards,

John A McClelland

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