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Subject: Shabbos

From: dreeb@albany.edu

Date: Mon, September 24, 2007 2:08 pm

To: dreeb@albany.edu

Cc: dsmith161@verizon.net (more)

Priority: Normal

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FYI---since Marty is supporting the Shabbos development at 320 Fuller I do not want this information shared with the Board.

There are three additional strategies I have been considering about Shabbos.

- 1. The ZBA file on Shabbos does not contain an EIS for the 30 space parking area on the SUNYA campus. If not corrected before the decision, the courts might set aside the verdict through an Article 78 proceeding.
- 2. The variance is being requested as if the Shabbos is a church. It might well be considered a "not for profit religious activity" (item 9 under 280-19, BNRP District) in the Zoning Ordinance. Since the 320 Fuller site is an R-15 site, a BNRP use could not occur in a R-15 district without a rezoning and that could require a referendum vote if a petition from neighbors requested it.
- 3. I could ask that Sharon Cupoli be recused from the ZBA--the significant opposition to the Shabbos by neighbors might require a super majority vote by the ZBA and one less vote for approval of the requested variance might be enough to stop it.

None of these are "stoppers"--they are only "maybes". Mike Whiteman is the lawyer for Shabbos--he was counsel to Rocky when he was governor and then Vice President -- and the Town appears to be frightened of his potential lawsuit against the Town if the Shabbos is not approved. There isalready a letter in the Shabbos file from Whiteman warning the Town about religious discrimination litigation.

I just wanted someone else besides myself to know what I have been thinking about concerning the Shabbos.

If the Shabbos relocates to Western (the Dennys site or the palm reader site, etc)or if it dropped its size so that it could fit on the present site at 316 Fuller, I would loose all interest in its construction because then it would be an improvement instead of a negative.

But if Across the Street Pub was a long shot and Starbucks was a long shot then this one might well be termed a very long shot indeed.

That is why I do not mind just using my own name and PhD etc and leaving the Association alone--but I still do not want voting on policy statements. I should never have done it after Marty requested it--if you