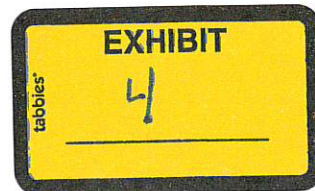


James Carroll

From: Louella Bryant <gathererosebuds@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 9, 2022 8:49 AM
To: architects@gmavt.net; To: James Warnock; Cc: Nicole Lee; Serena Fox; Barry Olson; hreynolds9@gmail.com Harrison Reynolds; Patricia Waugh; Josiah Jackson; ajh@gmavt.net; James Carroll
Subject: Appeal hearing for grass landing strip



TO THE ZBA:

When I attended the May 23 appeal hearing for Kyle Clark's permit for a grass landing strip, I heard Mrs. Ganahl's attorney Claudine Safar say that Mr. Clark's business has nothing to do with the appeal. Having gotten to know the Clark family, I must firmly disagree.

Since he was a young boy, Kyle has been fascinated with flying. He built model airplanes in his father's workshop and as a young teen he constructed a small plane he hoped to pilot. When he was recruited from college to play pro hockey, he used the income to enroll in flying lessons, and at age 23 he earned his pilot's license. His wife got her license at age 22. Their daughter was granted her license when she was 17 and has been flying airplanes solo for two years. Their 16-year-old son is now enrolled in flight lessons, intending to obtain his license next year.

Beta Technologies, Kyle's business of making electric airplanes to carry cargo and get huge delivery trucks off highways, grew out of his passion for flying. Airplanes have been his life, and he is passing that passion to his family. He also is committed to protecting the environment by building and flying quiet electric aircraft (as well as driving electric cars), and to deny him the privilege of flying onto his own 130 acres is spiteful and unfair.

For comparison, our home in Lincoln is surrounded by forestland, and nearly daily I hear rifle shots around the house. I don't like guns and object to bullets whizzing around me, but we let our neighbor Joey Russell hunt on our land. We understand that hunting is a large part of Joey's lifestyle, and we know him to be skilled at shooting and mindful of his neighbors. To deny him the opportunity to do what he loves would create adversity and tension between us. So, too, prohibiting the Clark family from using their own property to engage in their chosen lifestyle would create hardship and ill will.

When I served on Lincoln's select board, we often spoke of Lincoln's aging population, and we brainstormed ideas for how to attract young families to settle here. What we didn't say is we want young families who conform to our old ideas. Kyle Clark is one of the fortunate few whose lifestyle and livelihood commingle. He is bringing the future to Lincoln, and a population of the town is saying they don't want things to change. That's downright hypocritical.

The Clarks' land has plenty of space for a small electric airplane to take off and land without impacting neighbors, the neighbors' horses, or the bobolinks nesting in the neighbor's field. I urge the ZBA to deny this appeal and immediately reinstate Mr. Clark's permit for a grass landing strip.

Sincerely,

Ellie Bryant

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