

James Feenan - Fwd: Planning case #U 2019-0011

From: PBS PBS
To: James Feenan; Julia Acker
Date: 5/26/2020 2:43 PM
Subject: Fwd: Planning case #U 2019-0011

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MAY 26 2020

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>>> Mikela Cameron <mmmcam90@gmail.com> 5/25/2020 11:09 AM >>>

May 25, 2020

4551 Ridgewood Road
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John Haschak Third District Supervisor
Mendocino County CA

Hello John,

I'm writing to you because Mark and I are really concerned about the recent planning commission meeting regarding the AT&T cell tower on Pine Mountain. I watched the live stream on YouTube and was disturbed by one planner stating that she was going to deny it at the beginning of the meeting, and the blatant misinformation from the people that were opposed to the tower.

I was also stunned by the planners lack of research. It appeared that only the 2 men had read the letters. The others including your appointee had already made up their minds to deny the permit and it was obvious they hadn't read the letters in favor of the cell tower. Mark and several others wrote supporting letters, and there was also a petition that a neighbor had, who was going door to door to get signatures but was cut short by the Shelter in Place order. These were all submitted to the Planning Commission. Mrs. Jeavons called in and was asked the count of people opposed and supporting the project and Mrs. Jeavons supplied false numbers. While it is true that there are more people opposed to the tower virtually none of them live here. The people that are in favor of it are our neighbors, the ones that really live here. Cathy Ortiz is the only person that spoke in opposition to the tower at the meeting who actually lives here. Linda Gabrielson lives in Monterey but owns property here. All the others were people that don't live here but were very much against it. It is amazing to me that people that have decent phone service and internet feel like it's alright to deny that to us.

This is primarily a safety issue, having good communications is essential for All of us. Both our county Sheriff and Little Lake Fire Chief wrote letters conveying the importance of the tower for the safety of both the residents and First Responders. After the fire in Redwood Valley our tenuous cell coverage disappeared altogether. Should something happen to either Mark or myself we may not be able to get help, as our landline is unreliable as well. This is true for all the families living on Pine Mountain.

Our internet is slow and expensive. Which is a concern for the parents of school children that live here.

One of the planning commissioners did come up to tour the site but only spoke with Cathy Ortiz. She never made any attempt to contact any of the residents that are in favor of the tower (our contact information was available in the letters we all wrote). One of her concerns was that the tower is just over the border from Pine Mountain Estates which has CCRs against cell towers. She did however, drive past several hoop houses, permitted and unpermitted by the county, that are also banned by the CCRs. As an aside, perhaps the planning commissioners should deal with the existing violations to our CCRs rather than worry about a cell tower that isn't in violation of the CCRs but has been singled out because it is "close". Another commissioner came up and checked the site and surveyed the trees. He pointed out the tower would only show 20 feet above the trees and could be "camouflaged" with faux branches.

John, there are a lot more people who LIVE HERE that are in favor of the tower than are against it. I think it's appalling the people that do not live here

feel like they can deny us reliable communications which are vital to public safety. Please consider our needs when deciding about the tower and we would greatly appreciate an unbiased planning commissioner representing us.

Thank you,
Mikela and Mark Cameron

Sent from my iPad