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Councillor Sullivan

(du)

ORDERED:

That the Government Operators schedule an ~~eight~~ meeting to discuss the FY2001 City Council goals and priorities ~~with~~ at a time and location that is more accessible to our Senior Citizens.

VU9

Edward Rabe
3 Shady Hill Square
Cambridge, Massachusetts

October 23, 2000

Dear City Counselor

I purchased my home in Shady Hill Square in 1985, when my son was 1 year old. I decided to settle here because I knew other homeowners in the Square and I understood its unique character. I felt fortunate to have found a Shady Hill Square property on the market, as I knew this was a rare event. Some of these properties have been occupied by the same family for 30 years or more. At the time of the purchase, I became aware of the restrictions the owners of the green, the Epsteins, had placed on any alterations to the buildings around the Square. I agreed with these restrictions, because they preserved a unique architectural landmark. I took pride in the fact that Shady Hill Square was on a tour by the School of Architecture of Cambridge sites of architectural interest. When my former neighbors, the Goodman's, erected a lattice façade on their house, I was vocal, with the Epsteins, in opposing this change in the uniform nature of the buildings. The Goodman's removed the lattice. My wife and I have contributed to the upkeep of the private road which runs through the property, even though this road is owned by the Epsteins, who have not undertaken to maintain it themselves. We and others have taken on this expense willingly, because we all share the road. We have also paid the expense of the upkeep of the central green, including groundskeeping, the removal of several trees which were brought down by hurricanes, and the planting of trees to replace them. We made these contributions because we all enjoy the central green and make use of it for games, sitting outdoors, parties, walking pets, and other communal uses. Others in the neighborhood have used it as well as well as a place for doing exercises, walking their pets, and just walking through. I have maintained a picnic table at personal expense on the green for 15 years, and it is often used by residents and non-residents for relaxation and meals.

I believe the communal use and upkeep of the green is consistent with the intent of the original designers of Shady Hill Square. The restrictions on structural, cosmetic, or landscape alterations placed by the Epsteins 30 years ago are also consistent with the spirit of maintaining the original design and use. All the residents of Shady Hill Square are proud of its history and unique character, and have worked hard to preserve it. We believe landmark status designation will help in preserving the character of this unique Cambridge site, and urge you to vote in support of this designation.

Sincerely yours,



Edward Rabe



City of Cambridge

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IN CITY COUNCIL

October 23, 2000

COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
COUNCILLOR BORN
COUNCILLOR BRAUDE
COUNCILLOR DAVIS
COUNCILLOR DECKER
MAYOR GALLUCCIO
VICE MAYOR MAHER
COUNCILLOR REEVES
COUNCILLOR FOOMEY

ORDERED: That the Government Operations schedule an eighth meeting to discuss the FY2001 City Council goals and priorities at a time and location that is more accessible to the Senior Citizens.

In City Council October 23, 2000.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy; *D. Margaret Drury*

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

Order #23

Schedule an eighth meeting to discuss the FY2001 City Council goals and priorities at a time convenient for senior citizens.

Councillor Sullivan and entire membership

In City Council October 23, 2000

ORDER ADOPTED