

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CITY HALL, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139 • (617) 498-9017

OFFICE OF
THE CITY CLERK

April 6, 1983

Mr. Carl F. Barron, President
Putnam Furniture Leasing
614 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Mr. Barron:

Please be advised that the City Council is in receipt of your letter dated March 28, 1983, regarding problems pertaining to alcoholics, especially in the Central Square area and the search for solutions to these problems.

Pursuant to your communication, the City Council at its meeting of April 4, 1983 has scheduled a public hearing in order to discuss this matter in more detail. Said hearing has been tentatively scheduled for Monday, May 9, 1983 to be held in the City Council Chamber, City Hall.

The City Council has requested that I inform you of this action and request your response as to the convenience of the scheduling of this hearing. The Council has further requested your kind assistance in arranging a meeting with the Governor or the appropriate member of his staff and any other parties you feel are concerned.

Your kind attention in this matter will be greatly appreciated by the City Council. If you have any further questions in regard to this matter, please contact this office at 498-9017.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, which appears to read "Paul E. Healy", is written over a horizontal line.

Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.



March 28, 1983

Governor Michael S. Dukakis
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Department
State House
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Governor Dukakis:

On January 27, 1978, you sent me a letter (a photostatic copy of which is attached herewith) concerning your sympathetic views towards providing assistance in solving problems pertaining "alcoholics in the Central Square area, and alcoholism in general". Unfortunately, since receiving your letter, nothing further has been done about this matter, to the best of my knowledge.

Although drugs are more widely publicized, as to their dangers, I believe is a more insidious danger, because it is more widely accepted, socially, privately, and openly. I fully agree that alcoholism should be treated as a sickness, and not as a criminal situation. However, today, the alcoholic, especially the low-income one, is in a very bad situation since, because of his status as being a non-criminal, he is not able to obtain the care and attention, even to basic food and shelter, that many criminals do. I feel that a large number of these people are absolutely unable to make decisions of their own, and that, as a result of the adverse effects of alcohol upon them, mentally, physically, and emotionally, assistance should be provided as a humane move. Furthermore, the general public should be entitled to protection from alcoholics whose very actions are unpredictable. They create, at best, a strong feeling of unease in most people, especially women.

I trust that a solution might be provided in the very near future in the form of "mandatory medical treatment under certain circumstances". I am sure there various state agencies that do, in some fashion or degree, deal with the problems of alcoholism. Unfortunately, I do not know of any situation wherein the police are empowered to do more than pick up an incapacitated person, unconscious, and hold them for only a limited few hours, or, possibly, let them go into a detoxification. The courts have very limited powers, as well. We are talking about someone who cannot help himself, and both of the agencies, the police and the courts are practically helpless to do anything.

I would like to suggest a possible meeting with several responsible members of your administration with a cross section of the Cambridge community, including city government, police department, the clergymen's association,

Carl F. Barron, President
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614 Mass. Ave. 364-3358

Paul Corcoran, 1st Vice Pres.
Corcoran & Co.
615 Mass Ave. 864-3000

Arnold Ginsberg, 2nd Vice Pres.
Rink Realty Co.
727 Mass. Ave. 661-7777

Margaret Adams, Secretary
Dr. Crane's Office
847 Mass. Ave. 878-3025

Susie Karadizian, Treasurer
Charlesbank Trust
871 Mass. Ave. 864-4444

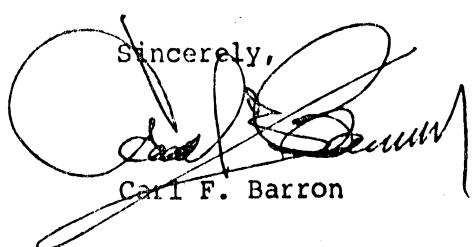
Governor Michael S. Dukakis
March 28, 1983
Page Two

neighborhood groups, and business groups, as well as Judge Lawrence Feloney (who has had extensive experience in this area) so that something tangible might develop from a presentation of a cross section of the community of their experiences and problems and how they might be solved as pertaining to alcoholism and the treatment of alcoholics.

In the more than 5 years since your letter to me, I have seen an increase in the number of drunks in our community, and I am hopeful that, with your positive attitude of confronting problems squarely, this matter will not be shunted to one side, but will be both discussed and acted upon.

~~I would be happy to cooperate and know that others would be, as well. May I hear from you relative to this matter in the very near future?~~

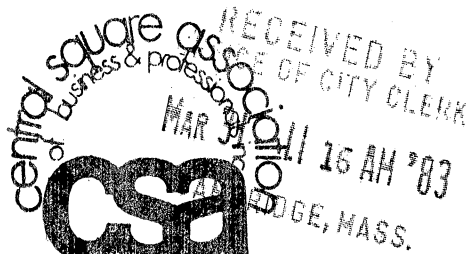
Sincerely,



Carl F. Barron

Enclosure

cc: Cambridge City Council ✓
Chief of Police Anthony Paolillo
Honorable Lawrence E. Feloney
Cambridge City Manager Robert Healy
Rev. Robert Utter
Mr. James C. Caragianes
Board of Directors, Central Square Association
David Hughes, Executive Director, Cambridge Chamber of Commerce
Edward Murphy, Cambridge Chamber of Commerce
Mr. Richard Rossi, Cambridge Deputy City Manager



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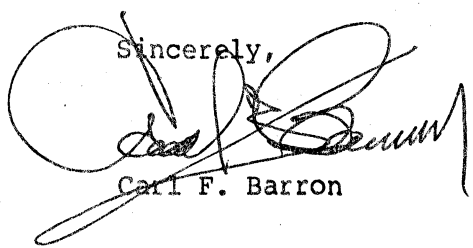
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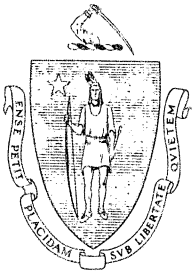
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Mr. James C. Caragianes
Board of Directors, Central Square Association
David Hughes, Executive Director, Cambridge Chamber of Commerce
Edward Murphy, Cambridge Chamber of Commerce
Mr. Richard Rossi, Cambridge Deputy City Manager



MICHAEL S. DUKAKIS
GOVERNOR

RECEIVED BY
OFFICE OF CITY CLERK
THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
JAN 31 10 16 AM '78
STATE HOUSE BOSTON 02133
CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

January 27, 1978

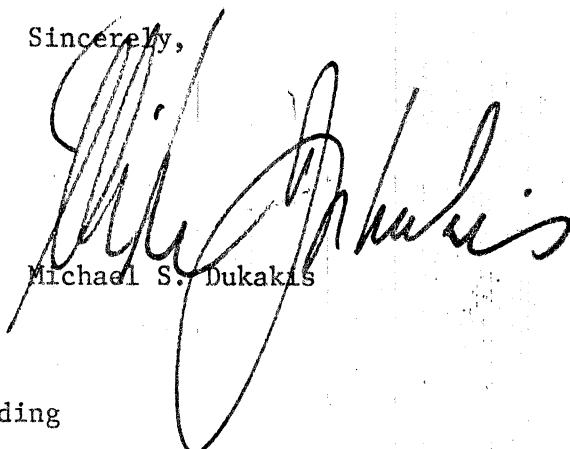
Mr. Carl F. Barron
Putnam Furniture Leasing Company, Inc.
614 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Dear Mr. Barron:

Jeff Chesky has shared your letter to him with me. I can well appreciate your concern both about alcoholics in the Central Square area, and alcoholism in general. I am taking the liberty of forwarding a copy of your letter on to Commissioner of Public Health Jonathan Fielding, and I am asking him to contact you about Representative Lombardi's legislation, and the effort that the Department of Public Health is currently making to provide rehabilitation services to alcoholics.

Thank you for bringing this to my attention.

Sincerely,


Michael S. Dukakis

MSD:dsp

cc: Commissioner Jonathan Fielding

S-214

Comm. from Paul E. Healy, City Clerk, transmitting a comm. from Carl F. Barron addressed to Gov. Dukakis requesting a future meeting with representatives of his administration with Cambridge officials Re: treatment of alcoholics.

4/4/83

Letter to Carl

Barron requesting
his help in arranging
meeting with the
Governor.

In City Council, Carl Barron notified of tentative
April 4, 1983 hearing date & his assistance &
response requested 4/6/83

4/4/83

CC moved for
meeting in May
on the second Monday
in May.