

SARAH H. LUICK, ESQ.
65 EAST INDIA ROW, 4C
BOSTON, MA 02110
May 31, 2000

Cambridge City Council
c/o Clerk
City Hall
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

Re: Protection needed for the population of white geese along the Charles River

Dear Councilors:

Though not a resident of Cambridge, I am a former Cambridge employee, was born in Cambridge, grew up in this area, have old family roots in Cambridge near the Charles River in fact, and am writing in support of the white geese along the Charles River to have their very small habitat protected.

I have been following their situation for some time now, and simply fail to appreciate how they can reasonably be viewed as a safety or health threat, and also why simply because they are not indigenous to this area, that they can or should be treated so harshly. I venture to say that most of the plant life isn't indigenous either along the Charles in Cambridge. In this urban area, there are outside cats and dogs, mice, rats, and pigeons, as well as many people who use the area. I do not understand why there is no effort to accommodate in any way shape or form, the plight of the white geese against the forces of development that simply trivialize their lives. Why is it so impossible to view them ever as a wonderful resource to accommodate.

I do not understand why those who dislike the geese for whatever reason are able to so totally exclude from having any meaningful say in what happens to them, all those who want to protect the geese and their habitat. That is so clearly outrageous and heavy-handed, and as a long time attorney in government, in my opinion, a pretty poor way to determine and address the public interest. I do not understand why no efforts at mediation - where opponents and proponents of the geese can meet on equal footing has not been tried in good faith. It is not credible how being heavy-handed with the geese can be viewed as government sanctioned actions taken in good faith and reasonable, as opposed to simply being a reflection of "I can't be bothered with them," or with the concerns of those wanting to protect them.

Thank you for reading my heartfelt remarks and plea for the geese, who need us compassionate humans to lobby for their continued permission to even exist.

Very truly yours,

Sarah H. Luick

Consent Communication #2

1755

A communication was received from
Sarah H. Luick, Esq., relative to
protection for the white geese along
the Charles River.

In City Council June 12, 2000

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