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Committee on Elders and the Community Development Department confer with the residents of the Russell School neighborhood in order to prepare plans, models, etc. to the neighborhood regarding development and to take a bus tour to other elderly housing units for comparison and to forward a report to the City Council..

The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 P. M.

For the Committee,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alfred Vellucci". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Councillor Alfred E. Vellucci  
Chairman

# City of Cambridge

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In City Council..... May 21, 1979.....

**The** City Council **Committee** on Elder Affairs

**to which** was referred a request from the Council on Aging to meet and discuss the future use of the Russell School reports that the Committee met on Monday, May 14, 1979 at 6:15 P.M. in the Walnut Room at City Hall.

Chairman of the Committee, Councillor Alfred E. Vellucci, stated that he supports the development of elderly housing in all areas of the city indicating how he had fought for elderly housing in his neighborhood with the end result being the completion of a twenty story development on Lambert Street.

Councillor Francis Duehay stated that he too is a strong supporter of the elderly and elderly housing. However, since he had been working with the residents of the Russell School neighborhood for nearly a year and since he had only been told by the Cambridge Housing Authority the day before a demolition contract was to be awarded that federal money would be available for elderly housing, he made a firm and irrevocable commitment to vote to sell the former Russell School site for the construction of single and two family houses.

Councillor David Wylie also stated that his present concern for and past support of the elderly and elderly housing, but he said that he had been working with the neighborhood in the Russell School area for two years on future development plans and had pledged his support for the sale of the property for ~~Reports,~~ the development of single and two family houses.

Mr. Dennis Griffin, Executive Director of the Council on Aging, spoke in behalf of the group and reminded the Committee of the Planning Board's so called "compromise report" which in his view represented an alternative to just elderly housing. He further stated that he thought the Planning Board's report and recommendation was an excellent resolve to the neighborhood's concerns.

Both Councillors Duehay and Wylie indicated that the neighborhood felt otherwise and that since they had been committed to single and two family houses on this site, they could not change their positions.

Councillor Wylie stated that the Cambridge Housing Authority has to bear primary responsibility for the problem and confusion over elderly housing. They had been told he said that other alternatives were or could be available regarding the strong opposition to elderly housing on this site. However, they have not done anything about it.

At this time, Councillor Vellucci recommended that the Council on Aging, the

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## REPORT

**Committee on** Elder Affairs re: future  
use of the Russell School.

In City Council,

May 21, 1979

5/21/79

Placed on File

Report Accepted  
and Passed

Referred to Hearing  
Then

Placed on File