



Representative Jeff Curtis
President, Board of Representatives
888 Washington Blvd. 4th Floor
Stamford, CT 06901

September 1, 2022

Dear Representative Curtis:

At approximately 6 pm on August 22nd, I was informed by a GNA Board member that Representative Nina Sherwood had posted an email on the BoR website containing information regarding two (2) new proposals to maintain 35 Crescent Street as a community center. The Board member requested that the Board be notified concerning this information. As GNA President I was scheduled to speak the following evening in support of the proposal for mixed-income workforce housing. To ensure that this was still the Board's position, I forwarded a link to Representative Sherwood's email posting. The majority of the Board members wanted more time to explore the new proposals and we notified our membership via an email blast about the changing circumstances. On August 23rd I spoke as a private citizen in support of mixed-income workforce housing. Other Board members spoke in opposition.

Since August 22nd Board members have done their own individual research, and the proposals Representative Sherwood posted did not seem viable to many of them. The officers of the Board met with Mayor Simmons and her staff for updated information, and we learned that the Mayor's office also deemed these proposals not to be viable from a legal, fiscal, or operational standpoint.

The majority of the GNA Board once more supports 51 mixed-income workforce housing units for 35 Crescent Street. Concerns regarding community space have been alleviated by the developer informing us that 4300sq. feet of space would be available for the community's use; the renovation of the former building is to include twelve (12) apartments and the community space administered by the onsite management company; new tax revenue of approximately \$100,000, a year for the city; the fact that about 1822 current city employees meet the income criteria for the housing; that the second building will be built on stilts to provide adequate parking; the new residents should provide an economic boost to our local small businesses; and lastly that the Board of Finance has made it clear that they will not support the development of a community center at 35 Crescent Street.

We will be informing our members of this decision and we ask the Board of Representatives to support this proposal.

Sincerely,

Marie F. Metz, President