

November 20, 2017

Dear Maria,

Please forward this letter to all members of the ZBA.

Dear members of the ZBA,

Once again, the 134-138 Babcock Place project revisions disregard the concerns of the neighborhood, the ZBA, the Planning Board, the Town's Architectural Peer Reviewer, and the abutters to the property, all of whom have called for a smaller building. The footprint remains unchanged. We have submitted a petition with over 200 signatures which endorses and presents a plan for an acceptable, smaller building. I call on the ZBA to deny waivers for this project unless the developer presents A SMALLER building.

Once again, the developer is presenting inaccurate, and deceptive drawings especially regarding trees and their "landscape design". They show 60' trees where none exist, and misrepresent the size and location of existing trees. They show new, small trees and shrubs growing within shallow 11' setbacks, in the shadows of the 58' tall surrounding building, where it will be too dark for anything but weeds to grow. They suggest that their small plantings will make up for the loss of the existing 50-60' mature trees which provide the only vegetative screen the abutters have and hope to maintain.

Once again, the developer demonstrates his intention to make as large a building and as much money as possible. From the first disingenuous drawings which proposed a building they "weren't planning on making but had to get in under the wire", to inaccurate drawings which didn't even show changes in elevation between abutters and the project site, to duplicitous drawings which misrepresent perspectives, trees, and the effects of "landscaping", the disregard for the residents of Brookline and the undermining of the admirable intention of affordable housing, demands the ZBA step up to the plate and deny waivers for this project until/unless a smaller building is proposed.

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