From:	Polly Selkoe
To:	cook; hamlin; hines; modig; oudens; sheikin@iconarch.com; zarrillo (mjz@mzarrillo.com)
Cc:	Maria Morelli
Subject:	FW: To members of the Brookline Planning Board re: Centre Street
Date:	Wednesday, June 01, 2016 3:57:41 PM

FYI

From: swartz [mailto:chswartz@rcn.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 01, 2016 3:11 PM
To: Polly Selkoe
Subject: To members of the Brookline Planning Board re: Centre Street

To the Brookline Planning Board,

Since I am not able to attend Thursday's Planning Board meeting, I am forwarding an email expressing my concerns about the proposed 40B at 40 Centre St. I hope that you can take the time to read this.

This email to you is to express my concern about the proposed 40B at 40 Centre St. To put the proposal in the context of Centre St. as a whole, I do not know of any other street in Coolidge Corner that has had its early 20th century streetscape more decimated than Centre St. On the even side of the street between Fuller Street and Williams the decimation is almost complete. Only one of the original Victorian homes still stands, and it is stuck between 100 and 112 Centre.

The block of Centre St. between Williams and Wellman also has one remaining Victorian home after two apartment buildings replaced other Victorians.

The only block on the even side of Centre St. without modern highrise buildings is the block between Wellman and Beacon. It is essential to protect the scale and integrity of this block. Just last spring, neighbors planted a flower garden in a triangle of the Centre St. East parking lot across from 40 Centre St.

The residents of Centre Street care deeply about the neighborhood and feel besieged by developers planning to remove buildings that comprised the original streetscape. The photo below shows part of the odd side of the street without the scars of inappropriate replacements.

Fifteen years ago a beautiful Victorian was demolished and replaced by a building out of scale and character with the neighborhood. At that time I hoped never again would this happen to Centre Street.

Please consider the Centre St. neighborhood as a whole and support the neighbors in an effort to preserve 40 Centre St. and protect it from inappropriate development.

Chuck Swartz
TMM Pct. 9

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