

## **Letters**

### **Town board must not kowtow to developer**

To the Editor:

Linda French's letter of April 17, concerning the Coalition for the Responsible Growth of Dover (CRGD), questions its objectives and asks if the group is opposed to the Dover Knolls project. French also thinks CRGD should have first approached her group.

I'm a member of CRGD and attended all Citizens for a Better Dover (CBD) meetings held just prior to elections.

Over the years, many dedicated residents spent time planning for redevelopment of the Harlem Valley Psychiatric Center in public meetings. We envisioned a walkable village centered around the railroad station with adequate commercial/light industry/retail stores to allow growth in a central location, so that Route 22 would not evolve into another traffic congested Route 9 or Route 7.

We envisioned sound planning for the responsible growth of Dover. I support responsible growth that benefits all taxpayers.

Redevelopment of the deteriorating HVPC campus needs to be a priority, not an afterthought. Since the Dykeman parcel is not a part of the HVPC, it should not be developed first.

We did not envision the precipitous action taken by some members of our newly elected board to provide the developer with what amounts to a double density residential building bonus on the Dykeman parcel, particularly without proper public notice.

We have one chance to get this redevelopment right. Our board must follow the law and consider the safety, welfare and health of the residents first, instead of focusing on a developer's special interest.

Evelyn Cbiarito  
Member  
Coalition for the  
Responsible Growth of Dover

### **Town must follow proper procedure with developer**

To the Editor:

I appreciate your coverage of the development of the former Harlem Valley Psychiatric Center in last week's edition.

The site is an incredible asset not only for the Dover community, but also for all surrounding communities. As an adjacent owner (a 170 acre farm), a Dover town resident, a huge supporter of development at the site, and a seasoned attorney, I felt a strong sense of duty to ensure that the residents, both local and regional, received the fair process that they are entitled to as this site is developed.

Working in the legal field, the last item on my list of fun pastimes is to join in a lawsuit. It's also not the way I like to spend my extra pocket money (my donation to the lawsuit has delayed my purchase of my Harley-Davidson Dyna Super Glide) so the accusation of ulterior motives in bringing this lawsuit is somewhat baffling.

Having said that, the simple purpose of the lawsuit is to ensure that the town absolutely follows the procedures mandated by law.

I am not the lawyer handling this case, but in my legal opinion, the town, unfortunately, did not follow the law and that jeopardizes the process we all agreed to.

Barbara Clay  
member  
Coalition for the  
Responsible Growth of Dover