

Lynelle Lewis

From: Tony Constantouros
Sent: Tuesday, August 23, 2022 9:25 PM
To: Lynelle Lewis
Subject: Arlington Church Letter 8-13-2022

From: Faith Abel <frabel1@hotmail.com>
Date: Saturday, August 13, 2022 at 5:10 PM
To: Tony Constantouros <TConstantouros@kppcsd.org>
Cc: Arlington Community Church Ucc <acc.ucc.staff@gmail.com>, Sylvia Hacaj <SHacaj@kppcsd.org>, Mike Logan <MLogan@kppcsd.org>, Christopher Deppe <cdeppe@kppcsd.org>, Eileen Nottoli <ENottoli@kppcsd.org>, Rachele Sherris-Watt <rsherriswatt@kppcsd.org>
Subject: Re: Copy of Letter to the Editor Sept. Outlook

There seems to be a misunderstanding by you as to who to contact at ACC. Protocol to arrange a follow up meeting should have involved a direct communication with me, ACC President. This was not done. This letter from you is the first direct communication from KPPCSD to me since the ACC Council met on May 11 when the District Interim GM, Rick Benson, and now current Interim GM Tony Constantouros were present. A "preliminary exploration" (Rick Benson's words) for possible sites for the KPPCSD Building were discussed, the parking lot being one of those sites. The Council made clear that ACC Council objected to that possibility as our portion of the parking lot was not for sale, lease, or a swap arrangement as it would cause a major loss of parking for the church, and others in the community.

Regarding expectations: ACC would not have expected the District to order a survey to be made of the church property and concept plans to be drawn up for its use as a police station. The architect was then requested to share his drawings at length at a public board meeting. At the same board meeting the KPPCSD directors commented on the options and were not shy about voicing their approval for the parking lot option (unofficially, but on record) and were dismissive of the other options. It is now quite clear to the public what course of action the Board favors. Why are you surprised that the Church also wants its voice heard publicly? It is truly unreasonable to think that the church would not respond publicly when the Board has done so themselves putting ACC in a position to be seen unfavorably by the community and the parking lot as the best option for the police station.

My letter to the editor of the Outlook presents the position of ACC's Council on the parking lot, which is not a space that exclusively benefits ACC, but is a community resource for: patrons of the library, Community Center program attendees, parents of the children attending the three schools housed on the Church's premises, Boy Scouts, users of the picnic area, basketball courts, tennis courts, tot lot, and other park facilities.

In short, I do not intend to ask the Outlook to return my letter unpublished. The ACC Council will continue to oppose the use of the parking lot and are not going to suggest a meeting with KPPCSD other than one at which the entire Council is present.

As indicated in the letter to the editor, we support the Police Dept., but oppose the use of the parking lot for their building.

Sincerely,

Faith Abel, ACC President

On Aug 12, 2022, at 3:21 PM, Tony Constantouros <TConstantouros@kppcsd.org> wrote:

Since I do not have email addresses, I would appreciate circulating this message to all members of the Church Council.

I was very surprised and disappointed to see President Abel's letter to the Outlook opposing any arrangement that would allow use of the Church's portion of the parking lot. I have tried to indicate an interest in a follow-up meeting with the Church Council. I would have expected Church representatives to discuss its concerns with District officials rather than take them to the press.

The District is sensitive to the Church's needs and holds the Church in high esteem as an important part of the Kensington community. We understand that parking is a valuable community resource but the District must balance a number of interests, including the community's desire to keep the Police Department in Kensington. Our options for a new location are extremely limited. Moreover, we have potential alternatives that, with some refinement, could address the concerns expressed in President Abel's letter.

This topic was not on the agenda for last night's meeting. I had hoped that I could meet with a Church representative or committee before the matter goes back to the Board. We still want to collaborate with the Church. In that spirit, I ask that you direct the Outlook to return your letter unpublished to enable us to have direct conversations.

The District will, of course, do whatever is necessary to fulfill its obligation to Kensington residents. But we believe that working together, we can achieve a better outcome for the Church and the community.

Sincerely,
Tony Constantouros
Interim General Manager

Kensington Police Protection & Community Services District

<image001.png>

510-526-4141 | Main
650-888-4025 | Mobile
510-526-1028 | Fax

From: Faith Abel <frabel1@hotmail.com>
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2022 at 3:25 PM
To: Sylvia Hacaj <SHacaj@kppcsd.org>
Cc: Tony Constantouros <TConstantouros@kppcsd.org>
Subject: Copy of Letter to the Editor Sept. Outlook

Arlington Community Church
52 Arlington Ave.
Kensington, CA.. 94707

August 10, 2022

Dear Ms. Hacaj, President
Mr. Constantouros, Interim GM

Attached is a copy of my Letter to the Editor of the Outlook that I sent today for the September publication. I am aware that the KPPCSD meets tomorrow evening, so I wanted to send this information in time to be available for that meeting, as it deals with an issue that KPPCSD is discussing, and I want to make sure that the position of the ACC Council is clear to the Board of Directors. I am copying Tony Constantouros, Interim GM of KPPCSD on this letter.

I think you will find our letter clearly stating the position of ACC , and encourage the KPPCSD Board to consider another option.

Thank you,
Faith Abel, Arlington Community Church President