

April 5, 2016

Good evening,

Relative to the Puppet House matter involving the Legacy group, I have been asked to make a brief statement this evening on behalf of the individual plaintiffs: Joan Johnson, Eleanor & Jim Stach, and Rob Alling.

Since the start of the Puppet House matter, beginning with the appeal to the Town's Zoning Board of Appeals, both the individual plaintiffs and the Stony Creek Association have retained the New Haven firm of Fasano, Ippolito & Lee as legal counsel. Together, we have been working almost exclusively with Attorney Tim Lee.

In addition to representing the interest of the individual neighbors and the Stony Creek Association in the Puppet House matter, over the past few months, Attorney Lee has also represented the Association in some other legal matters, such as an appeal to the Freedom of Information Commission.

The firm of Fasano, Ippolito & Lee is an outstanding, highly respected firm. Attorney Tim Lee is an exemplary land use attorney, among the most experienced and highly respected in Connecticut.

Over the past few months, it has become increasingly apparent that Attorney Lee may face a situation in which these clients -- the Stony Creek Association and the individual plaintiffs -- may not always be on the exact same page. There may be slight differences of opinion, however minor, especially involving specific items relative to the Puppet House property.

Rather than asking Tim Lee to try to juggle and balance even slightly different goals -- basically asking Attorney Lee to make legal arguments for two different positions, even positions with minor differences -- the individual plaintiffs have collectively decided that it is more prudent to retain a separate law firm to represent their interests in this matter.

This decision is absolutely not a reflection on Attorney Lee's skills or performance, but is a decision founded on deep respect for his jurisprudence skills and strong ethics. This decision to hire separate counsel is based on fairness to and with the greatest respect for Attorney Lee. Thank you.

Linda Reed

For Joan Johnson, Eleanor & Jim Stach, and Rob Alling