

PSC

Martin, Jackie

From: Mel Gilbert
Sent: Tuesday, June 05, 2012 2:38 PM
To: Martin, Jackie
Cc: Brown, Denise
Subject: Public Safety Committee Meeting June 19

Dear Jackie

Further to our telephone conversation of June 5, 2012, this e mail is to request "delegation status" at the above meeting.

As I explained to you I have been involved in various discussions with Stephanie Poirier, Municipal Law Enforcement Officer; Mark Henderson, Director Business Liaison and Denise Brown, Councilor Ward 11 for some time now. I purchased this property in October 2009 at which time my lawyer informed me that the zoning related to this property (R9) did not preclude me from erecting a ground sign to promote my home business as a mortgage broker. In Aug 2010 Ms Poirier sent me a letter informing me that I was violating the sign and canopy by law in that the fact I occupy the premises as my home contravenes the letter of this bylaw and that I was to remove the sign.

Since the area surrounding this property is highly commercial in nature with everything from apartment buildings and old folks homes to churches to accounting and lawyer firms to dentists and doctor's offices to hairdressing salons, all of which have ground signs of varying size and shape, I contacted Mark Henderson to see what could be done. On April 27, 2011 Mark sent me an e mail telling me to "hold on, I haven't forgotten you, just trying to get you the right answer and direction," so I waited. I never heard anything more from Mark, or anyone else, so I assumed that he had solved my problem. On March 7, 2012, and with no prior notice, Ms Poirier showed up on my doorstep with a fine/ticket for \$215 for violation of the sign and canopy by law.

I wasn't able to get any response from Mark Henderson's e mail or voice mail so I called Denise Brown who actually came out my home to look at my situation for herself and she informed me she would look into it. The ticket's expiry date was Mar 22 and since I had not heard back from Denise by then I paid it. Shortly after Mar 22 I received a phone call from Denise telling me that she had spoken with the Mayor who had recommended that an exception to the bylaw be granted and that she would explore the possibility of refunding the \$215 to me for the ticket. Problem solved.

On May 22 Ms Poirier sent me an e mail once again informing me that I was in violation of the bylaw and that I have until June 29, 2012 to remove the sign or the City will pursue legal action etc., etc. I forwarded this e mail to Denise who then told me that I need to apply for an amendment to the by law. I informed Ms Poirier of this and she responded by sending me another demand letter reinforcing the earlier one and telling me to contact you with regard to appearing at the Safety Committee meeting.

Assuming you grant my request to attend the meeting, what should I bring with me and what should I expect?

Regards

Mel

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