

THERESE BRADY AND STEPHEN CORUM
151 Sherman Avenue
Glen Ridge, NJ 07028

October 4, 2010

BY FAX TRANSMISSION OF TWO PAGES TO: 973-748-3926

Mayor Hughes and Glen Ridge Borough Council
Borough of Glen Ridge
825 Bloomfield Avenue, Glen Ridge, NJ 07028

Dear Mayor and Council:

In June, 2008, we were to be afforded the opportunity to speak regarding the then recent construction of a batting cage that is less than 60 feet from our property (directly across the street), but we were inexcusably denied that opportunity. In fact, we were chased from the meeting by a mob of yelling people, most of whom do not live in the neighborhood. We wrote to you then and requested that you promulgate codes to regulate batting cages, and have not heard from you, so we are proposing a batting cage ordinance be adopted without further delay to protect the borough from liability (as GRAA uniformed children use this facility) and to protect the neighborhood from continuing nuisances.

The batting cage across the street has existed without permit or regulation now for well over two years. Batting cages are recognized as promoting noise as private nuisances and as dangerous to minor children. The use of aluminum bats and regulation balls are recognized as making excessive noise. There are usually time of day restrictions for use as well as setoff restrictions, and disallowances for front yard construction, disallowances of aluminum bats and regulation balls. Most batting cage facilities require the use of helmets and only one person in the facility at a time. For example, the *University of Georgia* requires:

- One person in a batting cage at a time
- Batters must wear protective helmet
- Batters must be at least 48" tall
- Children under the age of 12 must be supervised by an adult
- Patrons enter cage at their own risk

Additionally, even professional ball players have been injured in batting cage facilities, and many facilities prohibit or severely restrict use by minor children in that the cages can be severely dangerous to children, as shown by this recovery in Florida (**Florida-Broward County. Negligent supervision - Failure to prevent child from entering high-speed batting cage - Orbital fracture.** Defendant negligently allowed plaintiffs' 12 year old minor daughter to enter a high-speed batting cage where she was struck in the face with a ball, sustaining an orbital fracture.) And, as further example, in 2008, a Miami jury awarded a young man \$1.2 million in a lawsuit over a batting cage injury when he was hit in the groin by a 60-mph pitch from a pitching machine.

We were at the zoning board meeting in 2008 at which this batting cage was allowed without consideration of these liabilities, dangers and nuisances, even over the objections of the code enforcement officer and the chair of the board. We are looking forward to a speedy passing of this ordinance. Additionally, of course, the commercial use of this facility would be against the existing codes.

Letter to Mayor Hughes and Glen Ridge Borough Council
October 4, 2010
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As an addendum, we would add that the property on which the batting cage is located is the same property that maintained a dumpster parked in the street on Sherman Avenue that was the direct cause of a horrific accident in the early morning hours in December, 2003. We would remind the borough that the borough is well aware that we had warned of the dangers of this dumpster upon which snow had piled up due to plowing and that it had been left parked in the street for months and months, presenting a dangerous eyesore on the street just across from our home. Nothing was done by the borough about that dumpster until it caused serious injury to two young residents from the southside of Glen Ridge. The dumpster presented significant liability to the borough, which is responsible for the maintenance and safety of its streets, but our warnings went unheeded, and no thought was given to the eyesore that we had to look at each and every day for month after month after month. Now, there is another nuisance at that property that presents danger. We expect that the borough will move on this expeditiously without further delay or cause for us to take this to a further level.

We expect this letter to be included in the written communications of the Council's next meeting.

Very truly yours,

Therese Brady and Stephen Corum

Michael J. Rohal

From: mharbeck [mharbeck@comcast.net]
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 2:13 PM
To: mjrohal@glenridgenj.org
Subject: commuter parking on Highland Ave.

Dear Michael Rohal,

I am concerned about the increasing number of cars parked on Highland Avenue from morning to evening every weekday. These are not cars owned by Highland Ave. residents. I believe they are owned by people who have chosen Highland Avenue as a convenient parking lot while they are at work. This is happening on both the north and south ends of the street. I hope the town is able to impose 3-hour parking restrictions here as you have on many of the surrounding streets in our neighborhood.

Thank you.

Michelle Harbeck

35 Highland Ave.
Glen Ridge



Block Party Application

Street locations of Block Party including cross streets:

Forest Avenue between ~~the~~ Glen Ridge Pkwy + Sunset.

Applicant's Name, Address, Telephone, and E-mail: Forest Avenue School Festival of Jack O'Lantern

Nancy DiCicco 97 Highland Ave 973-768-0113 pmdncs@yahoo.com

Date of Block Party: October 30, 2010

Time of Block Party: 6:30 - 8

Closed Block: Forest Ave. between Glen Ridge Pkwy + Sunset

During all Block Parties please keep one (1) lane passable for emergency vehicles.

Please submit Application a week prior to any council meeting to:

Michael J. Rohal, Borough Administrator/Clerk
PO Box 66
Glen Ridge, NJ 07028

Council meeting dates for remaining year 2009:

- 06/08/09
- 06/22/09
- 07/13/09
- 08/10/09
- 09/14/09
- 09/28/09
- 10/12/09
- 10/26/09
- 11/09/09
- 11/23/09
- 12/14/09
- 12/28/09

October 1, 2010

Dear Municipal Clerks:

Re: Notice of Proposed Membership Dues

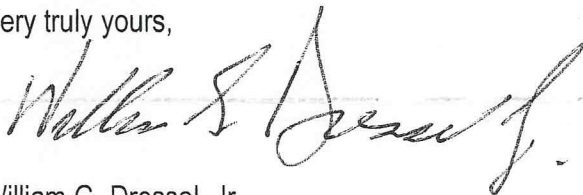
Please make a copy available to the Mayor and Members of the Governing Body.

New Jersey State League of Municipalities Executive Board will not increase membership dues for the calendar year 2011. This action will be on the agenda and will be voted on at the Annual Business Meeting to be held Friday, November 19, 2010 in the Pearl Ballroom (2nd Level) of the Sheraton Convention Center Hotel in Atlantic City.

Membership dues for 2011 will once again generate \$556,164; which represents approximately 16% of our total current budget of \$3,515,527.

The executive board recognizes these difficult economic times and we are trying to do all we can to maintain the same level of services has we have in the past.

Very truly yours,



William G. Dressel, Jr.
Executive Director

WGD/mlj