**Worcester Telegram**

**February 4, 2004**

**Group denied use of hall in Templeton**  
**Denial**  
  
Shirley Barnes  
CORRESPONDENT  
  
Selectmen have denied the use of Scout Hall by Templeton Citizens Against the Dump for this coming weekend.  
The group planned two informational weekends in the town-owned building to explain their stand on plans to open a landfill at the site of the closed unlined landfill.  
Last week, the group was denied use of Scout Hall after Senior Center Director Doreen Noble learned that recall petitions would be signed and voter registrations would be held as well as the informational sessions. The building is used by the Senior Center.  
TCAD member Wayne Fontaine said he was able to amend the use agreement for the building to state that petitions and registrations would not be signed on town property, and the group was allowed to use the hall.  
Then, Mr. Fontaine said that at around 10:15 a.m. yesterday acting police Sgt. Jack Dale hand-delivered a letter from selectmen, informing him that the group couldn't use the building this weekend.  
The letter, addressed to two other members as well as Mr. Fontaine and TCAD, said, "Town buildings or property cannot be used for campaign activities of any kind. Therefore, TCAD may not use Scout Hall this coming weekend."  
Mr. Fontaine said he attended a selectmen's meeting last Friday and the use of public buildings was the last item on the agenda. There was much discussion about the proposed use of the building and who would be invited to speak.  
Mr. Fontaine said, "I could see we were going nowhere and challenged them (the selectmen) to make a motion to deny me use of the hall. No motion was made and the meeting was adjourned."  
He noted that Scout Hall was used last weekend to give information and accept donations for the TCAD cause. "Now I receive this letter by a police officer. By the way, I have a phone," he said.  
Mr. Fontaine questioned the method of delivering the letter. He said that during the meeting he told selectmen he was appalled at their attempts to control information and said his constitutional rights were being violated. At that point, he said, he was told to watch what he said.  
Mr. Fontaine said, "I guess the police officer at my door was a hint. Does anybody know where America went?  
"At the Friday meeting they (selectmen) assured me they were neutral in all this. Sure, and the moon is made of green cheese," Mr. Fontaine said.  
Mr. Fontaine questioned when the selectmen voted to send the letter to him via the police, since the meeting was adjourned after his challenge to deny him use of the building.  
The letter was signed by Selectmen Thomas Martin, Paul Quattrociocchi and Randy Brown.  
Mr. Brown said yesterday he had at least five complaints over the weekend about use of the building and other selectmen also had calls. The office contacted the state office of campaign and finance and got legal counsel, and they were advised to deny use of the building, he said.  
Selectmen Martin and Quattrociocchi could not be reached for comment yesterday.