

November 25, 2018

Dear Select Board Members,

Today, Save St. Mary's Neighborhood exceeded 1,050 signed opposition letters to retail marijuana at 1032 Beacon Street. More than 340 letters have been received in the last 72 hours.

Many of these letters have come in as a result of an educational postcard we mailed. Regretfully, some children in our town have received the postcard; I am aware of four instances where this has occurred. This was not what was asked for from the professional mailing house that we hired. I am actively investigating how this occurred with the firm. Each time that I have learned about a family who received one, I have reached out individually to apologize to the parents.

The other amazing development is donations. Just over a week ago, we sent out a focused request to cover general expenses. I am amazed and encouraged by the individuals who are donating through the website, contributing \$5, \$10, \$20 and more. We have received more than \$8,000 from Brookline residents. This is not an opposition force of wealthy NIMBYs. A large portion of supporters live in apartments and condominiums. All of them recognize a terrible marijuana site when they see one. After our educational postcard mailing, appeals from neighbors, and a second fundraising outreach focused on our legal defense fund, the total raised is just under \$40,000.

I trust that you are as inspired as I am to see so many people voicing their concerns to the town through their letters, their donations, and their energetic willingness to engage with the Select Board and other parts of their town's government.

Many facts and supporting data have been provided to you during the last several weeks. These have included the surprising fact that the 1032 Beacon Street site violates regulations of both the state's Cannabis Control Commission and of the town of Brookline.

As someone who is contacted daily by many Brookline residents on this issue, I hope to be a resource for all of you as you determine how to proceed with Ascend's application.

Best Regards,

Paul Warren
71 Carlton Street, Brookline