

Planning Commission
Town of South Hero
PO Box 175
South Hero, VT 05486-0175

Attn: Selectboard

January 23, 2023

RE: Town Meeting March 7,2023 Fireovid & Falcoa Petition Articles

The Planning Commission does not support these two articles. The requested boundaries being adjusted to correlate to the Village Center Designation boundaries is ill conceived for the following reasons:

1. The Planning Commission finds these articles to be discriminatory and elitist.
2. The articles ask to greatly reduce the area in which opportunities now exist for moderate to low income individuals & families to purchase a small lot, build an affordable home, and work in their community.
3. Housing discrimination is a pattern that affects people's ability to buy or rent a home.
4. Housing discrimination breeds residential segregation in a community.
5. The Planning Commission is working toward South Hero being an inclusive community. We believe an inclusive community is in the best interests of a vibrant and welcoming community. These two articles fly in the face of being inclusive.
6. The Planning Commission is working under the vision the community gave us in the Town Plan Survey and that is to create opportunities for current residents to thrive and new residents to realize basic human rights such as housing needs.
7. Finally, the Planning Commission finds these two articles to be exclusionary and not at all in keeping with the

TOWN OF SOUTH HERO DECLARATION OF INCLUSION

The Town of South Hero condemns racism and discrimination in all forms, and welcomes all persons, regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, gender identity or expression, age, disability or sexual orientation. The Town of South Hero commits to fair and equal treatment of everyone in our community and to be a place where individuals can live freely and express their opinions.

On behalf of the entire Planning Commission thank you for your consideration,

Sandy Gregg, Chair
Planning Commission

