

Dear Town Council and ARCOM

I would like to bring to your attention two important procedural breakdowns during the presentation of the proposed building plan for 110 Seagate Road, at the July 29th and August 26th ARCOM meetings.

The first, two letters, Katy Amling's and mine, both strongly objecting to the proposed plan, were not presented to members of ARCOM. Further, the letters did not become evidence when considering the project at either meeting. Nor, was their content part of any discussion about the design being excessively dissimilar for the neighborhood. I believe these factors create a due process issue.

We have received an apology from ARCOM for this mistake, however, should Seagate residents have to pay for an ARCOM error by living with a home that is not appropriate to the established character of the street? I think not.

The second, important breakdown, I was unable to log on to the July 29th meeting to express my opposition to the plan due to technical difficulties on the Town's end. Jeff Smith, unfortunately, was not able to join the August 26th meeting, again, due to technical difficulties on the Town's end.

My voice was not heard at the July 29th meeting but my objections still stand. This is not a criticism of the architecture, it's about a home, which clearly, is not in harmony with the neighborhood.

I understand there are some examples of this architectural style in West Palm Beach. However, there is nothing like this on the North End of Palm Beach, much less within 200 feet of 110 Seagate Road. It is also, materially inconsistent with the architecture of the street and therefore, does not meet Town Code.

Why ARCOM did not see this and exercise its responsibility to enforce code, I will never know. Didn't members take into consideration how we, the residents, might feel about having this disruptive element as the gateway to our neighborhood?

Given these town generated procedural errors, further supported by residents' opposition to a home that is out of context with the neighborhood, this plan should be sent back to ARCOM. No amount of landscaping is going to change the architecture, which is too dissimilar and not a good fit for the block.

It is not by chance that Seagate Road, a small, tightly knit, cohesive neighborhood, is so special. We have, fought hard to make and keep it this way by insuring Code is applied to all renovations, additions and new builds, 110 should be no different.

Sincerely,  
Joanne Paladino  
148 Seagate Road