August 3, 2020

Mayor & Town Council Town of Palm Beach 360 South County Road Palm Beach, FL 33480



AUG 05 2020

Town Manager's Office

executive board

roy assad, chair human capital group

ashley berry, vice-chair brazilian court

john bowers, treasurer td bank

laurel baker, ceo & secretary palm beach chamber of commerce

board of directors

margrit bessenroth salon margrit

carrie bradburn capehart photography

> joe chase gunster

lilly leas ferreira royal poinciana plaza

rob frisbie

the frisbie group

chris goldberg bruce gendelman insurance

> caroline harless the harless group

yvonne jones, cpm, coim the esplanade palm beach

carey o'donnell o'donnell agency

david renna

the breakers palm beach

kirk blouin

town of palm beach, ex officio

harvey e. oyer, III, esq. shutts & bowen, IIp, historian

sandy coto vp member relations

monique classen member relations coordinator

RE: The Colony Palm Beach Garden

Dear Mayor & Town Council:

It is the chamber's hope that you will grant the necessary special exceptions to the hotel's garden area to the east. As a landmarked property – and one of the island's 'quintessential businesses' - every effort should be made to ensure its continued success. It is unfortunate that they must come back to council when approvals had already been given and approved by Landmarks.

Ownership has made significant efforts to address concerns regarding noise abatement. In addition to the installation of a state-of-the-art sound system, the hotel has structured its client contracts to include specific restrictions on activities and permissible music genres.

The current economic conditions on the island can ill-afford to further hamper commerce. Tourism is the major industry in Palm Beach, one heavily damaged by COVID-19. Similarly, far too many island businesses supported by tourism have suffered serious set-backs. Retail vacancies continue to rise. One bright spot has been your quick action for restaurants, having to operate at 50%, being allowed to have increased outdoor dining.

Independent enterprises, such as the Colony, are reliant upon their community's leadership to provide support not only for the free enterprise system, but survival. We trust you will agree and grant the special exceptions.

Sincerely

palm beach chamber of commerce, inc.