June 18, 2018

Dear Chairman Gunn, and Planning Board Members Barrack, Burke, Lambert, Muscat, Reynolds and Williams:

I apologize that I am not present to submit my application in person; I had originally hoped to submit this application in June but that turned out to not be possible, and professional obligations have me out of the country during the July meeting. Please allow me to introduce myself via this letter.

My wife Alison and I have lived in Beacon since 2009. Our eldest childest was about two years old when we moved here and our younger child was born here. I am the rabbi at Beacon Hebrew Alliance and Alison is an Associate Professor of Chemistry at Vassar College. Through the synagogue, Beacon Junior Baseball, the Community Blood Drive and many other civic activities, we are very engaged in the public life of our community.

We bought our house at 2 Green Street soon after we moved here and it has been a wonderful home for us. However, it does not have any guest space, and with both of our mothers aging, we want to have space where they can stay with us on a long term basis with comfort and dignity. We are committed to staying in Beacon, and in our mountainside community if at all possible.

As you are well aware, there is very little land available in Beacon for new single family home construction. When Ben Niles and Jean Burger, our neighbors at 32 Alice Street, told us that they would be moving to Boston, it seemed like an incredible opportunity for us to build a new house that is literally around the corner from the only home our kids have ever known. So, we

purchased the lot from Jean and Ben in hopes of subdividing it, so that we can build a house to the size and specifications needed to accommodate our family.

This application, which Daniel Koehler is submitting on our behalf, is to split the ~.47 parcel at 32 Alice into two. On the newly created lot, we would build our new house; the existing lot and house would either be sold or rented out.

Thank you for considering this application in our absence; again, I apologize that we cannot be there is person. I anticipate being present for any future meetings and I can be reached, even overseas, at 646.248.3393 or at brent@beaconhebrewalliance.org.

With blessings,

Rabbi Brent Spodek