Item 5 - Correspondence

From: jeff.karns@verizon.net

To: MCP-Chair

Subject: Calverton Testimony Iglesia Vida Nueva Church, 120210020, Item 5, May 5 2022

Date: Tuesday, May 3, 2022 9:13:35 PM

Attachments: Calverton Testimony Iglesia Vida Nueva Church Item 5 552022.pdf

[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Good morning,

Calverton Citizens Association is submitting testimony for the hearing on Thursday, May 5. Our testimony is attached.

Thank you,

Bernadine (Bernie) Karns, President Calverton Citizens Association

Calverton Citizens Association

P. O. Box 21 Beltsville, Maryland 20704-0021

May 3, 2022

Chair Casey Anderson Montgomery County Planning Board 2425 Reedie Drive Silver Spring, MD 20902

RE: Iglesia Vida Nueva Church, No. 120210020, Item 5, Hearing May 5, 2022

Dear Chair Anderson:

People who attend or belong to a church do need a structure for people to gather for worship and community support. Calverton questions the size of the church and the number of parking spaces requested in the plan.

In the Planning Staff Report on page 5 under 4 (c) the staff states that the Applicant must ensure consistency between the data table in the staff report and the certified set, including the maximum fixed seating as 270 seats. Please ensure that 270 is a set number for the seats in the church.

Parking is and can be a problem for development plans. According to Table 1 on page 13 the staff states that 68 parking spaces are required but the Applicant has proposed 70 parking spaces. Does this mean that you expect each vehicle to bring 3 or 4 people to the church? There needs to be more parking spaces for the plan or there may be an overflow parking issue on the neighboring streets. The parking spaces need to be reviewed and re-evaluated. The number of parking spaces should be a number closer to 100.

In closing, Calverton supports the church but not the entire plan as is. Calverton needs the Planning Board to hold firm on the capacity of 270 seats in the church. Calverton also wants the Planning Board to re-evaluate the number of parking spaces the church has proposed. Please increase the number of parking spaces to 100.

Respectfully submitted,
Berns der Berne Karns Bernadine (Bernie) Karns, President

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