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               BEFORE THE VILLAGE OF BARTLETT
                   ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
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    IN RE THE MATTER OF:
    Approval of the July 14,
    2016 Joint Special Meeting
5
    for the Draft Downtown TOD
    meeting minutes; Approval of
    the August 4, 2016 meeting
    minutes; and (#16-05) Ashton
7
    Gardens Variations.
8
                   REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS
 9
                      September 1, 2016
                          7:00 P.M.
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11
12
                 PROCEEDINGS had and testimony taken
13
     before the Bartlett Zoning Board of Appeals of
14
     the above-entitled cause taken at the Village
15
     Hall, 228 South Main Street, Bartlett, Illinois,
16
     before LYNN M. EVANS, C.S.R., License #084-003473,
17
     a Notary Public qualified and commissioned for
     the State of Illinois.
18
19
     PRESENT:
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        MR. MIKE WERDEN, Chairman
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        MS. LINDA HANSON, Member
        MR. GEORGE KOZIOL, Member
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        MR. BOB BUCARO, Member
        MS. PATRICIA HANSON, Member
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     ALSO PRESENT:
        MR. JIM PLONCZYNSKI, Community Development
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             Director.
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        MS. ROBERTA GRILL, Assistant Community
             Development Director.
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- 1 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Okay. I'd like to open the
- 2 meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals, the
- 3 Village of Bartlett, the counties of Cook, DuPage
- 4 and Kane to order.
- 5 Please call the roll.
- 6 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: Mike Werden.
- 7 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Here.
- 8 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: Linda Hanson.
- 9 MS. L. HANSON: Here.
- 10 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: George Koziol.
- 11 MR. KOZIOL: Here.
- 12 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: Joe Banno.
- Bob Bucaro.
- 14 MR. BUCARO: Here.
- 15 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: Patricia Hanson.
- MS. P. HANSON: Here.
- 17 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: We have a quorum.
- 18 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Okay. The next item on the
- 19 agenda is the approval of the July 14, 2016 joint
- 20 special meeting for the draft downtown transit
- 21 oriented development meeting. I guess we would
- 22 entertain a motion to approve. There weren't a
- 23 whole lot of us there.
- MR. KOZIOL: So moved to approve.

- 1 MR. BUCARO: Second.
- 2 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: It's been moved by George
- 3 and seconded by Robert. Please call the roll.
- 4 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: Joe Koziol.
- 5 MR. KOZIOL: Yes.
- 6 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: Bob Bucaro.
- 7 MR. BUCARO: Yes.
- 8 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: Linda Hanson.
- 9 MS. L. HANSON: Abstain.
- 10 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: Joe Banno.
- 11 Patti Hanson.
- 12 MS. P. HANSON: Abstain.
- 13 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: Mike Werden.
- 14 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Yes.
- The minutes from our August 4th meeting
- 16 are not on the agenda. Is that just an oversight?
- MS. P. HANSON: Yes, they are.
- 18 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Oh, I see. Okay. No. 2.
- MS. P. HANSON: I'll make a motion to approve
- 20 the minutes of the Village of Bartlett Zoning
- 21 Board of Appeals for August 4, 2016 meeting
- 22 minutes.
- 23 MR. BUCARO: Second.
- 24 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: It's been moved by Linda.

- 1 Seconded by Robert. Patti, rather. Not Linda.
- MS. P. HANSON: That's okay.
- 3 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Please call the roll.
- 4 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: Patti Hanson.
- 5 MS. P. HANSON: Yes.
- 6 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: Bob Bucaro.
- 7 MR. BUCARO: Yes.
- 8 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: George Koziol.
- 9 MR. KOZIOL: Yes.
- 10 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: Linda Hanson.
- 11 MS. L. HANSON: Yes.
- 12 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: Mike Werden.
- 13 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Yes.
- Okay. The next item on the agenda is case
- 15 No. 16-05, Ashton Gardens.
- Are the petitioners present?
- 17 Would you please step up to the microphone
- 18 so that we can swear you in.
- 19 Raise your right hand.
- 20 (Witness sworn.)
- 21 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Please state your name and
- 22 address for the record.
- 23 THE WITNESS: I'm Brad Schreiber,
- 24 429 Trace Way Drive, Montgomery, Texas.

- 1 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Okay. Do we have the
- 2 evidence of the mailings, the newspaper
- 3 publication, and the picture of the sign?
- 4 MS. GRILL: Yes, we do.
- 5 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Mark those Exhibits A, B,
- 6 and C.
- 7 At this time we're going to have Roberta
- 8 Grill give the staff report on this project. Go
- 9 ahead.
- 10 MS. GRILL: This property was annexed to the
- 11 Village back in 1963 and was zoned manufacturing.
- 12 In 1978 the subject property was rezoned to the
- 13 B-3, neighborhood commercial, zoning district;
- 14 and the property to the south and west of this
- 15 commercial site was rezoned to the R-2, single
- 16 family, zoning district.
- 17 In 1988 Ordinance 88-104 approved a site
- 18 plan for the commercial property, which was
- 19 reduced in size to accommodate additional
- 20 single-family lots to the south. This ordinance
- 21 also approved the preliminary PUD plan to the
- 22 East Pointe Estates subdivision, which consisted
- 23 of 59 detached single-family lots, so this --
- 24 roughly this square area here back in the '60s

- 1 was zoned for manufacturing uses; and then in
- 2 1978 the zoning looked like this, so this was
- 3 public land, this was single family, and then
- 4 this was commercial; and then in 1988, the line
- 5 actually was about drawn right here, and I'll
- 6 show you -- the next slide shows the approved
- 7 site plan back in 1988 for a strip center that
- 8 has a parking area here. This is Devon. This is
- 9 Prospect Avenue. This is the strip center with
- 10 the loading area towards the west and the south
- 11 property lines and another exit off of Prospect.
- 12 (Indicating.)
- So this plan was approved back in 1988 and
- 14 then this was the East Pointe Estates subdivision
- 15 also approved. You can see the commercial area
- 16 is now much smaller to allow for these
- 17 single-family lots to be created here and here,
- 18 and this was zoned commercial at the same time
- 19 this subdivision plat was recorded for the 59
- 20 single-family lots, and then this is an aerial
- 21 photo of what it looks like today. (Indicating.)
- 22 I thought I would go over the items that --
- 23 just to give you some background information.
- 24 Even though it was discussed at the plan

- 1 commission meeting, I think you might want some
- 2 background on this and the variation requests
- 3 that are your focus tonight. Is that okay?
- 4 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Okay. That would be good.
- 5 One thing, we do have a court reporter with us,
- 6 so we need to be sure that we keep the noise down
- 7 to a point zero level because she has to be able
- 8 to hear everything that goes into the testimony.
- 9 Everyone will get a chance to speak at a later
- 10 point when we open it up for a public hearing.
- 11 Go ahead.
- 12 MS. GRILL: Okay. So they are requesting a
- 13 preliminary final PUD plan, which is before you
- on the screen, for a proposed wedding and special
- 15 event facility catering exclusively to high-end
- 16 wedding ceremonies and receptions. The plan
- 17 includes a chapel, reception/banquet hall, and
- 18 small office to be located on the 3.8-acre piece
- 19 of vacant property located at the southwest
- 20 corner of Devon and Prospect Avenues. This PUD
- 21 plan was recommended for approval by the plan
- 22 commission on August 11, 2016.
- 23 The petitioner currently has similar
- venues in Houston and Dallas, Texas, as well as

- 1 Sugar Hill, Georgia, and three projects under
- 2 development review in Cedar Park, Texas,
- 3 Marietta, Georgia, and here in Bartlett.
- 4 They are also requesting special uses for
- 5 a planned unit development primarily for three
- 6 principal structures on one zoning lot; a
- 7 reception/banquet hall, which is a place of
- 8 assembly; the serving of liquor; and building
- 9 height for the chapel, which would be
- 10 approximately 35 feet, 3 1/2 inches. These
- 11 special use requests were also discussed and
- 12 recommended for approval by the plan commission
- 13 on August 11th.
- The 14,367-square-foot reception/banquet
- 15 hall would have a maximum capacity of 300 guests.
- 16 The building would be constructed with off-white
- 17 stucco veneer on three exterior elevations and
- 18 hardiplank siding in white along the rear west
- 19 elevation. Cast stone columns and a canopy would
- 20 provide an inviting front entrance for the
- 21 quests. The roof line would have a decorative
- 22 cornice and parapet wall with white
- 23 railing/baluster accents, which would screen the
- 24 rooftop mechanicals. This reception hall would

- 1 be 28 feet at its highest point while the
- 2 majority of the building would be 22 feet in
- 3 height.
- 4 The chapel consisting of 4,576 square feet
- 5 would have a maximum capacity of 252 guests. The
- 6 building would consist of an off-white EIFS and
- 7 Texas white limestone veneer exterior with a gray
- 8 shingled roof. Arched decorative windows, as
- 9 well as arched entrance door, would accent the
- 10 front elevation. The highest point of the
- 11 chapel, again, would be 35 feet, 3 1/2 inches
- 12 with the lower roof line sitting at 15 feet,
- 13 7 inches.
- 14 The small office building on the site
- 15 consisting of 1,337 square feet would
- 16 architecturally complement both the reception
- 17 hall and the chapel buildings incorporating the
- off-white EIFS on the exterior, the decorative
- 19 columns along the front elevation, and the gray
- 20 shingles on the roof. This building would be
- 21 15 feet, 7 inches high.
- The hours of operation would be Monday
- 23 through Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. for
- 24 touring the facilities; and if an event were to

- 1 be scheduled, it would typically end before
- 2 midnight. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday hours
- 3 would typically be from 9:00 a.m. until 12:30
- 4 a.m. An event may last longer if a patron pays
- 5 for the extra time. The petitioner has agreed to
- 6 reduce the hours on Sunday to close at 10:30
- 7 p.m., rather than the original 12:30 a.m. Liquor
- 8 service would end one-half hour prior to the
- 9 scheduled event end time and rarely would there
- 10 be Sunday evening events.
- 11 The petitioner would be also requesting a
- 12 special use to serve beer, wine, and liquor and
- would be applying for a Class A liquor license.
- 14 The hours for the license would be Sunday through
- 15 Thursday 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 a.m., Friday and
- 16 Saturday hours would be from 8:00 a.m. until
- 17 2:00 a.m., and the petitioner does understand
- 18 that he can only serve alcohol during these times
- 19 specified by the license.
- 20 A 4-foot-high decorative metal fence is
- 21 proposed along the north and east property lines
- 22 with gates across each entrance drive for
- 23 security when the facilities are closed.
- 24 Emergency responders would have access to the

- 1 lockboxes at these locations. Trees and an
- 2 8-foot-high solid wood fence would be located
- 3 along the south and west property lines to buffer
- 4 these uses from the adjacent residential
- 5 properties. So along Devon and Prospect you
- 6 would have a 4-foot-high decorative fence and
- 7 then 8-foot-high wood fence would be along the
- 8 west property line buffering the residential and
- 9 the south property line here and landscaping
- 10 would be located between the fence and the
- 11 parking area and the buildings. (Indicating.)
- The plan identifies three access points,
- 13 two along Devon Avenue and the third along
- 14 Prospect. The far west curb cut along Devon here
- would allow for loading and garbage pickup only
- 16 while the second access located further east is
- 17 shown as a right-in/right-out for guests to enter
- 18 and exit the site. Just a side note, Devon
- 19 Avenue is under the jurisdiction of DuPage
- 20 County, which has required this curb cut to be
- 21 right-in/right-out. The Prospect Avenue curb cut
- 22 would allow for full ingress and egress here at
- 23 this location, and a two-way drop off in front of
- 24 the reception hall and the chapel would allow for

- 1 direct access in front of both of these
- 2 facilities to accommodate those guests requiring
- 3 easier access to the entrance of each building.
- 4 (Indicating.)
- 5 A traffic study prepared by Eriksson
- 6 Engineering Associates has been submitted for the
- 7 staff to review and the Village's Brent Coulter
- 8 of Coulter Transportation has reviewed and
- 9 commented on the traffic study.
- 10 In summary, Eriksson states that the
- 11 Devon/Prospect intersection operates at a level
- 12 of service B and this development will not have
- an adverse impact on the intersection. The Devon
- 14 access will be 220 feet west of Prospect and the
- 15 Prospect access will be 300 feet south of Devon.
- 16 Both will operate well within the projected
- 17 traffic volumes for these uses. Weddings and
- 18 receptions will primarily be held on Friday and
- 19 Saturday evenings after the peek hour, which is
- 20 typically 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.
- 21 The Village's traffic consultant concurs
- 22 with the applicant's traffic study stating that
- 23 both Devon and Prospect are low volume traffic
- 24 streets and that left and right turn lanes do not

- 1 appear to be warranted at the site's access
- 2 drives.
- 3 So the variation requests before you
- 4 tonight are to allow for a reduction in required
- 5 number of parking spaces is the first one. This
- 6 request is primarily due to the fact that the
- 7 zoning ordinance requires parking to be
- 8 calculated for each individual use, so the office
- 9 space would require 5 spaces, the chapel would
- 10 require 63 parking spaces, and the reception hall
- 11 would require 90. This calculation does not
- 12 account for multiple uses sharing parking on one
- 13 site. As a result, the zoning ordinance would
- 14 require 158 parking spaces. This plan identifies
- 15 135 spaces, so 23 short of this requirement.
- Based upon the petitioner's observations
- 17 at their other venues currently in operation,
- 18 they believe 125 spaces would be the maximum
- 19 number needed for this site. This is due in part
- 20 that the guests will be proceeding directly from
- 21 the chapel to the reception hall and that the
- 22 zoning ordinance double counts these patrons.
- 23 Petitioner states that the 135 spaces provided on
- 24 this plan are more than adequate to meet their

- 1 needs. Staff concurs and believes that those
- 2 attending the chapel service will primarily be
- 3 double counted and that the strict interpretation
- 4 of the zoning ordinance provides a hardship for
- 5 the party.
- 6 So if the 63 required parking spaces for
- 7 the chapel are deleted, the calculation would be,
- 8 again, the office requirement of 5 parking spaces
- 9 and the reception of 90 parking spaces for a
- 10 total of 95 spaces versus the 158 that was
- 11 required for all three individual uses. However,
- 12 the staff does believe that with a maximum number
- of 30 employees at the reception hall that these
- 14 should be included in the required parking
- 15 calculations in addition to the 300 maximum
- 16 occupancy; and as a result, the revised
- 17 calculation should be, again, office 5 parking
- spaces and the reception hall 99 parking spaces
- 19 for a total of 104.
- 20 Our traffic consultant Brent Coulter
- 21 concurs that double counting may occur. However,
- 22 he suggests particular attention be given to the
- 23 scheduling of events to provide sufficient time
- 24 gaps to allow those leaving a wedding and not

- 1 attending a reception to have adequate time to
- 2 leave and for reception guests to arrive without
- 3 an overlap. He also states that because no
- 4 overflow parking will be allowed on either Devon
- 5 or Prospect Avenues and it would seem obvious to
- 6 most visitors to not park on Devon, that no
- 7 parking signs may be needed to be posted on
- 8 Prospect due to its more residential feel.
- 9 The staff has requested the petitioner
- secure an additional 20 to 30 parking spaces
- 11 within close proximity to the site for overflow
- 12 parking. Petitioner is currently looking at
- 13 using Metra commuter space, which can be used by
- 14 the public and are free on weekdays after
- 15 6:00 p.m. and all day on Saturday and Sunday.
- 16 The petitioner would shuttle guests to and from
- 17 the subject property to their vehicles at the
- 18 Metra lots if this overflow parking were ever
- 19 needed.
- The landscape variations being requested
- 21 include a reduction from the interior parkway
- 22 requirement from 20 feet to 16 1/2 feet along
- 23 Devon Avenue, so only in this location right here
- 24 would be $3 \frac{1}{2}$ -foot variation, and to allow one

- 1 tree, rather than two trees, on each double
- 2 parking island, so the zoning ordinance requires
- 3 two trees on -- this is considered a double
- 4 parking island due to the double row. They are
- 5 to have two trees at these locations. They are
- 6 requesting to have one on each island. The
- 7 petitioner has stated they would prefer to plant
- 8 larger trees in and around the chapel and
- 9 reception hall for aesthetic purposes to beautify
- 10 these areas rather than the parking lot. In
- 11 addition, the petitioner has agreed to relocate
- 12 the seven trees as part of the variation request
- and to plant those trees along the south and west
- 14 property lines, so here and these three here,
- which would provide an additional buffering for
- 16 the neighbors. (Indicating.)
- 17 Revised engineering, landscaping,
- 18 lighting, and truck turning plans are currently
- 19 still being reviewed by the staff and that
- 20 concludes our presentation; and petitioner
- 21 obviously is here; and I think he would like to
- 22 elaborate a little bit on the variation requests.
- 23 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Okay. Go ahead.
- MR. SCHREIBER: Thank you, and thank you for

- 1 your time this evening. A few things and
- 2 probably the most important and probably the most
- 3 concern to the Village and its residents is the
- 4 parking. As was included in the report, it's
- 5 really important to understand that although we
- 6 have three buildings, the maximum number of
- 7 guests that we can have attending a function at
- 8 one time is 300. We will never have a ceremony
- 9 in the chapel and a reception going on with the
- 10 number of quests that will exceed the maximum
- 11 number that we can seat in the reception
- 12 building, so at maximum capacity in the reception
- building, we can have 300. Those 300 would have
- 14 attended the ceremony for a wedding just prior to
- in the chapel, so the chapel would empty out,
- 16 guests would go to the reception building, so
- 17 that's really the maximum number of quests that
- 18 we can accommodate at one time.
- 19 Of those 300, and I won't bore you with
- 20 the statistics, but there are X number of minors,
- 21 if you will, under driving age, there is X
- 22 number -- statistically X number of guests who
- 23 come in from out of town who either stay at
- 24 hotels and are shuttled to the property or stay

- 1 with friends or family and ride with them, so
- 2 which is more of a justification for the number
- 3 of parking spaces we feel is a good comfort level
- 4 for us.
- 5 At our other properties, three out of the
- 6 other four actually have a 400-guest capacity,
- 7 and we have right around the same number of
- 8 parking spaces. In one property, we have 13 more
- 9 parking spaces for a maximum capacity of 400 and,
- 10 to my recollection, we've never needed additional
- 11 parking. Maybe once or twice where we've had
- employees, handful of employees, where we've
- identified parking off-site, but on extremely
- 14 rare occasion. Once or twice that I can recall.
- 15 So we keep pretty good statistics on this, and we
- 16 agree with the analysis of the traffic study and
- 17 the parking requirements that you've seen.
- We have -- I'm pretty sure it's in your
- 19 packet, but we have testimonials from city
- 20 officials at other cities -- similar size, by the
- 21 way, to Bartlett -- where they have -- have given
- 22 testimony to the benefit of having an Ashton
- 23 Gardens in their community, and we've never --
- 24 stating there has never been any negative impact

- 1 on it. We have letters from homeowners'
- 2 associations, and very similar situations that we
- 3 have here, stating the same, so we're very
- 4 conscious of all of the concerns that have been
- 5 expressed and probably will be tonight by the
- 6 residents and went to great lengths to make sure
- 7 that we keep that in mind everywhere we go; and,
- 8 again, we've got testimony from other homeowners'
- 9 associations stating to the fact that traffic,
- 10 crime, other tings that -- you know, drunks,
- 11 whatever the case is, it just states that there
- is no evidence of the concerns that have been
- 13 expressed here, which is our concerns as well.
- In addition, each event is required to
- 15 have security. In all of the other locations, we
- 16 use off-duty police officers. We understand
- 17 that -- we've learned that is not a practice in
- 18 this area. However, our director of security for
- 19 the company has talked with a couple of security
- 20 companies and private security companies in this
- 21 area. It seems fairly common that they use
- 22 either off-duty or retired peace officers, which
- 23 we would require by using those services; and one
- 24 of their jobs is to manage the flow of the

- 1 traffic in and out and parking and help us
- 2 determine, you know, if there is a need for --
- 3 you know, in this case if we needed parking, we
- 4 determine that ahead of time. We would certainly
- 5 know by the number of guests that were attending,
- 6 and we would make -- you know, we would make
- 7 accommodations in the way of getting -- either
- 8 renting or owning a van to shuttle guests between
- 9 the off-site parking and our property.
- The beauty of this business is that we
- 11 know exactly how many people are going to be at
- 12 every event; and, you know, knowing the statics
- 13 with the different types of attendees and the
- 14 comings and goings, it would be pretty easy for
- us to predict that, the need for that as well.
- 16 So I think that about covers the parking.
- 17 As far as the landscape goes, as you saw
- 18 by the landscape plan, we're putting a bunch more
- 19 landscape than is required on this site. The
- 20 aesthetics of the site is really our calling
- 21 card. If you have an opportunity or had an
- 22 opportunity to look at our website, you'll see
- 23 that the properties are either located in a
- 24 forested area or they're on a piece of property

- 1 where we actually built a forest, if you will, to
- 2 create seclusion and for the chapel especially,
- 3 which is three sides of very tall glass walls,
- 4 with a view of -- if it's in a forest, an actual
- 5 forest, or if it's not on a forested property, of
- 6 trees and indigenous trees and shrubs and plant
- 7 life and landscaping so that the views are just
- 8 that and that the quests are not looking at homes
- 9 in the area nor would the residents be looking
- into the chapel, if you will, while the events
- 11 are going on. It's exceptionally important to us
- 12 and is really our calling card and is the
- 13 seclusion and the beauty and the aesthetics from
- 14 not just inside -- not just outside, but also
- 15 inside those facilities.
- 16 In addition to that, creating the barriers
- 17 around, we're wanting to add additional trees,
- 18 shrubs. I'm not a landscape guy, but, basically,
- 19 frame Prospect and Devon all the way around so
- 20 that traffic noise is reduced as much as
- 21 possible; and, also, once you arrive on the
- 22 property, you get a feeling of privacy and
- 23 somewhat seclusion and your attention is taken
- 24 where we want it to be, which is towards the

- 1 buildings and toward the beautification of the
- 2 property itself; and we think that adding those
- 3 additional seven trees on the, I guess, it would
- 4 be, the south side of the property as we're
- 5 looking at it not only would add to the
- 6 aesthetics of the property and privacy of the
- 7 property, but also add privacy for the residents
- 8 on that side in addition to the fence that we're
- 9 going to install. I think that touches on it.
- 10 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: I have a question for the
- 11 staff. In contacting DuPage County with Devon
- 12 Avenue and getting the right-in/right-out, was
- 13 there any indication from them about any plans at
- 14 some point to widen Devon Avenue any farther?
- 15 MS. GRILL: No.
- 16 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Where it would take up some
- 17 of the landscaping.
- 18 MS. GRILL: No.
- MS. P. HANSON: My question would be to staff
- of these proposed 135 spaces, how many of them
- 21 are handicap spaces? What's the required
- 22 handicap spaces for this facility?
- 23 MS. GRILL: They meet that requirement. They
- 24 are located right here in the front here.

- 1 (Indicating.)
- MS. P. HANSON: How many are there, though, do
- 3 you know?
- 4 MS. GRILL: Five.
- 5 MS. P. HANSON: So there is really only 130
- 6 spaces with the five of them being handicap?
- 7 MS. GRILL: That's correct.
- 8 MS. P. HANSON: Is that within the guidelines
- 9 of what we require?
- 10 MS. GRILL: Yes, it is.
- 11 MR. KOZIOL: Not that it matters, but I think
- 12 I'm disappointed in DuPage County for the right
- 13 turn-in and right turn-out. I would have been
- 14 happier with a full interchange there like they
- 15 have there at the south corner along Prospect. I
- 16 don't see the value because I don't see a safety
- 17 issue here, but, like I said, it's irrelevant,
- 18 but I think, for the record, I would like to let
- 19 DuPage County know I don't think it's a good
- 20 idea.
- 21 MR. BUCARO: I have a question regarding the
- 22 overflow parking. In the event that there is an
- 23 event on-site where the -- you're at your
- 24 maximum, so you feel confident based on knowing

- 1 the number of people that are there ahead of time
- 2 and knowing -- using the statistics that you can
- 3 plan in advance for that overflow parking?
- 4 MR. SCHREIBER: Yes, sir. It's part of our --
- 5 we do event recaps every week with our corporate
- 6 management team and property management team; and
- 7 among all of the many things that we discuss that
- 8 are directly related to the set up of the chapel
- 9 or the menus or room sets or number of chairs,
- 10 you name it, is also analyzing the parking as
- 11 well; and, you know, if we feel like we're close,
- 12 we'll take precautions for that. We also do a
- 13 planning every week for the following week with
- 14 security; and we discuss the ins and the outs and
- 15 the timing of it and those -- if there is
- 16 anything special that we need from security, and
- 17 for the sake of this conversation, parking or
- 18 traffic issues, that's brought to their attention
- 19 and know that that's part of their -- along with
- 20 the management of the property, that's on their
- 21 radar as well; and if we think that we need it,
- 22 we will -- you know, we don't own vehicles at the
- 23 other properties. Again, we've needed them on an
- 24 exceptionally rare occasions, but if we feel like

- 1 we need them, we'll have one available. Probably
- 2 rent one and have it on property. The first
- 3 people that will be parked off-site will be our
- 4 employees, which will free up those parking
- 5 spaces immediately, so if we think at all that
- 6 we're going to need it, those employees as part
- 7 of their schedule and planning, event planning,
- 8 is we will go to the off-site parking, they park
- 9 there, they park at a particular time, we pick
- 10 them up with the vehicle and take them on-site
- 11 and free those parking spaces up first.
- 12 MR. BUCARO: Am I correct that in addition to
- 13 weddings, you may use the banquet facility for
- 14 corporate events or non-wedding types of venues?
- 15 MR. SCHREIBER: We hope so. 98 percent of our
- 16 events are weddings just because of they're
- 17 planned well in advance. They usually take the
- 18 Saturday nights and Friday nights, all the
- 19 favorite times for having events. Corporate
- 20 events are planned much shorter mostly because
- 21 they really don't know what their budgets are
- 22 until they get close enough to it, but we
- 23 certainly would take other business as it comes.
- 24 Certainly.

- 1 MR. BUCARO: And parking issues associated
- 2 with those other types of events, you've got a
- 3 history of that and so your backup plan, again,
- 4 you would feel confident --
- 5 MR. SCHREIBER: We treat every event the same.
- 6 We're in our 12th year at our Houston property.
- 7 We do about 800 plus events a year between all of
- 8 our properties. Every single event has the same
- 9 level of scrutiny, goes through the same
- 10 analysis. Parking is just as routine as menu
- 11 planning is for us, if you will.
- 12 MS. P. HANSON: Can I ask you a question? You
- 13 said you currently have two projects; is that
- 14 correct, one in Houston and one in Dallas, so you
- 15 actually have four existing right now?
- MR. SCHREIBER: We have two in Houston, one in
- 17 Dallas, and one in Sugar Hill, Georgia, which is
- 18 north of --
- 19 MS. P. HANSON: And you do over 800 events?
- 20 MR. SCHREIBER: Between the four of them, yes,
- 21 we do.
- MS. P. HANSON: So if someone came to you for
- 23 a wedding and they were inviting 200 people, they
- 24 would be the only people in that facility, that

- 1 time, that Saturday evening; is that correct?
- 2 MR. SCHREIBER: It's a good question. The
- 3 direct answer to the 200 number is yes. Now, we
- 4 can do -- the room is --
- 5 MS. P. HANSON: I know it's -- I saw how it
- 6 could be divided into two.
- 7 MR. SCHREIBER: It's divisible. However, the
- 8 capacity can't exceed 300. It's just not
- 9 designed for it with, you know, with dance floor
- 10 space, with pre-function space, with service
- 11 space, and all that.
- MS. P. HANSON: But you could have a hundred
- people at one wedding 150, 200 at another wedding
- 14 and different chapel times and people going and
- 15 coming in and out all the time; is that correct?
- MR. SCHREIBER: We can set up to 150 on each
- 17 side, but the answer is yes. The way that
- happens is at noon we have a ceremony. At 12:30,
- 19 1:00 the reception begins, so let's say there's
- 20 150 guests at that. They will take one-half of
- 21 the ballroom. The chapel will be cleared out.
- 22 All those guests will be in the reception
- 23 facility. Two to three hours later the next
- 24 ceremony will start while the reception has been

- 1 going on for quite some time and then those
- 2 guests will go into the second ballroom and
- 3 within an hour or so -- the way our times are
- 4 staggered, within an hour or so of the start of
- 5 the other reception the other quests will leave
- 6 the property.
- 7 MS. P. HANSON: I guess the real concern I
- 8 have is the parking because I just can't imagine
- 9 300 people at a banquet with realistically only
- 10 130 spaces.
- 11 MR. SCHREIBER: I understand that.
- MS. P. HANSON: I find that very difficult to
- 13 believe.
- MR. SCHREIBER: All I can do is just call on
- 15 what we -- the size of our other properties and
- 16 the number of events that we have and the timing
- 17 and all and just to say that it has been
- 18 adequate.
- 19 Our facility in Houston, the very first
- one we opened almost 12 years ago, has 128
- 21 parking spaces, a maximum capacity of 300. We
- 22 have a small grassed area that's actually
- 23 designed for parking that holds another 20 or so
- 24 cars, if we needed it, and we use it on occasion.

- 1 I just don't have anything else to go on, other
- 2 than, you know, here is what we've done and here
- 3 is what we know and here is what the other
- 4 parking studies show.
- 5 MS. P. HANSON: Okay. I have another question
- 6 for you. The parking, is it going to be asphalt
- 7 or concrete?
- 8 MR. SCHREIBER: If asphalt is acceptable up
- 9 here, we would do asphalt. It's just less
- 10 expensive, and I think asphalt is common up here.
- 11 We would hope it would be asphalt because it's
- 12 less expensive.
- 13 MS. L. HANSON: I just want to ask a
- 14 background question. What brought you to
- 15 Bartlett and to this area?
- 16 MR. SCHREIBER: Yeah, happy to tell you that.
- 17 We always have a handful of markets that we're
- looking at to grow to the next property when
- 19 we're ready to start our search. Chicago has
- 20 upwards of 50,000 weddings a year, so the real
- 21 short answer is number of weddings, the average
- 22 number of guests at the weddings, some
- 23 demographics as far as who the guests actually
- 24 are, the age of when people get married, number

- 1 of guests, how much they spend on certain things,
- 2 and it's just a good market. There is 50,000
- 3 weddings here in this market. Ashton Gardens is
- 4 not a -- kind of like a restaurant you hear
- 5 location, location, location. Well, with our
- 6 facility we found that it's just location, so
- 7 many of our quests travel 25, 35, 40 miles to get
- 8 to us. The importance of -- as all of us know,
- 9 I'm sure, the importance of the wedding event,
- 10 everything around it takes precedence over maybe
- 11 how far you have to drive or where -- you know,
- 12 you determine where the out of town guests would
- 13 stay close by, that sort of thing.
- Our facility is -- I'm very, very proud to
- 15 say it's very high-end. It's managed -- all of
- our management team, we all come from high-end
- 17 hospitality background. The way it's managed is
- 18 far different than the independents or the mom
- 19 and pops. The independents. There is a whole
- 20 lot of other facilities, Seville being one,
- 21 that's locally owned and owned by family and
- operated by a group there, and I don't know, you
- 23 know, their experience, and although we shopped
- 24 them, all of our management -- our corporate team

- 1 comes from high-end corporate hotel or restaurant
- 2 background as does mine. All of the property
- 3 managers come from high-end restaurant or hotel
- 4 or some other type of hospitality background for
- 5 years, so all of that experience and the
- 6 investment is quite large in this. The finishes
- 7 are very fine. We have crystal chandeliers all
- 8 over the building. We obviously invest in the
- 9 aesthetics of the property, that sort of thing.
- 10 So that's the reason why -- Naperville is
- 11 close for somebody to drive to get to us. We
- 12 expect -- and the reason why we picked Bartlett
- 13 the -- first of all, we kind of started with a
- 14 little larger target saying -- obviously we
- 15 started with Chicago. We studied the population
- of all the suburbs from north all the way down,
- 17 really, through the Naperville area. Further
- 18 south than that, there wasn't a whole lot there
- 19 for us to consider. We decided not to go into
- 20 the city because of the expense, because of the
- 21 red -- you know, because of all the bureaucracy,
- 22 that sort of thing. We've done very well. Sugar
- 23 Hill, Georgia, is a town very similar in size.
- 24 Corinth, Texas, is a town very similar in size

- 1 outside of a major metropolitan area, and we
- 2 get -- so we started with a little bigger target.
- 3 We kind of narrowed it down to this part of the
- 4 suburbs and then we started looking for land
- 5 within a little smaller circle and, you know, we
- 6 really like -- we're not right on a highway.
- 7 It's relatively easy to get to from different
- 8 parts of the western suburbs, northwestern
- 9 suburbs and started searching for land, and we
- 10 feel comfortable in smaller suburban towns and we
- 11 found the property.
- MS. L. HANSON: So this would be the fifth
- 13 property then; is that correct?
- MR. SCHREIBER: This will be our fifth, yes,
- 15 and Cedar Park, Texas, which is outside of
- 16 Austin, it's a much smaller market than we're
- 17 used to going in, but it's a very strong market.
- 18 Again, we're outside of Austin northwest by 15
- 19 miles or so. Kind of our MO.
- 20 MS. P. HANSON: My next question is the
- 21 variation you're looking for in the reduction of
- 22 trees on the islands. Trees in the village of
- 23 Bartlett really have a pretty sensitive scenario
- 24 in that we lost this summer thousands and

- 1 thousands and thousands of trees, many of them
- 2 the large overhanging cathedral trees on many of
- 3 our suburban streets, so I look at it and say
- 4 what's the thought and what's the reasoning
- 5 behind you reducing trees? I would hate to see
- 6 it look like a big asphalt jungle. I would like
- 7 to see trees and at least have some exterior
- 8 beauty to it, so what's the reasoning behind
- 9 that?
- 10 MR. SCHREIBER: Yeah. I'm glad you ask
- 11 because that was a very important part of the
- 12 conversation with Roberta and the staff. First
- of all, when -- because of the beauty of the
- 14 buildings themselves and because of the finishes
- of the chapel, for example, and the finishes of
- 16 the exterior of the reception building, how
- 17 they're placed, the landscape around it, the
- 18 trees that we plan to plant on the sides of the
- 19 reception building and the rear and the sides of
- the chapel, when you arrive on the property, we
- 21 want you to see that. It's a very large
- 22 investment. It's -- we spend a lot of time on
- 23 how that building looks, so, you know, regardless
- 24 of the size of the trees when they go in,

- 1 eventually these trees are going to grow big and
- 2 block the view --
- 3 MS. P. HANSON: So they're not going to be
- 4 Charlie Brown trees?
- 5 MR. SCHREIBER: They're going to be whatever
- 6 is required by -- no. No. I'll get to that.
- 7 That's a great question, but when you come up the
- 8 property and you get out of your vehicle, the
- 9 arrival experience is very important. Seeing the
- 10 property itself and being able to, you know, look
- 11 towards the chapel if you're just arriving for
- 12 the ceremony and all of this. There's going to
- 13 be landscaping in front of it. There is going to
- 14 be all of that other -- neutral areas going to be
- 15 sodded and grass, so we want you to see it. You
- 16 know, that's -- the beauty of this is really --
- 17 it's part of our calling card. The limestone
- 18 that we use on the front of the chapel and the
- 19 handwork that goes involved in that. So we would
- 20 hate for you to arrive in the parking lot and
- 21 have these trees just blocking the view of that
- 22 property.
- Now, having said that, the challenge for
- 24 our landscape company is that if it goes in

- 1 green, it has to stay green. We have to have --
- 2 if we have an event in February, and granted I
- 3 know there is probably not as many in February as
- 4 July, but when we sell this site and we sell this
- 5 property, we show them pictures at their best and
- 6 we can't -- try lying to a bride or a bride's
- 7 mother; worse than that, a bride's mother, about,
- 8 well, you said it was going to look like this and
- 9 now it's that. We don't want to deal with it.
- 10 The main point is it's got to be -- it's got to
- 11 have the same look and same feel all the time, so
- 12 the direction for our landscape company is if --
- 13 whatever goes in behind the chapel, when they go
- in green, they have to stay green, so we need
- 15 cedars or spruces or whatever it is that stays
- 16 green in cold weather. We need those there all
- 17 the time.
- 18 MS. P. HANSON: It's going to be quite a
- 19 challenge with the Chicago area.
- 20 MR. SCHREIBER: It is a challenge. It's a
- 21 challenge in Texas with the heat. We lost, gosh,
- 22 half a dozen trees behind the chapel; and those
- things are 22-feet tall and 400-gallon root
- 24 balls; and we replaced them because we can't walk

- 1 a bride into the chapel and she goes, oh, there's
- 2 a dead tree and behind the dead tree is a
- 3 smokestack of a house because that's not where
- 4 they want to get married. It's really important
- 5 to us. We spend a lot of time on that. I'm glad
- 6 you asked the question because we had that
- 7 discussion all the time.
- 8 MR. KOZIOL: The single trees that you're
- 9 proposing, are they going to be the same size as
- 10 what would have been two per island?
- 11 MR. SCHREIBER: It's whatever is speced for
- 12 it. We're going to satisfy the ordinance, so
- 13 whatever is coming out of the islands are going
- 14 along the perimeter.
- MR. KOZIOL: It would be nice to see if you're
- 16 going to go to the one-tree concept that the size
- 17 of the tree be upgraded.
- 18 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: The comment was made about
- 19 exceeding the ordinance. Is that kind of like in
- 20 volume or size?
- 21 MS. GRILL: I'm sorry. Say that again.
- 22 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: For the landscape requirement
- 23 that they were exceeding what was required and
- 24 part of this is coming out of the proposed

- 1 islands with only having one in each island and
- 2 those trees would be moved to the south side of
- 3 the property?
- 4 MS. GRILL: And the very west. These gray
- 5 ones here would be added. Those are above and
- 6 beyond the requirements of the landscape
- 7 ordinance.
- 8 MR. SCHREIBER: We understand the sensitivity
- 9 of the neighbors and the view from their backyard
- 10 and that sort of thing, so that's why we said
- 11 rather than just take them out, we'll actually
- 12 put them to better use, at least in our opinion,
- and probably in the opinion of the residents as
- 14 well. If they could have more trees, you know,
- 15 blocking their view of us than in the parking
- 16 lot, they would probably prefer that as well.
- 17 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: So with the landscaping and
- 18 the fence, it would be a solid fence, so there
- 19 would not a big chance of headlights going into
- 20 people's houses and things?
- MS. GRILL: This is an 8-foot-high solid wood
- 22 fence, yes.
- 23 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Okay. Any other questions
- 24 before we open it up to the public?

- 1 MR. KOZIOL: I don't know if I had my question
- 2 answered. The single trees that are going to be
- 3 put into those islands, will they be larger, more
- 4 mature than what was originally planned? I think
- 5 it would look better.
- 6 MR. SCHREIBER: The current plan is just to
- 7 move those trees. Whatever is required there to
- 8 move those trees to the perimeter, that's
- 9 currently what the plan is, and I don't recall
- 10 the size or the --
- 11 MS. GRILL: The minimum size is a 2 1/2-inch
- 12 caliper tree, and I believe that's what they're
- 13 going to be putting in.
- 14 MR. SCHREIBER: Not a Charlie brown tree.
- MS. P. HANSON: Not a Charlie brown tree.
- MR. SCHREIBER: We don't want our guests
- 17 looking at those either.
- MS. L. HANSON: I have one other question.
- 19 I'm not getting a good visual on where you're
- 20 putting the dumpster. I see that it's on here
- 21 someplace, but where in that area you see behind
- 22 the reception hall? You have the dumpster area.
- 23 You show it on --
- 24 MR. SCHREIBER: At the end of the delivery --

- 1 the open square at the bottom, that's where that
- 2 would be.
- 3 MS. P. HANSON: And there is no turnaround,
- 4 correct? So if a truck comes in there, they're
- 5 going to back out onto Devon, is that correct, or
- 6 is there a turnaround?
- 7 MR. SCHREIBER: No, we created a turnaround.
- 8 That was also required by the -- recommended by
- 9 the fire department.
- 10 MS. P. HANSON: Okay. So there is a turnaround
- 11 in the back?
- 12 MR. SCHREIBER: Yes, ma'am.
- MS. P. HANSON: It's hard to see that.
- 14 MR. SCHREIBER: The delivery trucks, they're
- 15 used to do doing that. This is a blessing for a
- 16 lot of delivery trucks to have access to an
- 17 egress like that.
- 18 MR. KOZIOL: Again, a question related to the
- 19 islands. On the ends of each island, are you
- 20 going to be planting shrubbery of some sort?
- 21 MR. SCHREIBER: We'll put whatever is required
- 22 by the ordinance.
- MS. GRILL: He's required to do that.
- 24 MR. KOZIOL: So there will be some vegetation

- 1 so it's not just flat?
- 2 MS. GRILL: The landscape ordinance requires
- 3 either shrubs, grasses, or perennials; and he
- 4 will do that, yes.
- 5 MR. KOZIOL: Thank you.
- 6 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Any other questions? Go
- 7 ahead.
- 8 MS. P. HANSON: Realistically, what is your
- 9 count for staff to have a 300-person wedding from
- 10 the standpoint of busboys, waitresses, bartenders,
- 11 security? What realistically would you require
- if you had -- if I was going to have a 300-person
- 13 wedding, which I would never do again, but
- 14 anyways, what's your staff capacity going to be
- 15 at that point?
- 16 MR. SCHREIBER: 26 maximum.
- 17 MS. P. HANSON: 26?
- 18 MR. SCHREIBER: 26.
- MS. L. HANSON: And they're parking off-site?
- 20 MR. SCHREIBER: If need be.
- 21 MS. P. HANSON: Potentially.
- 22 MR. SCHREIBER: We find that a lot of our
- 23 service staff, for example, are younger citizens,
- 24 high school, college kids, you know, live around

- 1 the neighbors, that sort of thing, some travel
- 2 together, some walk, some ride bikes. Even if
- 3 they all drove their own car, 26 is -- and I can
- 4 break it down by position if you want, but 26 is
- 5 really the most I would see on an event that
- 6 size.
- 7 MS. P. HANSON: Wow, that just doesn't seem --
- 8 I would want at least four, five bartenders, I
- 9 think, with 300 people. Okay.
- 10 MR. SCHREIBER: Again, we just have the
- 11 statistics and based on the parking study and
- 12 it's what we have to go by.
- Gosh, I hope we need off-site parking
- 14 every weekend, I really do, because then we're
- 15 doing okay. I'll buy vehicles if we get to that
- 16 point.
- MS. P. HANSON: If this were to go through the
- 18 whole process, what's the anticipated day to
- 19 break ground and build this facility? What's the
- 20 length of time to build it?
- 21 MR. SCHREIBER: It's ten months.
- MS. P. HANSON: Well, this is Chicago, so you
- 23 can't pour concrete certain times and asphalt and
- 24 stuff like that.

- 1 MR. SCHREIBER: Well, at the rate this process
- 2 is going, it won't get started till the spring
- 3 anyway, so -- I mean, we would like to start
- 4 tomorrow, but it doesn't look like it, so -- and
- 5 we have three general contractors that have been
- 6 in this market, not Chicago, but in this area and
- 7 this market for years, and we've done
- 8 consultations on them and that sort of thing;
- 9 and, you know, cold is okay. Snow is not okay.
- 10 We can work in the cold. We can't work in the
- 11 snow, so it really depends when we get through
- 12 the process. We're actually in coordination with
- 13 the -- when the final plans are submitted to the
- 14 Village for approval, our GCs will have them or
- 15 have had them already getting through the bid
- 16 process and the vetting process, so really as
- 17 soon as we were able to permit, we could start
- 18 immediately. That's our goal.
- 19 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Anybody else?
- Okay. At this point we shall be opening
- 21 it up to the public. So that we can expedite
- 22 things and not have to swear everybody in
- 23 individually, there are forms to fill out. Some
- 24 are in the very back. Jim is holding that up.

- 1 He has some there and some over there under the
- 2 stand, under the microphone, so if you could fill
- 3 those out before you speak and state your name
- 4 and address when you are called on to come up and
- 5 speak. We're going to limit this to three
- 6 minutes per time at the stand. You can always
- 7 come back for follow-up questions after others
- 8 have had a chance to speak. We want everyone to
- 9 have a chance to speak, though, to get the
- 10 questions heard. Let's limit the topic to what
- 11 is before us tonight. It is strictly on the
- 12 three issues, a reduction in the number of
- 13 required parking spaces, reduction from the
- 14 20-foot interior parkway requirement, and to
- 15 allow one tree for each double parking island.
- 16 Those are the only issues that are being
- 17 requested for a variance from this government
- 18 body.
- 19 Who would like to speak first?
- MR. PLONCZYNSKI: I have some already.
- 21 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Okay. Jim. Bring them up
- 22 to Jim and he will call you.
- 23 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: Melissa VanMaldegiam.
- 24 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: I'll start the timer after

- 1 you state your name and address.
- 2 MS. VanMALDEGIAM: I'm Melissa VanMaldegiam,
- 3 832 Tall Grass Drive. I just wanted to say a few
- 4 things today. Some of the things are, you know,
- 5 we have rules in place. You keep saying that,
- 6 you know, he's covering the variances, the
- 7 2 1/2-inch trees, that sort of thing. I guess I
- 8 don't see why we need to give them a variance on
- 9 the 20-foot reducing it to the 16 feet. If the
- 10 area doesn't fit within the rules that we have,
- 11 then maybe this is not the right place, you know,
- 12 for this, you know, by -- he's staying within the
- 13 rules on other things. Why can't he stay within
- 14 the rules on all the things that are available?
- With the trees in particular, they keep
- 16 saying that -- I fear that they don't know how
- 17 things are in the north not having any areas in
- 18 the north. It's not possible to keep everything
- 19 green in the north, as you know. Also, with
- 20 reducing those trees in those parking areas, look
- 21 at any parking lot in the city of Bartlett,
- 22 whether it's Jewel, whether it's the park
- 23 district, trees don't live in those parking
- 24 things. They always -- you never know which one

- 1 is going to be the Charlie Brown tree in the
- 2 spring. You never know which one is going to
- 3 give up the ghost with the salt spray, with the
- 4 cold. They just don't work, and so to plant all
- 5 the trees, that's great. You know, unless
- 6 they're going to keep coming in and replacing the
- 7 trees that didn't make it over the winter. I
- 8 guess that's a concern that I have.
- 9 Also, one other concern, it's not
- 10 really -- that 8-foot fence that runs along the
- 11 bottom of the property goes right up to the bike
- 12 path, so as people are coming out of the parking
- 13 lot, they're going to have to cross the bike path
- 14 and the sidewalk there to get to the street; and
- 15 how are they going to be able to see if there are
- 16 kids and people on that sidewalk on that bike
- 17 path? That's a big, big concern of mine on
- 18 Prospect coming down this way.
- 19 MS. GRILL: If I could answer that. An 8-foot
- 20 fence is not allowed to encroach into the
- 21 setback, so it will be set back probably 50 feet.
- 22 The bike path is not on this property, so start
- 23 from the property line, head west, and then the
- 24 fence cannot encroach at 8 feet at height beyond

- 1 that front setback, so it's going to be set back
- 2 quite a bit.
- 3 MS. VanMALDEGIAM: Okay. So there won't be
- 4 any encroachment on that sidewalk that runs down
- 5 Prospect?
- 6 MS. GRILL: No, it cannot. The bike path is
- 7 not on this property. It's on the right-of-way.
- 8 MS. VanMALDEGIAM: Yeah, I was afraid that the
- 9 sidewalk went right up to it. I wasn't sure
- 10 where that fence stopped, so I guess --
- 11 MS. GRILL: Now, the 4-foot fence would be on
- 12 their -- one foot in from their property, but
- 13 that's only 4-feet high. I just want to make
- 14 sure you're clear on that.
- MS. VanMALDEGIAM: Yeah, the 4 foot one I
- 16 didn't have a problem with. It was the 8 foot
- 17 one that I thought went all the way to the
- 18 sidewalk.
- 19 MS. GRILL: No.
- 20 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: One minute left, and I'm
- 21 stopping it when staff is talking.
- 22 MS. VanMALDEGIAM: Okay. The other thing is
- 23 that the -- only about 70 percent of millennials
- 24 will actually get married in their lifetime, so

- 1 the rates of weddings are greatly reducing in our
- 2 lifetime, so any numbers they have now reduce by
- 3 25 percent over the course of the next time
- 4 because of the way millennials are not getting
- 5 married now. It was a big report that was just
- 6 out the beginning of the week, so thank you.
- 7 MS. P. HANSON: Thank you.
- 8 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Thank you.
- 9 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: Eric Shipman.
- 10 MR. SHIPMAN: Thank you. I will try to use my
- 11 laser light focus to keep it under three minutes.
- 12 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Okay. Name and address.
- MR. SHIPMAN: Eric Shipman, 833 Prairie, and I
- 14 live in Bartlett. First of all, I would like to
- 15 commend the petitioner for considering Bartlett
- 16 for a business venture. He seems to have a great
- 17 plan and a great business. I'm just really,
- 18 really concerned about the location of it.
- 19 We'll talk about the historical zoning in
- 20 1950 when we decided to make it industrial and
- then in 1988 when we decided to make it a little
- 22 less industrial. At that time the housing was
- 23 nothing like it is today. This all has to do
- 24 with parking, bear with me. Currently there is

- 1 housing on four sides of this property. It is
- 2 surrounded by single-family residential
- 3 properties. Kitty-corner to it is a small strip
- 4 mall. Part of that has to do with the number of
- 5 parking spaces. I'm a little incredulous that 26
- 6 employees can serve 300 guests, including
- 7 management, security, as we said, for 300 guests.
- 8 From my perspective, you need at least four
- 9 security officers, chefs, busboys, bartenders, a
- 10 salesperson on hand. I'm a little incredulous
- 11 about that, but I won't dispute the numbers with
- 12 the gentleman. I'm just wondering about it.
- We talk about a right-in/right-out on
- 14 Devon Avenue. Well, let's say the traffic
- 15 engineers are always correct. They want the
- 16 right-in/right-out for a reason, and I suspect
- 17 because they feel that they're concerned about
- 18 the traffic leaving the place. Meaning there is
- 19 going to be lots of traffic, that's why they only
- 20 want it to go being a right-in/right-out.
- 21 We said, well, this is really a low volume
- 22 street. Well, if it's a low volume street, as
- 23 George mentioned, why wouldn't it be normal?
- 24 It's not. The engineers are saying it should be

- 1 right-in/right-out. Regarding those engineers,
- 2 we're not going to believe them and maybe we
- 3 shouldn't. The engineers have said no, this
- 4 isn't going to be a problem. We look no further
- 5 than Route 59 and Stearns Road whose engineer
- 6 said it should be okay there. Anybody drive
- 7 through that intersection recently at 8:00 in the
- 8 morning.
- 9 We also talked about the number of guests
- 10 who will be, you know, coming to the cars --
- 11 coming to the events and number of people inside
- of a car. We say X number of guests. I'll tell
- 13 you from personal perspective, this X guest
- 14 always goes to a wedding alone. It sucks, but
- 15 that's the way that it is.
- 16 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: One minute.
- 17 MR. SHIPMAN: It's the reality of things. My
- 18 concern, again, is just -- and, again, I'm trying
- 19 to address only the zoning. There are other
- 20 things I can talk about. 300 spaces -- excuse
- 21 me -- 100 -- what we narrowed down now, to pars
- 22 it down to probably 130 spaces, not including the
- 23 security, not including everybody else.
- The other thing I wanted to say was we

- 1 talked about the Metra commuter parking if it
- 2 were ever needed. Well, it's likely going to be
- 3 needed; and the problem is that it's a little bit
- 4 of closing the barn door after the cow's got out
- 5 because if it were ever needed, we already have
- 6 the problem. By the petitioner's own example, he
- 7 said, well, sometimes we have to do that.
- 8 So I would encourage you to consider all
- 9 those things when you consider the zoning change
- 10 here regarding the parking. I'm not so concerned
- 11 about the landscaping, other than saying nobody
- 12 wants to see a smokestack of a house --
- 13 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Ten seconds.
- 14 MR. SHIPMAN: -- through their wedding. Nobody
- with a house wants to look through their backyard
- 16 and see a wedding going on there. That's it.
- 17 Thank you very much.
- 18 MS. P. HANSON: Thank you.
- 19 MR. SCHREIBER: Might I respond to a couple of
- 20 points.
- 21 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Go ahead.
- 22 MR. SCHREIBER: Thank you very much. First of
- 23 all, I didn't say often. I didn't say sometimes
- 24 we use it. I said on extremely rare occasion

- 1 have we used off-site parking, and I think I said
- 2 once or twice that I can actually recall.
- 3 As far as our employees count and the
- 4 number of employees, I could sit here all night
- 5 and bore you with productivity and how we plan
- 6 this. It's quite formulaic on how we schedule.
- 7 It's on per guest ratios, it's on meal types, all
- 8 kinds of other stuff like that. That's my
- 9 business. That's what I know. I appreciate
- 10 that -- you know, we don't have busboys. We
- don't have things that you might expect that you
- 12 see in restaurants. This is our business, so how
- 13 we staff it is very specific to our business;
- 14 and, again, I could explain the systems to you,
- 15 you would be bored to tears probably. I would be
- 16 bored before you were.
- As far as a right-in/right-out, I
- 18 understand part of that as well is to -- we've
- 19 had on one other location it was, actually,
- 20 considered by the county to put a turn lane in.
- 21 Well, you know, this compensates for that; and if
- 22 there was too much traffic for a
- 23 right-in/right-out and they determined that we
- 24 would need a turn lane, then we wouldn't be here

- 1 today. We've experienced that before.
- 2 As far as other things that, yes, we're
- 3 from Texas and this is Chicago. That's why we
- 4 hire people from Chicago to engineer our
- 5 buildings and to do our landscaping and to
- 6 determine asphalt versus concrete, that sort of
- 7 thing. We have experts that do that. We don't
- 8 do that, so I help that addressed those concerns.
- 9 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: Judy Fillipan.
- 10 MS. FILLIPAN: Judy Fillipan, 339 Mulberry
- 11 Court. My concern is if -- with the travel,
- 12 people are going to be getting off the Elgin
- 13 O'Hare. They're going to be coming down
- 14 Ontarioville Road there. I'm concerned that a
- 15 light needs to be put up at Newport and Devon
- 16 because people come flying around that corner and
- 17 there has -- you know, there is going to be
- 18 traffic there. There needs to be a light there.
- 19 Also, at the last meeting you said that
- 20 the overflow parking was going to be -- you had a
- 21 deal with Flexonics across the street. Tonight
- 22 you're talking about overflow parking at the
- 23 Metra. If you're going to be doing overflow
- 24 parking at the Metra station, I'm concerned about

- 1 any of the Village doings that go on here during
- the summer, like next week you've got the flea
- 3 market and all those things going down. You have
- 4 the street -- don't you have a street fair where
- 5 you close off the street for events? I'm
- 6 concerned if you're going to be parking at the
- 7 Metra station and you're going to be transporting
- 8 people on the weekends, that's going to affect
- 9 the events that go on in this community, so I
- 10 think that needs to be considered too.
- 11 MR. SCHREIBER: I think all I can say is that
- we can only work around the parameters that the
- 13 Village and the locale gives us. If they are
- 14 concerned about it, they will tell us we can't do
- 15 it, so, you know, again, we're just doing what
- 16 we're asked to do under certain parameters. So
- 17 if there is an issue with that, then I think that
- 18 the Village has to change their mind as far as
- 19 giving us access to it or however that works out,
- 20 but we've already had these conversations, so,
- 21 you know, if -- as far as the Senior Flexonics,
- 22 we actually did have an agreement with them all
- 23 the way down to consideration of insurability and
- 24 that was before the last meeting. As it turns

- out, as recently as the end of last week, they
- 2 changed their mind. For whatever reason, they
- 3 changed their mind, so we looked for another
- 4 avenue and this was the recommendation we were
- 5 given, but if it's available and it's available
- 6 to the public, which we would be part of the
- 7 public; and the Village, you know, offers us a
- 8 recommendation or agrees to it or tells us we can
- 9 do it, I think the conversation has to be with
- 10 the Village officials because we're just doing
- 11 what we're asked.
- 12 MS. FILLIPAN: That's my concern. If you
- don't have Flexonics now and you're going to be
- 14 use thing the Metra station, I think that's --
- MR. SCHREIBER: I think there's 880 parking
- 16 spaces there. That's a lot of square footage and
- 17 we were going to use -- Senior Flexonics was
- 18 going to give access to -- I think there's 50
- 19 altogether, some were handicap, so roughly 35, I
- 20 think, is what -- not -- the non-handicap parking
- 21 we were going to use, which would have been more
- 22 than adequate.
- MS. FILLIPAN: So they are or they are not?
- 24 MR. SCHREIBER: They are not now. That's why

- 1 we're going to the different site.
- MR. PLONCZYNSKI: Suzanne Duffy.
- 3 MS. DUFFY: Suzanne Duffy. I live at
- 4 212 Lido Trail. I am going to be right behind
- 5 the chapel, so I'm going to be looking at your
- 6 glass windows.
- 7 MR. SCHREIBER: Trees. You'll be looking at
- 8 the trees.
- 9 MS. DUFFY: I have a question. How many trees
- 10 are you removing from the west end of the
- 11 property in order to make room for that driveway?
- 12 MR. SCHREIBER: As few as possible.
- MS. DUFFY: Because there is a lot of them.
- MR. SCHREIBER: I don't know if we have an
- overlay of that, but it's actually part of the
- 16 landscape plan. We want -- you know, if there
- 17 was one tree on that whole property we could
- 18 keep, we would keep it.
- 19 MS. DUFFY: I know. Those are the only trees
- 20 on the property.
- 21 MR. SCHREIBER: So anything that can possibly
- 22 be salvaged there will, and we moved the --
- MS. DUFFY: Did you see all those Xs there,
- 24 that's what I'm talking about.

- 1 MS. GRILL: They are saving, I believe, six
- 2 trees in this location, that's what they're
- 3 showing on their landscape plan. These are
- 4 coming out and then there will be six and you can
- 5 kind of see it on the other plan. It's difficult
- 6 to see, but there are light colored trees right
- 7 in here, these will be saved and they're
- 8 incorporated into the landscape plan.
- 9 (Indicating.)
- 10 MS. DUFFY: I'm not familiar with how all this
- 11 works, but if you're submitting this plan and you
- 12 approve it as far as landscaping and parking and
- everything, who enforces that? Is that something
- 14 that's done at a closing? So if they don't plant
- 15 enough trees according to their map, how does all
- 16 that happen?
- 17 MS. GRILL: I have to go out and inspect it.
- 18 MS. DUFFY: So you account for --
- 19 MS. GRILL: I count every tree.
- 20 MS. DUFFY: All righty.
- MR. SCHREIBER: And she's tenacious, by the
- 22 way, about her trees. I'm not kidding.
- 23 MS. DUFFY: A consideration with parking is
- 24 snow removal in the wintertime; and if it piles

- 1 up and you take spaces away, you == and who is
- 2 going to enforce the fact that you are going to
- 3 have this bus that's going to take people a mile
- 4 away to the Metra station and not have people
- 5 going around parking in front of my house?
- 6 (Applause from audience.)
- 7 MR. SCHREIBER: Look, we he know people have
- 8 to drive up to our property first before they get
- 9 anywhere to discover there is no parking. Our
- 10 security is there to direct people to available
- 11 parking here or to direct off-site. Like I said,
- 12 our employees, maximum of 26, will be parking
- 13 off-site first, so it's just -- we have to manage
- 14 it; you know, and if there is an enforcement by
- 15 the Village, I'm sure they'll let us know and we
- 16 will comply.
- MS. DUFFY: Besides your 26 employees, there's
- 18 a lot of people that will be driving up in cars
- 19 like a photographer or the DJ or band, the
- 20 minister, so that's another potentially ten cars.
- 21 Are you going to have them park off-site?
- MR. SCHREIBER: They'll be the first ones to
- 23 park off-site, if we have to.
- 24 MS. DUFFY: That I struggle with.

- 1 MR. SCHREIBER: We manage that. I would love
- 2 to send you our standard operating procedure on
- 3 what our outside vendors are supposed to do
- 4 because it's very specific. Yeah, we manage
- 5 that. It's not a free-for-all.
- 6 MS. DUFFY: And the issue -- the maturity of
- 7 the plantings around the property, you know, is
- 8 there a rule on how big -- I mean, that's his own
- 9 design, so he gets to decide how big it will all
- 10 be, like, around the chapel and --
- 11 MS. GRILL: Our minimum for an evergreen tree
- is typically around 6 feet high. He wants to do
- 13 quite a bit bigger than that. He's oversizing
- 14 many of the trees, so he's exceeded our landscape
- 15 requirements.
- MR. SCHREIBER: The Village doesn't require
- 17 any of the trees behind it or -- behind the
- 18 chapel or to either side of the reception
- 19 building. We're doing that, and the guests in
- 20 the reception building -- when they -- we have
- 21 windows -- so if this is our reception building
- 22 and this is one side, there is windows and, you
- 23 know, any more than a bride getting married in a
- 24 chapel wants to look out over an open building,

- 1 anybody inside that building doesn't want to look
- 2 at -- you know, into a dormant chapel, so it's
- 3 part of our -- it's really part of our image. I
- 4 mean, if you look on the site, and I would
- 5 encourage you to --
- 6 MS. DUFFY: I have.
- 7 MR. SCHREIBER: You'll see all you see are
- 8 trees everywhere.
- 9 MS. DUFFY: Three of four are like that, but
- 10 the one on Clay Road looks like a parking lot.
- 11 MR. SCHREIBER: Well, the parking lot looks
- 12 like a parking lot because we're not required to
- 13 put anything in it.
- MS. DUFFY: There is no landscaping on this --
- 15 MR. SCHREIBER: Well, there is.
- 16 MS. DUFFY: I'm just concerned about all of
- 17 the landscaping being planted the way you said
- 18 it's going to be and it's going to look that way.
- 19 MR. SCHREIBER: I understand.
- 20 MS. DUFFY: Because I am looking -- I'm going
- 21 to be looking at two of the glass walls.
- MR. SCHREIBER: You won't see them.
- 23 MS. DUFFY: I have a question too about last
- 24 week or a couple weeks ago they were talking

- 1 about the air conditioning units. Where is the
- 2 air conditioning unit located on the chapel? Is
- 3 that going to be on the --
- 4 MR. SCHREIBER: On the ground.
- 5 MS. DUFFY: There is nothing on top? I won't
- 6 be looking at anything on top of your building?
- 7 MR. SCHREIBER: No, ma'am. It's a peak, it's
- 8 a gabled roof.
- 9 MS. DUFFY: Right. What about those two
- 10 things that go out like that?
- 11 MR. SCHREIBER: Those are -- the extensions,
- 12 those are the groom's room and the bridal dressing
- 13 suites and public restrooms and, actually -- if
- 14 you go back to the other one, Roberta, the one
- 15 just prior to that, the site plan.
- You see the wings of the chapel, just
- inside of those, so like right there where that
- 18 light is, on either side on the ground is where
- 19 the AC units will be for that building.
- 20 MS. DUFFY: And then how many light fixture
- 21 poles are going to be in the parking lot?
- MS. GRILL: There's a few here.
- 23 MS. DUFFY: Is there an ordinance for that?
- 24 MS. GRILL: Yes, there is. There is very few

- 1 actually --
- 2 MS. DUFFY: One on each island or is it --
- MS. GRILL: I would say less than that. I
- 4 don't recall exactly, but one, two, three light
- 5 poles here and maybe every other island is what I
- 6 recall.
- 7 MS. DUFFY: And then how tall are they? Am I
- 8 going to be looking out my bedroom at those
- 9 lights? Are they going to be on all night?
- 10 MS. GRILL: Our maximum is going to be 25 feet
- 11 in height.
- MR. SCHREIBER: We are required to have -- we
- 13 did a couple of things with our -- with our
- 14 lighting specifications. Number one, we're
- 15 specing the lowest possible power that is
- 16 acceptable for reasons of not to be obtrusive to
- 17 the neighbors, and also -- we're also required to
- 18 put -- they're not reflectors, but they're panels
- 19 that hide the light, so if you're on that side,
- 20 if you're in your backyard and there is a light
- 21 pole, the light will not reflect towards your --
- 22 you won't even see the light actually. You'll
- 23 see the glow on the other side, but we are
- 24 required to block that off.

- 1 MS. GRILL: He would have to put a shield up,
- 2 which we've talked about. If you could see the
- 3 Xs on this plan. I know it's a little difficult.
- 4 There is one right here, there is one here, one
- 5 here, and here and I believe 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.
- 6 MS. DUFFY: Are those supposed to be on all
- 7 night or turn off at particular time?
- 8 MR. SCHREIBER: No. No. They stay on for an
- 9 extra ten minutes to allow our -- they're on
- 10 timers. There's two lights on timers so that
- 11 once the guests are gone and we just have our
- 12 closing staff, the exterior lights go off; and
- there are a couple lights that stay on; and there
- 14 is two of them that will be on timers, ten-minute
- 15 timers, so our staff can leave the building, lock
- 16 it up, get to their cars safely or get off
- 17 property safely, and it will be dark.
- 18 MS. DUFFY: All right. My biggest concern is
- 19 the parking. I don't think there is enough.
- 20 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: Jim Regan.
- 21 MR. REGAN: Good evening. My name is James
- 22 Regan. I live at 446 Hillandale Drive. I'm here
- 23 to appeal to the board to not allow this exception
- 24 for the parking. I think you're right to question

- 1 that it's completely inadequate for the size of
- 2 the facility.
- 3 Prior to the meeting last month, you
- 4 offered a magic bullet of off-site parking, so
- 5 don't worry about how few parking spots are here.
- 6 We've got some somewhere else. Well, that deal
- 7 fell through. What we're proposing now is the
- 8 Metra station.
- 9 With the county's recommendation of a
- 10 right-in/right-out, how are they supposed to get
- 11 there? They're either going to have to make a
- 12 left onto Prospect after making a right out of
- 13 your facility crossing two lanes of traffic at
- 14 peak hours or a U-turn to cross four lanes of
- 15 traffic to get to Main Street, so unless you're
- 16 suddenly proposing some other magic bullet, like
- 17 I don't know what, I don't see how that's a
- 18 solution at all.
- 19 Yeah, this off-site parking to get around
- 20 this what's required, it's not a solution.
- 21 You're just offering thoughts and ideas, but
- 22 there is nothing concrete about how this is going
- 23 to work, how you're going to get people there,
- 24 how you're going to get people back. This is,

- 1 frankly, making empty promises, my opinion,
- because I don't see how -- unless you're parking
- 3 people east of the facility, how they're going to
- 4 get there. Have you thought that far ahead? Do
- 5 you have a proposal?
- 6 MR. SCHREIBER: First of all, and I said it a
- 7 handful of times last week, you know, it's -- I'm
- 8 at a disadvantage to try to respond to shear
- 9 speculation. All I can tell you is that, you
- 10 know, there are -- we spent a bunch of money
- doing the parking studies and paying engineers
- 12 hired by the city to analyze all this stuff and
- 13 we have historical data, so all we can do is go
- 14 there. For us to say that they're wrong is your
- opinion or my opinion when we're going through
- 16 the motions that are required by the Village and
- 17 required by the county and taking direction as
- 18 such, so all I can do is offer you that. Whether
- 19 you think or I think or anybody else thinks that
- 20 it's not enough parking, I have pages of
- 21 statistics and these statistics, personal and
- 22 professional statistics, show that this is enough
- 23 parking, and beyond that it's up to us to manage
- 24 our business and that's what we do, and we didn't

- 1 invent other off-site parking. There's other
- 2 businesses and churches do it all the time.
- 3 There is ways of doing it. We're just going to
- 4 have to manage it like we do anything else. I
- 5 understand it's foreign to you, but it's not
- foreign to us because this is the business we're
- 7 in.
- 8 MR. REGAN: Right. With all due respect,
- 9 we're also at a disadvantage to respond to your
- 10 proposals for how we're getting around this
- inadequate parking when it changes every meeting.
- 12 MS. GRILL: Well, it's not --
- MR. REGAN: -- answer when it was off-site
- 14 parking west of there and now it's three quarters
- 15 of a mile away.
- MR. SCHREIBER: And that is now our answer,
- 17 and your opinion of inadequate is your opinion.
- 18 I have statistics to show otherwise and that's
- 19 all I can offer. It is adequate. In my opinion,
- 20 adequate. In studies, it's adequate, unless --
- 21 again, unless the Village or the county changes
- 22 the way they do their calculations, we -- that's
- 23 what we have to go by, that's what we have to
- 24 abide by.

- 1 MR. REGAN: I understand that. Can I ask is
- 2 the requirement of number of parking spaces on
- 3 the assumption that a facility like this where
- 4 everyone is there at the same time, it's not in
- 5 and out like Jewel, it's not an in and out strip
- 6 mall, everyone pretty much arrives at the same
- 7 time, leaves the same time? Is there any
- 8 difference in the number of parking spots based
- 9 on the type of business?
- MS. GRILL: Well, each use has its own parking
- 11 calculation, so the reception hall is based on 30
- 12 percent of the total occupancy.
- MR. REGAN: So 3.3 people per vehicle?
- 14 MS. GRILL: Yes. The chapel is one for every
- 15 4 seats, so 252 divided by 4; and then the office
- 16 is 1 for every 275 square feet, so each one is
- 17 calculated differently.
- 18 MR. REGAN: They still need an extension for
- 19 the number of parking spaces they're proposing?
- 20 MS. GRILL: Yes. 23 -- the variation request
- 21 is for 23 short of the requirement.
- 22 MR. REGAN: Okay. Thank you.
- 23 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: Geneva Baker-Cotton.
- MS. BAKER-COTTON: Geneva Baker-Cotton,

- 1 402 Hillandale Drive, Bartlett. With regard to
- 2 the parking, you wanted to reduce it by how many
- 3 did you say? How many spaces did you want to --
- 4 personally, I can't understand -- we were here
- 5 just not long ago. At that time I said I thought
- 6 it was rigged. Now I'm going to say not only
- 7 that, but now reneging on what you said. How can
- 8 this short of period of time you want to have
- 9 variances? You should have allowed for all these
- 10 things you're talking about in your original
- 11 proposal, but since you didn't with regard to the
- 12 parking, and you like to talk about your position
- in hospitality and your degree of management,
- 14 well, you can't manage where the people are going
- 15 to park, the customers, but you can manage where
- 16 your staff is going to park. I say that the
- 17 overflow that you're working out let your staff
- 18 park there, bus them back and forth over there,
- 19 and leave these other parking spaces for the
- 20 customers.
- 21 You mentioned that you had hospitality.
- 22 Hospitality is giving good customer service,
- 23 service quality, to your customers, to the people
- 24 that are there, also at East Pointe Estates. I

- 1 feel that we've given enough. There is some
- 2 concessions. You've got to give some too.
- 3 Seven trees you're doing, but then you
- 4 want to take one tree per whatever you're talking
- 5 about instead of having two. Couple weeks ago
- 6 you were having two in the front. Now you only
- 7 want to have one. You're talking aesthetics.
- 8 I'm also thinking about the environmental control
- 9 for the sounds. The trees help buffer some of
- 10 the music and all. I don't think there should be
- 11 a variance for the parking or the trees and that
- 12 other thing too. I can't remember what it is.
- 13 Whatever it is. Let it stand as you said a
- 14 couple weeks. Why you changing it now?
- You talk about hospitality. When you made
- 16 your presentation, you direct everything to the
- 17 board. You didn't once -- maybe once or twice
- 18 did you look at the people that it was going to
- 19 affect, so how is that hospitality in your heart?
- 20 If you want business as usual, and we all
- 21 understand about profitability, so I do
- 22 understand that, but you should have a heart for
- 23 the people that are going to be affected, and not
- 24 that any of this matters, but it was on my mind

- 1 and I wanted to say it, so there. I'm done.
- 2 (Applause from audience.)
- 3 MR. SCHREIBER: Well, thank you, and the
- 4 landscape plan and the parking and all of this
- 5 stuff has -- this has been in the works for
- 6 months. We don't get here -- I can't propose
- 7 something last week and change it this week and
- 8 have these guys pay any attention to me. I've
- 9 got to follow pretty darn strict -- and I'm not a
- 10 bureaucrat, so this stuff drives me nuts. These
- 11 guys are in charge of making sure everything
- 12 stays in place and people do what they're
- 13 supposed to do and all that. I'm more of a, you
- 14 know -- that stuff makes me crazy, but we have to
- 15 go through it anyway, but this plan has been like
- 16 this since we first submitted it for -- months
- 17 ago, so we haven't changed a thing on parking.
- 18 We haven't changed a thing on -- you know, the
- only thing we asked for was the trees and we
- 20 agreed to -- if the neighbors would rather have
- 21 the trees in the parking lot than at their --
- 22 behind their property, you know, we can consider
- 23 that. I don't think that that's -- you know, we
- 24 thought that was a great idea.

- 1 MS. BAKER-COTTON: Well, then do it.
- 2 MR. SCHREIBER: Well, we're going to.
- 3 MS. BAKER-COTTON: Give us something just for
- 4 inconvenience. Do it all.
- 5 MR. SCHREIBER: But this has all been in the
- 6 works for many, many months and what you see now
- 7 is the outcome of, you know, a whole lot of
- 8 different people hired to do what's required by
- 9 the Village, what's required by us, changes based
- 10 on what the Village is asking us to do, some
- 11 changes based on what we would do anyway being in
- 12 the location that we're at, so this hasn't
- 13 changed really at all. If anything, it's gotten
- 14 more cumbersome for us to, you know, to comply.
- 15 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: Mike Tovella.
- MR. REGAN: Mike Tovella, 208 Lido Trail.
- 17 I'll be looking directly at the chapel at 35-feet
- 18 high. Brad says that we won't be able to see it.
- 19 I don't know how we won't be able to see it.
- 20 It's 35-feet high. That's one of my points. My
- 21 other point is where is he putting the snow when
- 22 we get 11 inches of snow? That's my question to
- 23 you, Brad.
- MR. SCHREIBER: We'll put it wherever

- 1 everybody else puts it. We'll hire snow removal
- 2 like other businesses to.
- 3 MR. TOVELLA: Where?
- 4 MR. SCHREIBER: I don't have a location for
- 5 you. I hear there is services out there that
- 6 remove snow.
- 7 MR. REGAN: If you don't know where you're
- 8 going to put it, are you going to lose parking
- 9 spaces?
- 10 MR. SCHREIBER: No
- 11 MR. REGAN: No? Then how do you know if you
- don't know where you're going to put it? Where
- is it going to go? It has to go somewhere if we
- 14 get 11 inches of snow.
- MR. SCHREIBER: Where do snow removal
- 16 companies take it when they remove snow?
- 17 MR. REGAN: I don't know.
- 18 MR. SCHREIBER: I don't either, but there are
- 19 companies that to do that, and we'll hire
- 20 companies to do that.
- 21 MR. REGAN: Are you going to have a truck on
- 22 your parking lot to remove the snow? What are
- 23 you going to do?
- 24 MR. SCHREIBER: That's not the business we're

- 1 in. We'll hire people to do that, just like
- 2 we'll hire people to maintain the landscaping and
- 3 there are plumbers to fix the plumbing.
- 4 MR. REGAN: My other question is outside
- 5 vendors. You said you had 26 staff. Outside
- 6 vendors, what's the number on that?
- 7 MR. SCHREIBER: I'm sorry.
- 8 MR. REGAN: Outside vendors, band people,
- 9 whoever, how many do you -- if you have two
- 10 weddings going on at one time, how many do you
- 11 anticipate having outside vendors?
- 12 MR. SCHREIBER: It will vary. If each one has
- 13 a DJ, there will be two. If each one has a band,
- 14 I don't know, there will be 10, but --
- 15 MR. REGAN: Each party has 10, so that's
- 16 another 20.
- 17 MR. SCHREIBER: No. You know, a five-piece
- 18 band is pretty large for a facility this size.
- 19 MR. REGAN: Well, you have a five-piece band
- 20 and then you have people that set it up and
- 21 whatever, so --
- 22 MR. SCHREIBER: They don't stay on property.
- 23 MR. REGAN: Okay. But they have to take a
- 24 parking spot sometime.

- 1 MR. SCHREIBER: I'm not sure how to answer
- 2 you. All I can tell you is we do this all the
- 3 time; and, yes, we'll manage the parking.
- 4 MR. REGAN: I know you do it all the time.
- 5 You keep saying you do it all the time, but --
- 6 and then you say that it's only happened a couple
- 7 times when you needed overflow parking. Now
- 8 you're saying we'll take all our employees and
- 9 park them over there, so that's a lot different
- 10 than a couple times if you have to park them over
- 11 there all the time.
- MR. SCHREIBER: When we need them to, we will,
- 13 and it has happened a couple of times, so --
- 14 MR. REGAN: So do you anticipate it happening
- 15 more than a couple times here?
- MR. SCHREIBER: I hope so. That means we're
- 17 doing great business and I'll do it everyday if I
- 18 have to. I'll be paying a lot more taxes too.
- 19 MR. REGAN: Let me just go over the numbers in
- 20 my head. 130 parking spaces.
- 21 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: One minute.
- MR. REGAN: You've got 26 employees and you've
- got another 10 to 15, so what are we at, 41, so
- 24 you're down to, what is it, 89 parking spaces for

- 1 300 people?
- 2 MS. P. HANSON: 96.
- 3 MR. REGAN: 96 parking spaces for 300 people.
- 4 I doubt it. That's all I got.
- 5 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: Carlo Madonia.
- 6 MR. MADONIA: My name is Carlo Madonia. I
- 7 live at 224 Lido. I got to direct my concern to
- 8 the board. I've been living in this property --
- 9 I bought the house 23 years ago. First thing
- 10 that strike when I saw the neighborhood that I
- 11 love the neighborhood and I say this is the house
- 12 that I want to raise my family, which I did. For
- 13 23 years I've been in this address. Love the
- 14 neighborhood. Great neighborhood. Now all of a
- 15 sudden we got this dilemma here. To me is
- 16 ridiculous that we even here addressing this
- 17 matter because the way I look at it -- like I
- 18 say, you know, it's great neighborhood. This
- 19 little space there for you guys to even consider
- 20 putting an establishment like this it's craziness
- 21 really because not only the traffic will bring to
- 22 Lido, which I live second house coming from
- 23 Prospect to the right, so this establishment will
- 24 be 100 feet from my backyard. So we talking

- 1 about a hundred feet. So a hundred feet to have
- 2 an establishment like this in a neighborhood, a
- 3 family neighborhood, you got kids playing,
- 4 including my grandkids. You got bikers. You got
- 5 people walking the dogs. I mean, this is a
- 6 family neighborhood. How you guys even consider
- 7 putting establishment like this in this little
- 8 tiny area? That's my question to the board
- 9 because it boggle my mind.
- I don't know if you read one of my emails.
- 11 It really upsets me so much, not because of the
- 12 company. He's here just to make money. He
- 13 doesn't care about us. He doesn't care about
- 14 anybody here. He just is here to make money and
- 15 the city of Bartlett, I think, has got wake up
- 16 and really --
- 17 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: One minute.
- 18 MR. MADONIA: One minute. Okay. I'm telling
- 19 you, the city of Bartlett, I've been paying taxes
- in this neighborhood and let me tell you guys,
- 21 which is pretty steep. We pay almost thousand
- 22 dollars a month on my property to be in my house
- 23 to have privacy, no noise, not rats in my
- 24 backyard, which you will bring, no drunken people

- 1 pissing all over the ground, and the traffic will
- 2 be circle to Lido and parking all over my
- 3 driveway, all over my street. That's what's
- 4 going to happen. You guys going to create really
- 5 an environment that I will be the first one to
- 6 disappear out of Bartlett and this subdivision;
- 7 and one more thing, I got to tell you something,
- 8 you guys call this East Pointe Estates. Okay.
- 9 Well, you guys should rephrase that and make it --
- 10 if you guys going to go ahead and pass this, it's
- 11 going to be the dump estates.
- 12 (Applause from audience.)
- MR. PLONCZYNSKI: Navin Chandra and Smita
- 14 Shah.
- 15 MS. SHAH: I'm Smita Shah. I'm living in
- 16 401 Hillandale. This is -- my first house enter
- 17 Hillandale left side. I want to -- whatever the
- 18 guy previous I totally agree with him.
- 19 (Applause from audience.)
- 20 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: Jim Sauter.
- 21 MR. SAUTER: Hello. My name is Jim Sauter. I
- 22 live at 237 John Drive in East Pointe Estates.
- 23 My question isn't really directed at him. My
- 24 question is directed to you. We had -- he had a

- 1 meeting at Pasta Mia that we went to, and
- 2 afterwards I came in to you and talked to you
- 3 about it. I don't remember if you remember that
- 4 or not because I was asking you about cutting
- 5 down some trees, but the question was I told him
- 6 that -- he was saying he was going to have a
- 7 maximum capacity of 300 people; and at that time
- 8 you told me he can't have that, he can only have
- 9 a maximum of 150, that he was going to have 150
- 10 and then he would take a break and then there'd
- 11 be another reception 150 because you told me the
- 12 parking lot didn't have enough people for that.
- 13 Now he's talking about having 300, okay, and back
- 14 then you told me the parking lot wasn't big
- 15 enough for that. Those were your words. That's
- 16 what you told me.
- 17 MS. GRILL: I'm sorry. I disagree with that.
- 18 I did not say that.
- 19 MR. SAUTER: Yes, you -- because you even told
- 20 me when I told him about the 300, you said I took
- 21 him out of context, that it was only 150. That's
- 22 exact words that you told that.
- 23 MS. GRILL: I'm sorry. I disagree with that
- 24 statement.

- 1 MR. SAUTER: I'm sorry, but that's what you
- 2 told me. That's all I have to say.
- 3 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: This is a public hearing.
- 4 MR. SAUTER: The parking lot wasn't sufficient
- 5 then for only 150, how can it be sufficient for
- 6 300? I don't care how many surveys or how many
- 7 consultants you get, if it wasn't good enough
- 8 then -- because you had to revamp the parking lot,
- 9 that's what you told me. You had 146 spots --
- MR. PLONCZYNSKI: The plan has been for 300
- 11 spaces. The plan has not changed since you came
- 12 in.
- MS. GRILL: The plan has been the same from
- 14 the day it's been submitted.
- 15 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: It's always been the same.
- 16 MR. SAUTER: That's not what you told.
- 17 MS. GRILL: I'm sorry. Again, I disagree with
- 18 your statement. That's not true.
- 19 MR. SAUTER: I'm sorry, but that's what you
- 20 told me in that meeting.
- 21 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: I'm sorry. This is a public
- 22 hearing. We go on what's presented here, not
- 23 off-site.
- Do you have anything else to add

- 1 concerning the zoning?
- 2 MR. SAUTER: I'm just telling you that this is
- 3 what happened.
- 4 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Okay. Next.
- 5 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: Diane Swenson.
- 6 MS. SWENSEN: Hi. I'm Diane Swensen, 237 John
- 7 Drive. I leave in East Pointe Estates
- 8 neighborhood, which is to the south of this
- 9 proposed wedding chapel and facility. What I
- 10 think, as I agree with Carlo in so many ways,
- 11 that it's going to affect our quality of life;
- 12 and you could say that it doesn't matter, but
- we've been supporting this community. We've
- 14 lived in our home for 22 years. I have a rough
- estimate, our taxes were \$200,000 that we paid
- over the 20 years, 22 years. There are 59 homes
- in our subdivision. That's \$12 million that our
- 18 neighborhood has contributed to this community,
- 19 and I feel like we need some support because I
- 20 think this area is just way too small for this
- 21 type of facility, and there is going to be too
- 22 much traffic coming in and out.
- I notice the fences, and I agree I was
- 24 worried about -- well, I wasn't worried because I

- 1 know anytime you have a fence that comes close to
- 2 a road, we reduce the height of the fence. Well,
- 3 we've been told that we have 9-foot fences so it
- 4 will protect our view and we're not going to be
- 5 bothered by things. Well, we know the first
- 6 house on each corner is going to have a reduced
- 7 fence. The one -- Carlo's house and the one next
- 8 door right on the corner is going to have traffic
- 9 going in and out constantly; and I'll tell you,
- in our neighborhood, we sleep with our windows
- open and we know that when people leave weddings
- 12 and happy times with alcohol you stand in the
- 13 parking lot say goodbye to family and friends and
- 14 it's going to be very disruptive to the quality
- of our life; and I feel like we've paid and
- 16 deserve a right to have a good quality of life.
- 17 We love our neighborhood.
- 18 (Applause from audience.)
- 19 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: That's all the cards that I
- 20 have.
- 21 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Okay. Are there more people
- 22 that would like to speak? You may also speak if
- 23 you've -- just because you had one time at the
- 24 microphone doesn't mean you're through. You can

- 1 still have more time.
- 2 MR. COTTON: Thomas Cotton, 402 Hillandale,
- 3 East Pointe Estates. I'm right on the corner of
- 4 Devon and Hillandale and been there close to 20
- 5 years, and I like to know is the parking going to
- 6 be the same after 10:00 at night, cars get
- 7 ticketed or whatever if they park on the street
- 8 the way the Village always had it? I'm speaking
- 9 to the Village people.
- 10 MS. GRILL: Yes, that would not change.
- 11 MR. COTTON: Okay. 10:00 at night, make no
- 12 difference what night it is, cars got to be gone?
- MS. GRILL: On the street, on the public
- 14 right-of-way.
- MR. COTTON: Okay. And Prospect is the same
- 16 thing?
- 17 MS. P. HANSON: There won't be any parking on
- 18 Prospect at all.
- 19 MR. COTTON: I moved from Scott Court -- down
- 20 Prospect and Scott Court to that house over 25
- 21 years ago.
- MS. P. HANSON: There is no anticipated
- 23 parking at all on Prospect.
- 24 MR. COTTON: Yes. Okay. Thank you.

- 1 MS. KELLY: Pat Kelly, 1009 Bentley Lane. I
- 2 appreciate you wanting to bring business to
- 3 Bartlett, and I hope your concept is great. I
- 4 think you're just trying to cram a lot onto a
- 5 smaller parcel of land than perhaps is prudent.
- I'd like to know how big the other sites
- 7 are that you have your venues, similar venues.
- 8 Is it the same acreage?
- 9 MR. SCHREIBER: Sure. The last one we built
- on Clay Road in West Houston is within tenths of
- 11 the size of this one; and for those of you who
- 12 were at the last meeting, we also showed the
- 13 proximity to homeowners, which in some cases were
- 14 closer, but we have two sides with residents as
- 15 well. They are very similar to how this is set
- 16 up, and we -- again, as stated before, was shown
- 17 in the last meeting and it's access for anybody
- 18 to see, we have letters from the homeowners'
- 19 associations praising the business and talking
- 20 about it.
- 21 MS. KELLY: I appreciate all that. I don't
- 22 live right around your venue.
- 23 MR. SCHREIBER: So to answer your question, we
- 24 have -- one property is on nine acres, but the

- 1 space that is built on is all within -- very
- 2 similar because we just don't need any more room
- 3 than that.
- 4 MS. KELLY: No, I understand, but when you
- 5 have nine acres, you also have a bigger area. My
- 6 concern is you spend a lot of money for experts
- 7 to do your parking study, the Village of Bartlett
- 8 also spent a lot of time and money determining
- 9 minimum standards for parking, and you're asking
- 10 for a pretty significant deviation from that.
- 11 You're not including, again, some of the staff --
- 12 and you can lose a whole row of your parking with
- our snow. You can go to any -- unfortunately,
- 14 with our winters and if everything is pushed to
- 15 the side, you will have less; and regardless of
- 16 where your remote parking is, with all due
- 17 respect, they're going to park on Prospect
- 18 because whether they see no parking signs or not,
- 19 people that don't know the neighborhood are going
- 20 to park on Prospect.
- MR. SCHREIBER: And we're going to support you
- 22 on that. Again, that's number one why we have
- 23 peace officers, current or retired, police
- 24 officers, they're here to protect those things as

- 1 well, protect the homeowners as well, protect
- 2 from noise, protect from traffic; and if there is
- 3 no parking on that road, then we'll be the first
- 4 ones to either tell them or call the police.
- 5 We're here to -- our interest goes beyond that
- 6 little four-acre piece. It really does.
- 7 MS. KELLY: I appreciate -- and I think you
- 8 can be less disruptive to people in the
- 9 neighborhood than something going all the time
- 10 too. I just think you're trying to put too much.
- 11 I don't think to ask for a deviation is
- 12 appropriate because I don't think even the
- 13 Village's minimums are sufficient. I can't see
- 14 how a 300-person venue -- I've had -- I've paid
- 15 for 300-people weddings. You're not only going
- 16 to have 125 cars. You're going to have more than
- 17 that and it's going to be a problem for parking;
- 18 and another issue outside of this, you can't go
- 19 any bigger because the water -- where is the
- 20 water going to go and you're going to have issues
- 21 with that because there is no place for the
- 22 drainage. You have a retention area, so you
- 23 can't move any parking in there. I just don't
- 24 think the deviation for parking should be

- 1 granted.
- 2 MR. SCHREIBER: Thank you.
- 3 (Applause from audience.)
- MS. P. HANSON: Can I ask a question, and this
- 5 may sound really ridiculous, but you have this
- 6 black wrought iron fence that's going to go onto
- 7 Devon and along Prospect and there are actually
- 8 gates that will be closing and the fire department
- 9 will have access to these gates. Okay. What
- 10 happens when someone is too inebriated to drive
- 11 and they leave their car there? What's your
- 12 scenario for that? What do you do on your
- 13 current properties in that situation to have
- 14 somebody come back, you know, the next day and
- 15 pick up their vehicle or that -- what's the
- 16 scenario?
- 17 MR. SCHREIBER: It does happen on occasion.
- 18 MS. P. HANSON: I'm sure it does. I've been
- 19 to weddings like that, so --
- 20 MR. SCHREIBER: The car gets locked on
- 21 property. When we leave the property, we secure
- 22 it; and they come while there is somebody on
- 23 property and the gates are open and we're in
- 24 business to pick up the car.

- 1 MS. P. HANSON: So you don't have a towing
- 2 company that would come in --
- 3 MR. SCHREIBER: No. No. We won't have it
- 4 towed. I mean, if it's there --
- 5 MS. P. HANSON: The next day it would still be
- 6 there.
- 7 MR. SCHREIBER: Yeah, or we'll call local law
- 8 enforcement and say, look, at the license. Tell
- 9 us who it is. We'll call them. We'll try to
- 10 work it out. It doesn't hurt anything to be
- 11 there for a day or so.
- MR. KOZIOL: I have a question. If this
- 13 facility can support 300 attendees, on average
- 14 what do you think is a number of attendees
- 15 because you're not always going to be maxing out
- 16 at 300.
- MR. SCHREIBER: Great question. I'll tell you
- 18 exactly. 148 is the average number of guests and
- 19 that is -- you know that is -- we rarely fill
- 20 these buildings. Believe me, we would love to do
- 21 300 all the time. It just doesn't happen that
- 22 way. The average is 148 with a low somewhere in
- 23 the low hundreds and the high somewhere in the
- 24 upper hundreds. Less than 20 percent of our

- 1 business is over 200 guests and that's how we get
- 2 to that average because if it was higher, that
- 3 average would be closer to 200, but it really is
- 4 not.
- I mean, we're taking about in our Atlanta
- 6 property which seats 400, last year we did 16 at
- 7 capacity, 16 events at capacity out of 200 --
- 8 just shy of 230, so the arguments are valid, but,
- 9 you know, as much as we would love to fill that
- 10 place every day, it just isn't going to happen.
- 11 The average number of guests in a wedding in the
- 12 Chicago market is four higher than the Dallas
- 13 market, and our statistics are frighteningly
- 14 similar at every property, and we're within, you
- 15 know, that many on the average of every property
- 16 and it's in the upper 140s and three of those
- 17 properties hold 400 guests.
- 18 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: I would like to address a
- 19 couple of issues. I think, first of all, DuPage
- 20 County has been pointed out has jurisdiction over
- 21 Devon Avenue. We do not. I think the
- 22 right-in/right-out is a very good idea because if
- you've ever driven in high traffic times, for
- 24 example, at Countryside Funeral Home or Moretti's

- 1 when people are turning left, they need to have
- 2 some right-in/right-out over there on certain
- 3 occasions because it gets to be quite a traffic
- 4 hazard; and at least here it's going to be easier
- 5 to exit on Prospect and go up to the light and
- 6 turn left at the traffic signal, as opposed to
- 7 trying to cross two lanes of traffic on Devon
- 8 Avenue. That was one reason why I asked the
- 9 question at the beginning to see if there was
- 10 plans by DuPage County to widen it or put a
- 11 median in or something like that. Generally
- 12 speaking, when they have right-in/right-out, they
- 13 do not change it later on; and I think that's a
- 14 very good safety issue.
- 15 Some of the other things that was pointed
- 16 out that this property was zoned as
- 17 non-residential, as business-type things all the
- 18 way back in the 1960s. I mean, I've lived in
- 19 Bartlett for 55 years. I've sat on this board
- 20 for 37 years. I can remember when that was
- 21 farmland. This portion under consideration now
- 22 has never been designed for residential; and so
- 23 some of the points that people have talked about
- 24 20 years or 23 years ago, some of the things that

- 1 have come before us for zoning changes, or for
- 2 potential changes, you could have had a strip
- 3 mall there with stores that might have been open
- 4 24/7, and you would have had a lot more traffic
- 5 going in and out at various times than what this
- 6 has proposed for limited times per year. Most of
- 7 the traffic is going to be generated on a Friday
- 8 or Saturday night when something is going on.
- 9 It's not going to be there every night of the
- 10 week, and it's not going to be after 2:00 a.m.
- 11 Did you want to speak again?
- MS. VanMALDEGIAM: I did, but I can wait till
- 13 you're finished.
- 14 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Go ahead.
- 15 MS. VanMALDEGIAM: Melissa VanMaldegiam,
- 16 832 Tall Grass Drive. Couple questions I had was
- 17 about the security officers and then parking on
- 18 Prospect. With that respect, you had mentioned
- 19 that they will be, you know, directing people to
- 20 different areas. Essentially, correct me if I'm
- 21 wrong, the police officers or security people who
- 22 will be there, they have no jurisdiction over --
- 23 because they will be off-duty, they will have no
- jurisdiction over the city streets, so all they

- 1 can do is tell the people you can't park there.
- 2 The people don't necessarily have to follow that
- 3 rule because they won't be in, you know, uniform.
- 4 Who will be paying for the no parking signs that
- 5 will need to go up on Lido and those streets and
- 6 those areas, if they're going to do no parking
- 7 signs; and, you know, if people are going to run
- 8 the -- people will take the -- they'll take the
- 9 risk. Well, I'm just going to park here because
- 10 odds are I'm not going to get a ticket, you know,
- 11 instead of parking a mile away and having to wait
- 12 for some bus when there's two feet of slush on
- 13 the ground. They're going to go around the
- 14 corner. They're either going to park in the park
- 15 district parking lot that's just, you know,
- 16 around the corner from there or down there on the
- 17 street.
- 18 Can we increase the fines on those parking
- 19 tickets for people who do that to make it harsher
- 20 for them because that's what's going to happen,
- 21 people are going to park there. They're going to
- 22 be, yeah, I would rather pay the \$10 ticket than
- 23 wait for the shuttle to take me back to the train
- 24 station.

- 1 MS. P. HANSON: Unfortunately, we don't have
- 2 any control over that. That will be at your
- 3 Village board meeting, and I hope you attend that
- 4 because they need to hear those thoughts from
- 5 you. Unfortunately, the only thing we have
- 6 tonight are these variations and whether or not
- 7 we approve them to the Village board. I will
- 8 tell you that the park district has specific
- 9 hours, and I can tell you that they do ticket,
- 10 the Bartlett police or whatever it is, because I
- 11 have had a ticket from a surprise birthday party
- where I parked in a park that closed at 10:00, so
- 13 there are things that can be enforced.
- I live a block from the 4th of July
- 15 festivities. Believe me, you don't know what
- 16 traffic is until you live a block from there, so
- 17 we have had and worked very closely with the
- 18 Bartlett Police Department to help us out there
- 19 and make our streets coming in there one way only
- 20 so the people go around the circle and pull out.
- 21 So there is a lot of different concerns, and the
- 22 board and the staff are all here to listen to
- 23 what your complaints are and to help understand
- 24 what you're looking for and they're going to help

- 1 you do that. These are the elected officials
- 2 that you elected.
- 3 MS. VanMALDEGIAM: When is that meeting -- or
- 4 when would that be a meeting that we could go and
- 5 talk about that?
- 6 MS. GRILL: It hasn't been decided yet.
- 7 MS. P. HANSON: Board meetings are twice a
- 8 month.
- 9 MS. VanMALDEGIAM: Okay. So just go to anyone
- 10 and talk to --
- 11 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Well, it will be on the
- 12 agenda.
- MS. GRILL: You can call. We'll let you know.
- 14 MS. VanMALDEGIAM: Okay. And then the other
- thing is I know that you say with the weddings
- 16 being 140 average, in Bartlett, you know, the
- 17 demographic has been changing over the last
- 18 several years, you know, last 20 years. We have
- 19 a lot of Indian people in Bartlett now. I don't
- 20 know if you've ever been to an Indian wedding,
- 21 but I haven't been to an Indian wedding that was
- 22 140 people. I mean, that's not even first
- 23 cousins for a Polish family or an Indian family,
- 24 so I think we're going to be -- if this goes

- 1 through, I think you'll be surprised at how many
- 2 times you would exceed capacity in a situation
- 3 like this. Just something to keep in mind when
- 4 we're talking about 300 people at a parking spot.
- 5 Thank you.
- 6 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Well, at some point they
- 7 can't violate the capacity. They have fire
- 8 marshal issues and other issues of people coming
- 9 down on them if the capacity is too high. This
- 10 is a high-end place also. It's not -- a lot of
- 11 people probably are not going to be able to
- 12 afford to have something here.
- 13 MR. SCHREIBER: You know, you make a good
- 14 point. We do more Indian weddings in Atlanta
- than we do any other property. We do a few in
- 16 Dallas; and you're right, they're larger; they're
- 17 longer. Our capacity is what our capacity is
- 18 and, frankly, those -- there aren't as many of
- 19 them that go to our facilities as we would like,
- 20 but they are larger, you're absolutely right
- 21 about that. We wish they were more frequent
- 22 because they spend a whole bunch of money and lot
- of people show up, but they're very infrequent.
- 24 Again, we're talking about -- you know,

- 1 with all due respect, we're arguing about a
- 2 capacity of a building that happens 16 times a
- 3 year at our larger property, and we're -- look,
- 4 we're not here to pillage and plunder and, you
- 5 know, herds of locust come in and just, like,
- 6 make this place barren. You know, we are very
- 7 conscious of our neighbors. We are very
- 8 conscious of what goes on around us. There is an
- 9 ordinance in Harris County, Texas, where with a
- 10 \$15 permit you can blast off fireworks on a piece
- of property. We don't allow it because we don't
- 12 want to disturb the neighbors. They could do it,
- 13 legally they could do it. We don't allow that.
- MS. VanMALDEGIAM: With all due respect, you
- 15 keep comparing us to the south and we're not the
- 16 south. I know you can take your statistics based
- 17 on, you know, well, these kinds of weddings and
- 18 these kinds of weddings, but the people up
- 19 here -- I've lived in the south. I know that
- 20 they're different. I know the way they do things.
- 21 I know the way things take and the amount of
- 22 people.
- 23 You know, you keep saying that people that
- 24 Naperville are going to come here. People would

- 1 rather drop dead, the people who live in
- 2 Naperville, than come up and have their wedding
- 3 in Bartlett. It will never ever happen because
- 4 of the way the boundaries, the quote, unquote,
- 5 boundaries of the areas are set up. It will
- 6 never happen.
- 7 If you are trying to get the people in the
- 8 area to have their weddings there, you're going
- 9 to have more larger weddings because of the
- 10 nature of the people who live in the area; and
- 11 so, therefore, you're over your -- you have your
- 12 300 people more than your 16 times a year, and so
- 13 then -- I understand that you -- so that's just
- 14 my opinion.
- 15 MR. SCHREIBER: That's just wrong. We're not
- 16 just shooting from the hip. We've done a lot of
- 17 studies before we even considered this area, so
- 18 we know how many weddings there are, where they
- 19 are, how much they spend, how far they drive, how
- 20 many kids they have. We study this stuff. We're
- 21 not just up here raising something out of the
- 22 ground in an arbitrary location. We know the
- 23 statistics. We study this. We're not about to
- 24 make an investment like this on chance. We're

- 1 just not, so we know that people from Naperville,
- 2 we know how far they drive. I'll be glad to show
- 3 you the demographic maps and the zip code studies
- 4 that we do and all of that. We spend a lot of
- 5 time on this, so you can -- anybody can speculate
- 6 and create any scenario that you want to and
- 7 apply it to our business and I'll be happy to
- 8 share statistics otherwise. After that, we don't
- 9 have anything. I mean, after parking studies and
- 10 after traffic studies and after wedding
- 11 statistics and after, you know, landscape
- 12 ordinances, if you don't want to believe any of
- 13 that, then, you know, I can't argue any of that,
- 14 but this is -- we're trying to take a scientific
- approach to it, and, yes, we do know how many
- 16 people get married here. I know how many Indian
- 17 weddings there are. I know where they live.
- 18 This is our business. This is what we do. This
- 19 area -- now, we can go five miles down the
- 20 street. We can go to Schaumburg. We can go to
- 21 Arlington Heights. It's the same demographics,
- 22 but we found a place that we like that fits and
- 23 everything else works around it. I don't know
- 24 how else to explain it. I really don't.

- 1 MS. DUFFY: Suzanne Duffy, 212 Lido. To
- 2 restate, you say that if there isn't enough
- 3 parking, they're going to be directed to the
- 4 off-site at the Metra station, and you have said
- 5 that this is going to be a destination-type
- 6 wedding location, so these people will not be
- 7 from the area. Are you going to give them a map
- 8 and show them how they have to go up and around
- 9 and get to that Metra parking lot? Probably not.
- 10 My other question is where is your signage
- on Devon or Prospect so that people that are
- 12 coming from east, west, north, south, how are
- 13 they going to know where to turn? If they're
- 14 coming from the east off the Elgin O'Hare,
- 15 they're going to come down Devon. Are they going
- 16 to see a sign right away so that they know they
- 17 have to turn onto Prospect, or are they going to
- 18 go down Devon and see that they can't get a left
- 19 turn in, then they're going to have to turn at
- 20 Hillandale? You know, they'll have their GPS on,
- 21 they'll say, oh, here is a street, we can cut
- 22 down here and then they're going to go on Lido,
- 23 and then come back around. They're going to see
- 24 they can park there too if they go back in and

- 1 see that it's full. No, you have to go park a
- 2 mile away at the Metra station. They'll come
- 3 back out and go park on the side streets.
- 4 (Applause from audience.)
- 5 MR. SCHREIBER: I imagine our customers will
- 6 find us the same way we all find other businesses
- 7 we go to, you know, however that happens. They
- 8 manage to get -- you know, we manage to get
- 9 around and find businesses. You know, I got a
- 10 little thing that says your destination is on the
- 11 right. That's usually how I get there.
- 12 MR. SHIPMAN: All right. It's Eric again. I
- 13 will keep both of these directed toward traffic
- 14 the best I can. The first question I have is
- 15 either for Roberta or Jim, whichever one of you.
- 16 Regarding Lido and the other streets around
- 17 there, what authority does the Village have to
- 18 prevent somebody from parking on that street,
- other than the hours of 2:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m.?
- 20 MS. GRILL: That's correct.
- 21 MR. SHIPMAN: But other than 2:00 a.m. to 5:00
- 22 a.m.?
- 23 MS. GRILL: That's it.
- MR. SHIPMAN: 6:00 p.m. till midnight or 1:00

- or 2:00, are there any restrictions on the street?
- 2 MS. GRILL: No.
- 3 MR. SHIPMAN: So anyone can park there for
- 4 hours at a time?
- 5 MS. GRILL: That is correct.
- 6 MR. SHIPMAN: You could fill up every single
- 7 available curbside spot in that residential
- 8 neighborhood and there would be no law prohibiting
- 9 that?
- 10 MS. GRILL: That is correct.
- 11 MR. SHIPMAN: I guess my second question is
- 12 directed to you because you've brought this up,
- 13 so I'm very, very curious. Again, commend you
- 14 for considering Bartlett. I want to see more
- 15 business in our town. I think your business is a
- 16 great idea. I just don't think the parking and
- 17 everything else is right for this corner.
- 18 So when you look at all these other myriad
- of locations and you did all this voluminous
- 20 research and due diligence, why not like some
- 21 place on Lake Street or Route 59 where there is
- 22 great ingress and egress and lots of room for all
- 23 the parking you could ever need? I'm just
- 24 curious from your -- why does your business plan

- 1 say that being in kind of a small spot
- 2 comparatively for what you need and too many
- 3 parking spots and surrounded by housing, why is
- 4 that a good business idea? Help me understand
- 5 that. That's all I have for now.
- 6 MR. SCHREIBER: Well, let me first of all say
- 7 the size is big enough. We do have enough parking
- 8 so all of that stuff we've already covered.
- 9 MR. SHIPMAN: Not according to the Village
- 10 code.
- 11 MR. SCHREIBER: According to the Village code,
- 12 but that's something you can take up with them.
- MR. SHIPMAN: That's why we're here.
- MR. SCHREIBER: That's why we're here. This
- 15 actually is -- first of all, we like the quiet of
- 16 it as well. Our quests -- we don't have a
- 17 property near a highway or off of an exit ramp or
- 18 near a mall or something of that sort. Quiet,
- 19 seclusion, well, all of that is important to us
- 20 as well and, frankly, we've done very well in
- 21 smaller towns. There is great available
- 22 property. Typically, you know, they're happy to
- 23 see a nice business come to town of this quality
- 24 that contributes to the tax base, that is a

- 1 good -- you know, good neighbors, good community
- 2 involvement, and that sort of thing, so, you
- 3 know, it's -- again, this isn't a -- you know,
- 4 we're not just here to scrape a piece of land
- 5 clean and run off to the next one. There is a
- 6 lot of consideration in that, and up to now we've
- 7 been very openly accepted in other communities
- 8 because of what we bring to it.
- 9 I saw the initial plan for what was going
- in there, the little strip center, and I saw the
- 11 drive that goes on the west side of the property,
- the full length of the west side and full length
- of the south side, which would be delivery,
- 14 dumpsters, and, you know, those areas aren't kept
- very clean and when you got multiple businesses
- 16 in a strip center like that, everybody has their
- 17 own trash. They've got noise going on. There is
- 18 deliveries. There's all kinds of stuff going on.
- 19 We're not going to do that. You know, I mean, I
- 20 don't think that's a pretty good alternative
- 21 either. We saw the original plan for that when
- 22 we were looking at the past zoning for the place
- 23 and the past uses, and -- you know, you see every
- 24 one of those square things at the bottom, those

- 1 are exits and that's where everybody is going to
- 2 put their dumpsters, you know, so we thought it
- 3 was a pretty good alternative.
- 4 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Okay. Any further comments
- 5 from anyone on staff or anyone on the board?
- 6 MS. P. HANSON: No.
- 7 MR. KOZIOL: Somebody made a comment about
- 8 reduction in the interior parkways from 20 feet
- 9 to 16 1/2 feet. That's not uncommon. If my
- 10 memory serves me correctly, we did something
- 11 similar at Walgreens on Route 59.
- MS. GRILL: That is correct, and the CVS.
- 13 MR. KOZIOL: That is a very common thing to
- 14 ask for.
- MR. BUCARO: I have a question, I guess, for
- 16 Roberta. Your comment about today's parking
- 17 restrictions on Village streets is what exists
- 18 throughout the Village today right now, but the
- 19 Village board has the power and authority to set
- 20 up a special parking restriction on any street
- 21 for any reason; is that not correct?
- MS. GRILL: Well, that depends. This is a
- 23 public street; and if you limit parking in front
- 24 of their house, how -- who else would be allowed

- 1 to park there?
- 2 MR. BUCARO: Okay. A nonresident?
- 3 MS. GRILL: Regardless, it's a public
- 4 right-of-way; and a public right-of-way is for
- 5 the public until 2:00 a.m. There is no overnight
- 6 parking. That is the only restriction on all
- 7 streets in Bartlett.
- 8 MS. P. HANSON: Could it be changed to a
- 9 one-way street?
- 10 MS. GRILL: Would the neighbors want it to be
- 11 changed to a one-way street?
- 12 MS. P. HANSON: I don't know.
- 13 MS. GRILL: I can't answer that. The
- 14 right-of-way is the standard -- well, it's a
- 15 60-foot right-of-way in that subdivision, which
- is for two-way and allows for parking on the
- 17 street in front of the houses.
- 18 MR. BUCARO: Okay. Wrigley Field in Chicago,
- 19 it's a public -- the streets around the ballpark
- 20 are public streets. Yet the city established
- 21 during games parking restrictions for residents
- 22 only or -- so there are other considerations that
- 23 can be made.
- 24 MS. GRILL: Yes, but those also involve with

- 1 stickers and times. It becomes -- I'm not saying
- 2 it's not possible, but it would apply to
- 3 everyone.
- 4 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: So if they had a graduation
- 5 party and people came over, they might get
- 6 ticketed or towed or something if they didn't
- 7 have a ticket, a resident sticker?
- 8 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: It's not something we
- 9 typically do in the Village. I think, as Roberta
- 10 said, it's possible to do that, but I don't think
- 11 there is a demand for it. I don't think there
- 12 would be -- you know, it's just like when we
- decide where to put stop signs. There has to be
- 14 an analysis, a traffic study. The street has to
- 15 be at capacity, accidents, those types of things.
- 16 This is a fairly normal residential street. I
- 17 don't think there is going to be a demand to put
- 18 no parking signs on the interior streets in this
- 19 subdivision, but it is possible for the board to
- 20 consider something like that.
- 21 MR. BUCARO: I'm just trying to look down the
- 22 road if it gets approved and parking is an issue
- 23 and you have, you know, your security people say
- 24 where to go, to park at the Metra lots, but they

- 1 come around the corner and park on Lido Terrace
- 2 and there is no ramifications and the Village has
- 3 no ramifications to solve that problem after the
- 4 fact. I guess this is what I'm trying to figure
- 5 out.
- 6 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: I think, you know, in a
- 7 scenario where if it got to that extent, it's
- 8 possible that they could do something like where
- 9 you would have a resident parking sticker. The
- 10 neighborhood I live in -- I live near a high
- 11 school. We have it. It's not a problem because
- 12 the kids -- they put in extra parking. It's
- 13 conceivable the Village board they do have that
- 14 authority.
- MR. KOZIOL: A question to staff, south of the
- 16 property on Prospect Avenue, from what I can see
- on the map and what memory serves me, I believe
- 18 that there are no fronts of homes on Prospect.
- 19 MS. GRILL: Yes, and there is parking on
- 20 Prospect south of this site.
- 21 MS. P. HANSON: Where?
- 22 MS. GRILL: South of this property, further
- 23 down on Prospect, the closer you get to the
- 24 elementary school, Centennial, there is parking

- 1 on Prospect.
- 2 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: And it's posted and it's
- 3 marked.
- 4 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: It's also like Wilcox and --
- 5 MR. KOZIOL: So that's legal parking?
- 6 MS. GRILL: That is correct.
- 7 MS. P. HANSON: They're not going to be
- 8 walking from there, George.
- 9 MR. KOZIOL: Right, so they're safe. That's
- 10 why I wonder what the complaints are.
- 11 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Anything else? Any further
- 12 discussion?
- 13 MR. KOZIOL: A question to the developer. In
- 14 the -- with venues like this, weddings, I
- 15 personally envision traffic as staggered coming
- in and going out. It's not an Indy 500 start.
- 17 People come in over a period of time. Is that
- 18 not correct or --
- 19 MR. SCHREIBER: Yeah, more so exiting. We see
- 20 that, you know, approximately 85 percent of the
- 21 quests come within a certain period of time for
- 22 the ceremony, and the -- if someone sent out an
- 23 invitation says the wedding is at 6:00, people
- 24 start trickling in, you know, 5:30, quarter to

- 1 6:00, some late, some never get there, some
- 2 later. Exiting we see that about 50 percent of
- 3 the quests in a reception leave at a certain
- 4 point, which is after the ceremonial garter toss
- 5 and bouquet toss and other stuff like that; and,
- 6 you know, closer to the end of the evening, the
- 7 last hour, there is somewhere around 30, maybe 40
- 8 percent on the high end of guests that stick
- 9 around that late. You've got kids and elderly
- 10 people and things like that just don't stay until
- 11 12:30. It's more on the exit, later in the
- 12 evening. It's more drawn out than it is the
- 13 entrance, but upon the entrance, it's typically
- 14 within 30 minutes of the start time.
- 15 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: One other thing, I think
- since we've had a lot of revamping with the
- zoning ordinances compared to how it was in the
- 18 late 1970's, we've learned about calculating the
- 19 parking places and was pointed out earlier there
- 20 is presumed to be some overlapping between the
- 21 chapel and the banquet hall. For the most part,
- 22 you're not going to usually have two sets of
- 23 activities going on and that's why they have
- 24 different formulas that are being used to

- 1 calculate this, as well as handicap parking.
- 2 We've revamped our ordinances quite a bit because
- 3 we've learned over the years what to expect at
- 4 different types of facilities, and I think that's
- 5 one thing that keeps being brought up about a
- 6 shortage of parking places, and I think it's been
- 7 calculated on many years of experience with
- 8 different types of business. We've had a lot of
- 9 professional people within the Village and people
- 10 hired outside of the Village to try to figure the
- 11 things out so it makes it easier for us.
- 12 The purpose of the zoning board is to hear
- variances when it might be possible or necessary
- 14 to vary from the strict interpretation of the
- 15 ordinance. Whatever decision we come to tonight,
- the Village board still has the authority to
- 17 override us.
- 18 Anything further or any motions?
- 19 MS. P. HANSON: I make a motion we close the
- 20 public hearing.
- 21 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: I can't until there is a
- 22 motion on the table. We make a motion, get a
- 23 second, then we close the public hearing.
- 24 Any motions?

- 1 MS. P. HANSON: I make a motion that we send a
- 2 positive recommendation to the Village board.
- 3 MR. KOZIOL: Second.
- 4 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: On all three?
- 5 MS. P. HANSON: On all three -- you want to
- 6 separate them?
- 7 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: I'm just asking you.
- 8 MS. P. HANSON: On all three variance requests.
- 9 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Okay. Moved by Patti,
- 10 seconded by George.
- 11 MR. KOZIOL: Still second.
- 12 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: At this point, I shall close
- 13 the public hearing portion.
- 14 Any further discussion?
- 15 MS. P. HANSON: No.
- 16 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Please call the roll.
- 17 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: Patti Hanson.
- 18 MS. P. HANSON: No.
- 19 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: George Koziol.
- 20 MR. KOZIOL: Yes.
- 21 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: Bob Bucaro.
- MR. BUCARO: Yes.
- MR. PLONCZYNSKI: Linda Hanson.
- MS. L. HANSON: No.

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- 1 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: Mike Werden.
- 2 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Yes.
- 3 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: Three to two.
- 4 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Okay. So that is not enough
- 5 of a quorum. All's it is is a split vote that
- 6 gets passed on to the Village board.
- 7 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: It will go as a report of
- 8 the proceedings of the meeting to the Village
- 9 board.
- 10 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Okay. So this likely will
- 11 appear sometime in September at one of the
- 12 meetings, right?
- MS. GRILL: Yes. It will be posted online.
- 14 You can call the staff anytime and we'll let you
- 15 know when we find out.
- 16 CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Okay. Anything under old
- 17 business/new business.
- 18 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: I don't think we have a
- 19 meting scheduled for next month at this time.
- 20 MS. GRILL: Not yet.
- 21 MR. PLONCZYNSKI: And I don't know the last
- 22 time any of the old business -- I don't know
- 23 when the last variance we had that we heard is on
- 24 the Village board for vote on Tuesday and then

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     the other section -- the other variance that we
1
     had last month is on committee and that was the
2
     accessory building, so those are on for
3
     September 6th, just to let you know. Nothing for
4
     next month.
 5
        MS. P. HANSON: Make a motion to adjourn.
        CHAIRMAN WERDEN: Okay. Move to adjourn.
7
            All in favor.
 8
                           (A chorus of ayes.)
 9
                           (Proceedings concluded at
10
                            9:10 p.m.)
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Page 113
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     STATE OF ILLINOIS
                           SS.
     COUNTY OF DU PAGE
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 3
 4
             I, LYNN M. EVANS, CSR, No. 084-003473, a
 5
 6
     Notary Public in and for the County of DuPage,
7
     State of Illinois, do hereby certify that LYNN M.
     EVANS, C.S.R., reported in shorthand the
 8
     proceedings had and the testimony taken at the
 9
     public hearing of the above-entitled cause, and
10
11
     that foregoing transcript is a true, correct, and
12
     complete report of the entire testimony so taken
     at the time and place hereinabove set forth.
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     My Commission Expires:
     May 20, 2017
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