From: ptocci@thetoccigroup.com

I am sorry that I can not attend this evening's meeting that will decide whether to retain an Architectural Review Board for the town of Tuxedo.

I was on the village of Tuxedo Board of Architectural review from 2004-2017. I was chair of the board for 12 years. I also served as a consultant for roofing guidelines in 1988-89.

I feel an Architectural Board is necessary in our town to preserve the architectural and historical legacy and charm that our town possesses in terms of materials, color, style and form. I also understand the difficulty in soliciting and having qualified members serve on a board and having applicants go through the process of two boards. I think it would be a great mistake to get rid of the Architectural Review Board and just have a Planning board; especially if there aren't any certified planners or people who do not possess planning expertise on that board. I would like to see the town consider merging the boards so the design process and outcome along with the planning process and outcome could be retained and be more cohesive and efficient than having two separate boards.

Sympathizing with the difficulty of finding qualified people to work on two separate boards and sympathizing with applicants having to go through two different boards and processes, I feel it makes sense to combine the boards and having the best people of both boards serve on one board for the common interest of the applicant and the Town. Planning and Architecture go hand in hand and should not be separate and the Architectural Review Board should not be forsaken in the name of efficiency.

Kind regards,
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