

May 13, 2008

Mayor Sears,

As you are aware I am heading up the coalition against the forced annexation by Fuquay-Varina for all of the communities affected. There are nearly 600 households involved in this siege. Our group is approaching 500 members and signatures on a petition requesting that the Fuquay-Varina commissioners vote this down.

Last evening we attended the first informational meeting that F-V held at town hall. It was disappointing to all of us that none of their elected officials were in attendance. The meeting was run by Andy Hedrick who is their Town Manager. He explained how wonderful this annexation would be for us and we voiced our strong opposition. Due to our coalition and its resources, we were educated on the ramifications on forced annexation and countered. Needless to say we challenged the spin and demanded our rights be protected. The other reoccurring theme that was portrayed by Andy at last evening's meeting was the placing of blame on the town of Holly Springs for all of this. Andy said that this 20 year agreement between the two towns was up for expiration and they needed to act before HS acted on their intentions. I explained to him in the form of a question that HS has reached out with no response. Andy said Carl Dean's letter was vague in its intentions and did not specifically refer to the 20 year agreement the two towns had.

The bottom line here is that we have a large group of disenchanted, confused and terrified people that are caught in the middle of this. We have a great deal to lose in this situation if the two towns do not come together and revisit this agreement. We need our elected officials to help us rather than use us. I mentioned to you and your council members when I made my address at your last meeting that our coalition appreciates your support thus far for our cause. I must at this time ask that more efforts to facilitate communications with F-V take place immediately. We will continue to make this request formally at your future council meetings. Andy Hedrick plainly extended the olive branch last evening on camera. It aired on News 17 NBC last evening at 11:00 PM. He said "if the agreement with HS will stand for 20 years, then he will recommend to the town board that we might not need to do this right now"

On behalf of our coalition, I request that HS reach out for Andy and the town commissioners of FV and reaffirm the desire to honor this agreement for the remainder for the 20 years. If this is not accomplished, everyone involved including the two municipalities and its residents will be hurt greatly.

Thank you for your attention and action.

Sincerely,

Bob Padalino
VP Sunset Lake HOA and Leader of The Coalition