



November 2, 2023

Montgomery County WSSC Water Commissioners
Mr. Howard A. Dennis- Howard.Dennis@wsscwater.com
Ms. T. Eloise Foster- Eloise.Foster@wsscwater.com
Mr. Fausto R. Bayonet- Fausto.Bayonet@wsscwater.com

Re: WSSC Property Located within the Avenel Community/Equestrian Facilities

Dear Commissioners:

We are writing to seek your assistance and guidance regarding a matter in need of urgent attention.

Attached hereto is a copy of a letter dated October 16th, 2023, from Mr. Neal Gillen, a Potomac resident who, in his past capacity as Chair of the Avenel Equestrian Center Council was instrumental in the various negotiations surrounding the present and future preservation of the Avenel Equestrian Facility, to Commissioner Dennis. The purpose of this letter to Mr. Dennis, as one of the Montgomery County WSSC Commissioners, was to address recent actions by WSSC terminating the use and operation of the Equestrian Facilities. WSSC provided notice of termination of the lease between WSSC and the Equestrian Operator and, during various meetings and discussions, confirmed its intention to cease use and operation of the Equestrian Facilities located on the WSSC property within the Avenel Community.

The actions taken by WSSC are in direct conflict with a number of recorded or otherwise binding agreements that were entered into by WSSC years ago. The Equestrian Facilities were identified as a significant community amenity years ago, as the various development components of Avenel were considered and WSSC committed to the preservation of such use. The various Agreements are indicative of the value that was placed on continued use of the facilities and continued preservation of this historical amenity remains a central feature of the community today.

As a means of providing additional and more detailed information, enclosed for your review is a copy of our latest correspondence with Councilmember Friedson, dated November 2, 2023, that provides copies of the various applicable agreements and summarizes pertinent provisions of the agreements, including, WSSC's own Resolution 91-1319, which confirms its commitment regarding the continuation of the Equestrian Facility uses.

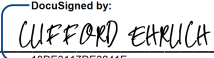
Avenel, together with other interested parties, request that the Commissioners give this matter the immediate attention it merits, including, but not limited to, directing WSSC staff to honor its obligations or at a minimum to delay any contrary actions while the parties have an opportunity to work collaboratively to address any WSSC concerns regarding the use and operation of the Equestrian Facilities.

As we have advised WSSC and confirm in our correspondence to Councilmember Friedson, we remain willing and interested in working together to address WSSC's concerns and seek solutions that will allow for the continuation of Equestrian Use and Facilities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Avenel Community Association Board of Directors

By: 
Title: President

CC: Tom Natelli, Natelli Communities
Stephanie McGovern, Avenel Resident and Petition Originator
Lisa Kaiser, Avenel Resident and Petition Originator

Enclosures:

October 16, 2023, N. Gillen Letter to H Dennis

November 2, 2023, Letter to Councilmember Friedson (with all enclosed agreements and other materials)