

To: Folsom City Council

Reason for Appeal of Historic District Commissioners Meeting held 2/16/2022

In the interest of the project called Lakeside Memorial Lawn Crematorium the motion of the commissioners was denial, all but one- Commissioner Justin Raithel.

The Findings claimed for denial was as follows:

- Detrimental to health and safety/ general welfare of neighborhood.
- Detrimental to property value in neighborhood and city.
- Impacts historical character of cemetery and area.

The recommendation of the planning committee was approval of the crematorium. A full scope Environmental Report was done with multiple experts. Experts were present in the meeting to defend their findings. The findings and data showed that the project was well below any thresholds of CA standards for health and safety. The crematorium would not impact any historical character of the cemetery as the project was being placed inside the modern metal shed, in the modern area of the cemetery. It does not significantly impact the property values of the neighborhood. That is dictated by current market values in real estate.

In the meeting, a presentation was shown with funeral homes and cemeteries that are listed as historical cemeteries having and operating modern crematoriums in their facilities. All of the crematoriums shown are closer to residents, business and restaurants than the proposed crematorium at Lakeside Cemetery.

The data was not considered at all. Everything was drowned out by residents who just don't want it near their neighborhood. They want cremation services; they just want it done in other cities. There is no area in Folsom that is zoned industrial that does not have a neighborhood within 500 feet of it. Folsom is growing. Cremation demand is growing. A crematory is essential to the growing demand. If you can't place a crematory in a cemetery, then where can you?

The denial was based on findings, yet when asked what those were, none could be provided. No data was provided to prove that it is detrimental to the health and safety, that it is detrimental to the property values and that it impacts any historical character. No matter what the experts data was, it was just dismissed with prejudice.

We implore you to reconsider the historic commission decision on the crematory. A city is larger than just one neighborhood.

Thank you,

Igor Semenyuk

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Igor Semenyuk', written over a horizontal line.