

Preston Neill

From: Angelo Loria <a.loria@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, January 19, 2019 6:06 PM
To: Avon Council Web
Subject: Hahnewald Barn

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Avon Town Council,

I was not able to attend the January 8, 2019 Avon town council meeting and am sending this e-mail to express my concerns about the Hahnewald Barn. I have learned from a local individual that a private party was interested in moving the barn but after a local engineer completed an assessment of the barn that party determined that it was not worth moving. The engineer determined that the barn was originally one story prior to another level being built on top of the original barn. Additionally, the roof reportedly caved in and was rebuilt. As a result of these actions the State Historical Society did not declare it as a historical building or put any funding into it for its preservation. I would think that the town council already knows this and I cannot understand why they continue to spend time on this issue unless it's the personal agenda of one of more members.

From the plans that I have reviewed, it is easy to see that this property would not function well as an event center. It is too narrow and would require multiple levels which would deter larger groups. There has never been mention of the cost to move the barn and repurpose it as an event center versus the cost of building a new building that would be specifically built as an event center. I don't recall the town council interviewing local event planners to determine what type of facility is in demand. In this aspect I feel that the town council has not completed the due diligence to proceed with this project. As a result of not completing their due diligence, Avon may end up with an inferior event center that will cost more than building a new structure. A new structure would better accommodate its needs and attract more events. Avon should strive to be a first class town and not try to shoehorn in a building that doesn't meet its needs.

Tamra Nottingham-Underwood was a member of the Historical Society and has an emotional family attachment to the property. Therefore, she has a conflict of interest and should recuse herself from any vote on this project. I know that Eric Heil the Avon Town Attorney has indicated that there is no conflict of interest as there is no financial gain. The definition of conflict of interest includes personal gain that does not necessarily require financial gain. Tamra has indicated that any attempt to silence her voice is a violation of her First Amendment Rights. However, I feel that if she doesn't recuse herself the Avon taxpayers are not getting fair and unbiased representation. Although Eric has indicated there is not a conflict of interest, there certainly is an appearance of a conflict of interest. My hope is that the Avon Town Council would strive to be as ethical as possible and avoid any actions that would detract from its current ethical standings.

There are many other uses for the approximately \$8,000,000 that would be used for this project. Perhaps a better use would be for workforce housing? Saving the barn should be done with private funds, not public taxpayer funds. If taxpayer funds will be used it should be approved by a vote.

Angelo Loria
Avon Resident

Preston Neill

From: todd shollenberger <todd@shollenberger.com>
Sent: Monday, January 21, 2019 2:23 PM
To: Avon Council Web; jfrancher@avon.org; Sarah Smith Hymes; Scott Prince; Chico Thuon; Jake Wolf; Amy Phillips
Cc: Charlotte Shollenberger
Subject: Avon Barn

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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We are writing to express our opposition to any taxpayer money being spent on the Avon Barn.

There is no plan for what to do with the barn after moving it or how to pay for it. Avon has a history of financial mismanagement with large projects (Nottingham Park stage, Skier Building purchase, etc).

This is a disaster in the making for Avon taxpayers, please do not spend any more money on the barn.

Todd & Charlotte Shollenberger

Preston Neill

From: Matt Wadey <Wadey@alpinecivil.com>
Sent: Monday, January 21, 2019 6:43 PM
To: Avon Council Web
Subject: Hahnewald Barn

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Council,

Being a resident of Avon and knowledgeable on site planning please consider not pursuing the Hahnewald Barn project.

I love to be a steward of the environment and respect and reuse old items, especially somewhat historic items, however there is one major constraint.

Being an owner of a local engineering firm, i've had the opportunity to work on the site planning. I appreciate the work.

The dimensions are completely wrong for any type of event space. The dimensions are 30' x 125'. This will not accommodate a social/meeting space ever.

Perhaps if it was ONLY used for an art gallery the space could prove adequate at best. For any type of social gathering these dimensions are ridiculously out of proportion.

Over 4 times longer than it has width? How would you like your living room to have these dimensions? Imagine navigating this space during a packed event (band, wedding, beer fest).

\$7 million (and we all know it will go over), you could build something magnificent like Donovan Park in the heart of Avon, overlooking the lake.

Please reuse the awesome wide plank siding material for accents around Town (new Town Hall, Rec Center, Pavilion ?)

Please dont ignore the wishes of the residents, put it up for vote. Another Pavillion blown budget would be horrible.

Thanks for your hard work,

Matt Wadey
Alpine Engineering

Preston Neill

From: Carroll Tyler <ctyler@slifer.net>
Sent: Tuesday, January 22, 2019 8:22 AM
To: Avon Council Web
Subject: Saving the barn

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Costs too much money for what benefit it could bring if any. Vote no. Carroll Tyler Wildridge Road.
Sent from my iPad

"Please Note: We will never email you wire instructions, please call me if you are asked to wire money."

Preston Neill

From: John & Janet Perdzock <j.perdzock@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, January 22, 2019 8:45 AM
To: Avon Council Web
Subject: Hahnewald Barn

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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To the Avon Town Council,

We are concerned about discussion of moving the Hahnewald barn and repurposing it at the Avon taxpayer's expense. This seems like a poor business decision that is fiscally irresponsible. If the barn is rebuilt to use for weddings and events; the necessary structural changes, added windows, etc. would probably negate any historical value it may have. If Avon needs a building for special events, it would likely be more cost effective and create more useful space if a building were designed and built for that purpose without the restrictions imposed by the shape of the Hahnewald barn. Such building should happen only after the taxpayers vote that they want such a structure and want to pay for it. We are disappointed that the council has spent tax dollars to study moving and repurposing the Hahnewald barn. This seems like it should be a private issue that should be funded privately.

We agree with Pam and Peter Warren's letter in The Vail Daily on Saturday 19 January and with Chico Thuon's comments in The Vail Daily on Monday 21 January. We appreciate that they are looking out for Avon taxpayers and trying to improve the town of Avon.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
John and Janet Perdzock
5729 Wildridge Rd E
Avon, CO 81620

Preston Neill

From: NLB Horton <nlbhorton@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 22, 2019 9:06 AM
To: Avon Council Web
Subject: Vote NO on the barn

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Dear Council Members:

My name is Norma Horton, and I've lived full-time in Wildridge for almost ten years. I'm a businesswoman with enough fiscal sense to make enough money to retire at 45. With that experience, I'm *ASTONISHED* that you'd even consider spending millions of dollars to move this barn and that you'd approach such an issue without having fixed costs, particularly on the heels of several irresponsible decisions regarding the use of taxpayer money. Some of you appear to be suffering from delusions of grandeur about Avon, Colorado, *which will not rise in anyone's estimation after spending vast sums to move a barn.*

Tear the barn down, save the wood, use it later, and stick a commemorative plaque on the eventual structure if you're compelled to continue to look toward the past by honoring the Nottinghams. But I'll vote against any town council member who commits to save this barn, particularly since it's another open-ended endeavor without clear costs, and I'll remind my neighbors about your disregard for voters' dollars before the next election.

Your continued fiscal irresponsibility is hurting the town's reputation, which hurts property values in the long run.

Norma Horton

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<http://www.explorers.org>

<http://lynnhorton.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/LynnHorton>

<https://twitter.com/LynnHorton>

Preston Neill

From: Leslie Wyse <reedleslie@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 22, 2019 9:02 AM
To: Avon Council Web
Subject: Vote NO to the Barn, or put to public vote!!!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Dear Avon Town Council and Mayor,
I am a long-time Avon resident (10 years in Wildridge, 19 years in the Valley). I am writing to voice my opinion about the Avon Barn because I am unable to attend tonight's meeting.

Please vote NO to the barn, or at minimum put the issue to a public vote to allow the Avon residents to decide how our hard-earned tax dollars are spent. At its current age, structurally I can't imagine much of the existing barn's structure can be saved or repurposed. My guess is it would be far less expensive to demolish the current Barn and recreate a replica from scratch. Not to mention the Town does not have a clear vision of where the Barn should go or how it should be used. So instead, take some nice professional photos of the Barn to hang in the new Town Hall, and "reclaim" some of the siding for use as a wood feature wall, and leave it at that. Use that 6 million+ dollars to expand the rec center, improve Nottingham Beach, build some employee housing, expand the mountain bike trail system, and build up a reserve for the upcoming economic downturn. The Barn relocation/restoration project is one that should be privately funded, not by the Town.

If the Town of Avon has over 6 million laying around to relocate an old barn for special interest nostalgia, then we should be reexamining the unpopular 2% transfer tax. The Town has a recent history of projects with huge cost overruns (i.e. a Stage that sits unused, and the Road "diet"), we do not need to add to that list.

The Nottingham family sold the Barn over 50 years ago, and now they want the Avon Taxpayers to pay to move and restore it?

Please let the voters decide.

Leslie Wyse
Wildridge

Preston Neill

From: Preston Neill
Sent: Tuesday, January 22, 2019 9:44 AM
To: Preston Neill
Subject: RE: Barn

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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From: MARK KOGAN <markkogan@me.com>
Sent: Monday, January 21, 2019 10:26:56 PM
To: Sarah Smith Hymes
Subject: Re: Barn

One other thing. If the water district agree to a historic designation, fight them in the press by shaming them. Tell the people that you tried and they wouldn't agree. Make them feel the heat from people for potentially throwing away a barn

On Jan 21, 2019, at 7:18 PM, MARK KOGAN <markkogan@me.com> wrote:

Sarah,

I have given this issue a tremendous amount of thought. Here's some of it beyond my letter:

- I do not understand why an owner has to consent to a historic designation. That's not how it works in other cities like New York and LA. So if this is the law, it's the law but it makes no sense.
- This barn has no historical meaning to Avon. It was a storage shed and it didn't serve a community purpose. It was a privately owned asset. It wasn't used by the community in any way. It is a barn, no different than any other barn. Frankly, you could buy a barn from the East Coast and place it in Avon and no one would know the difference.
- I doubt this barn was even known to citizens broadly before you raised awareness of it.
- The Town should spend ZERO money on dismantling and storing it. If people have an interest in preserving it, then the people should fund it. But at a \$9-12mm cost (I hear my costs were low), it's like you are asking citizens to spend \$1-2,000+ each on saving this barn. That doesn't make sense.
- If you repurpose it into a property that can be rented for weddings and public events, then you are basically competing with the hotels in Avon. Why should a government compete with its businesses?
- It is imprudent to spend money to save a barn when you don't know its final use, cost of such use, location, etc. Let private citizens save it and then make proposals to the Town of Avon.
- It is surreal to me that in this day and age that a town would ever consider spending this much money to save a historically insignificant assets, vs. preserving its funds and spending them on areas that improve the quality of life and competitiveness of businesses in Avon. Why don't you put it to the citizens to see if they would support a tax equal to \$9-12mm to repurpose this barn and see how they feel.
- Again, what should happen is that if private citizens have an interest in saving the barn, private citizens (or non-profits) should foot the bill. Governments should not be in this business for the above reasons.
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Frankly, I am so tired of trying to save Avon from fiscal insanity.

Mark

On Jan 21, 2019, at 11:19 AM, Sarah Smith Hymes <shymes@avon.org> wrote:

Hi, Mark. What you suggest was exactly what we thought the best course of action would be, and we attempted it, unsuccessfully.

The owner of the structure has to consent to its nomination as a historic building, and the ERWSD wouldn't consent because there is nowhere else to put the new tanks on that very constrained piece of land.

Sarah

From: MARK KOGAN <markkogan@me.com>

Sent: Sunday, January 20, 2019 9:26:07 PM

To: Sarah Smith Hymes

Subject: Barn

Sarah,

Something dawned on me. If this barn is so significant from an historical perspective, then why doesn't the Town try to pass legislation to protect it like NYC does with historical buildings? Why isn't there more of a groundswell to pressure the water authority to preserve it?

Mark

Preston Neill

From: Chris <chrisaski@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 22, 2019 6:07 PM
To: Avon Council Web
Subject: The Avon Barn. Financial Burden

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Town of Avon,

Our tax dollars and especially to the extent of which are being talked about should have nothing to do with this barn. Not to mention the cost yet to come to the town. It is ridiculous this has even become an issue.

If the town really has this much money to burn I can think of at least a thousand other places to put it that would actually be beneficial to our community.

My suggestion is sell the barn. Make some money from it. The wood is worth more as parts then this barn is as a whole.

As a very long time resident of Avon and the valley I get the emotional attachment to our heritage which is lacking. But this object is not the answer to that issue.

I encourage the town to be responsible financially.

Best Wishes,

Chris Anthony
Chris Anthony Youth Initiative Project
2018 Colorado Snow Sports Hall of Fame
Bike and Heli Ski Guide
Warren Miller Athlete
HOF VIDEO: <https://youtu.be/82Ur7Lv-ts>

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TWITTER & INSTAGRAM

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Preston Neill

From: Tina Vardaman <tinavardaman@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 23, 2019 11:00 AM
To: Avon Council Web
Subject: Hanhewald Barn

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Dear Council Members,

Thank you for your commitment to the Town of Avon and its residents. As our elected officials, we rely on you to be stewards of our taxpayer funds.

I am writing to express my opposition to the use of any taxpayer funds to relocate the Hahnwald Barn. I have nothing but respect for the Nottingham Family and acknowledge their role in our community's early history, and many contributions to the Vail Valley. However, I do not view the barn as a historically significant building, and I cannot justify the use of significant taxpayer funds to relocate it.

For 12 years, I served as a development/fundraising employee at the Vail Valley Foundation. In addition to the annual, on-going fundraising activities of the VVF, I spearheaded two capital campaigns at the Gerald R. Ford Amphitheater (2000- \$9.5M, and 2016- \$6M), and a community-wide effort to raise \$7.5M to help fund the 2015 Alpine World Ski Championships. Campaigns such as these are significant undertakings that take years. In my experience, if the Town were to hire a development consultant to conduct a feasibility study in the Avon/Eagle County community to determine the appetite of residents and other granting organizations to fund the effort to re-locate the barn, I suspect the conclusion would be that there was little interest. Avon, and the Vail Valley community at large, has many competing, worthwhile causes to fund of greater importance.

My suggestion to the Town would be that we re-invest our real estate transfer tax funds back into the neighborhoods where those dollars are originated. I currently work as a real estate professional, and my observation is that our neighborhoods need some polish and a 'welcoming' sense of entry in the form of tasteful signage and landscaping/gardens, to justify our higher real estate transfer fees. I would urge you to consider neighborhood entrance beautification projects, on a financial scale that makes sense.

Thank you for considering my opinion, and I trust that you will do what's right for Avon.

-Tina Vardaman
5391-B Ferret Lane