

E J Ouellette
4 Silvermine Road
Byfield, MA. 01922
10/16/2024

Dear Planning Board of Newbury,

In support of Damon Jesperson's art space in Byfield I believe the health of any community depends on many things. First responders, an effective school system, a balanced governing body and a healthy town mindset.

One of the ways to enhance a healthy mindset is through the arts. An arts community offers a wealth of opportunities to it's citizens through education. Art of all forms educates and expands opportunities for engagement for it's seniors, families and children.

Developing an arts community brings citizenry together. It informs, brings joy and creates opportunities for all who engage and reaches out to those who cannot engage. The arts can be a fundraiser for those in need of support as well. Art spaces can raise the value of a community locally and nationally.

I, E J Ouellette have been an active in the music arts community through music here in Newbury since 1993 when I chose to locate here 31 years ago. My reach through music is local, regional, national and international. Yes, right here in Byfield.

I am an educator, Grammy® nominated musician/artist/producer/engineer, I mostly work in my studio and remotely with no negative impact on my neighbors. I have taught many families, adults senior and kids on how to play and enjoy music. Many of my students have gone to college to study music and are professional artists today. I know the impact arts can have on a community first hand.

Arts are important to maintain a healthy community and a open minded mindset. This is why I support Damon Jesperson's Wifle Tree Art Space which will offer a wide range of artistic endeavors.

Sincerely,

E J Ouellette
EJ Ouellette/CEO
Whole Music Records™
Producer, Featured Artist,
Engineer, Mixer of a
Grammy® Nominated Song
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NARAS Voting Member
ASCAP Singer/Songwriter
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