



Re: Dunham Tavern Museum & Greenspace

March 1, 2019

Board of Trustees
Dunham Tavern Museum
6709 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44103

Dear members of the Board of Trustees,

We, the undersigned, wish to express our feelings regarding the news that has just recently come to our attention. Secret negotiations are underway to sell a portion of the museum's property. We have chosen to communicate by letter, as all attempts to gain access to the full board have been denied us.

It is our understanding that board action on this proposed sale is imminent. It appears certain members are acting with total disregard of input from the most heavily invested members of the Dunham Tavern Community. We believe these tactics to be reprehensible.

All of us (and surely there are more) have heavily invested our hearts and souls, our tireless hours of dedicated service, and our significant financial treasure into the mission of Dunham Tavern Museum. One of the lofty, long term goals during those years, almost universally held by the members, was the acquisition of surrounding derelict property.

After decades of dreaming and extraordinary volunteer efforts, the 6611 property became part of our campus, enhancing both the image and potential of the museum and of the immediate community. Reclaiming most of the Dunham's original holdings was a crowning achievement. All of our resources were provided with the complete understanding and belief that the property, in its entirety, would continue to serve the mission of the museum, place the Tavern in an historic context, and welcome the community to the original farm-like setting. It was never our intention to see commercial development return to this site.

We feel a deep personal betrayal as a result of the conduct of some board members. Should they follow through with a vote to sell this property, we feel tremendous sadness for the permanent injury to the iconic landmark of the City of Cleveland. The museum's potential will forever be diminished.

Should the board vote in favor of the sale, we pledge to halt future financial support for this organization, and will initiate removal of Dunham Tavern Museum from our estate planning. The financial consequences, due to lack of confidence in this board, will be in the multiple millions of dollars. This is an extremely painful step on our part. We have longstanding loyalties to Dunham, which will not wane, but we will not entrust our treasure to the control of a board in which we have no faith.

Jude and Richard W.Parke	Harlan Peterjohn
Cynthia and Garrit Wamelink	William Wamelink
Nancy and Neal Lavelle	Terry Kovel
Gilbert True	Mrs. Russell J. (Brenda) Logan
Albert A. and Robert E. Hanes	Ted Peterson
Lorraine Szabo	Benjamin Fisco
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Jane and John Hammond	Richard H. Lutz
Kathleen and Rodney Wiggins	Germaine Gibian
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