

Sayers, Margery

From: Barth X. deRosa <BdeRosa@dickinson-wright.com>
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2015 11:57 AM
To: CouncilMail
Cc: Feldmark, Jessica; ashley.venable@generalgrowth.com
Subject: Columbia Downtown Partnership/Advisory Committee/deRosa/Statement of Interest
Attachments: October 18.doc

Greetings: in the event I do not make it to the meeting tonight, I am attaching my letter of introduction and statement of interest in serving on the Advisory Committee. Kindly let me know if there are any questions or need for further information. Thank you for your attention to the matter.

Cordially,

Barth X. deRosa

Barth X. deRosa Member

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October 18, 2015

Howard County Council
George Howard Building
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Re: CR 153 -2015 – Barth X. deRosa
Downtown Columbia Partnership Advisory Committee

Dear County Council Member:

By email dated October 16 from Ms. Jessica Feldmark, I have been requested to provide the Council with a brief statement about my interest in serving on the Advisory Committee for the Downtown Columbia Partnership. While it is my intention to make every effort to attend the meeting scheduled for Monday, I am not certain I will be able to make it in time due to some prior commitments and the short notice of the request. Simply put, I have some late afternoon meetings in D.C., and traffic is anyone's guess.

With that said, I would like to introduce myself. I was born in Washington, D.C., and grew up in the Silver Spring and the Rockville areas. I am a 1973 graduate of St. John's Military High School located in the District. My wife, Mary, and I moved to Clarksville in 1988 and have resided there ever since. We raised our four children, all of whom are now grown and living independently in California, Louisiana, Virginia and Maryland.

Professionally, I have been a practicing attorney in the District of Columbia since 1982. I received my Juris Doctorate degree from the University of Georgia School of Law, with an emphasis in Environmental and Land Use law and my Bachelor of Arts degree in Environmental Studies from the George Washington University in 1978. Though it was my intention to practice in those areas, as life would have it, I ended up specializing in Intellectual Property law, particularly in the field of trademarks and copyright. I am presently with the D.C. office of

DickinsonWright, PLLC, a Detroit based law firm with approximately 490 lawyers, and 14 offices nationwide and in Toronto, Canada.

In keeping with an entrepreneurial spirit, my wife and I established in 2011 a side retail business named SECOLARI. SECOLARI specializes in the sale of Extra Virgin Olive Oils, Vinegars, Balsamic and other culinary products and gifts. At present, we have four store locations: Bethesda Row, Cleveland Park, Towson Town Center, and the Mall in Columbia. As a direct result of our specialization in olive oils from California, I also sit on the Board of Directors for the California Olive Oil Council – its only East coast member.

Against this backdrop, my interest in serving on the Advisory Committee is perhaps three fold.

First, as a business owner in Downtown Columbia, I certainly have a vested interest in the continued development of Downtown Columbia, and its potential impact on small and family owned businesses like SECOLARI.

Second, as a 27 year resident of Howard County, I personally have a love for the area and a strong desire to see it developed in a balanced way considering its natural beauty and economic vitality.

Finally, I have always maintained an avid intellectual interest in the area of urban planning and the environmental sciences, and would appreciate the opportunity to both learn and contribute in this respect.

To the extent a voice and view is needed from these various perspectives, I am willing to offer and share my insight and experience of 60 years.

If there are any questions, or need for additional information, please do not hesitate to let me.

Cordially,

Barth X. deRosa, CEO

c/o 13839 Lakeside Drive, Clarksville, Maryland 21029/202-408-5955