

June 26, 2008

To: John Vandermolen, Acting Chair  
Trailer Estates Park and Recreation District

Subject: Article for Tribune

John,

I was surprised to learn that you refused to print the article that I had written and submitted mid May for the Let's Talk Club item to appear in the July Tribune. I was surprised by your decision to censor the article rather than notify me that there was a problem, despite the fact that I submitted the article several weeks before you made the decision to censor it on the deadline for publication. I have been even more disturbed that nobody has deemed it important to notify me that the article has not been included in the July Tribune. I would have appreciated an opportunity to correct the article or write another one. I would also like to point out that Board action was taken at a workshop. There was a Board meeting after I submitted the article on behalf of the club.

I have a memo from Janet Jones that states that the only rules for the Tribune is that the submission must be an article, not the minutes of a meeting and can not be commercial advertising or personal items. I had requested that I be provided with any and all rules available for articles to be submitted to the office for the Tribune.

The Bylaws and Charter of the Let's Talk Club were satisfied with the article as well as the board policy. I am very concerned regarding your government censorship of a club article in the park resident newspaper, paid for with public funds. I was even more confused by the statement that I could post the article on the bulletin board.

I am enclosing a copy of the article. I plan to resubmit it as soon as I find out what it was that you felt was wrong. Please highlight or circle those areas that you feel do not comply with either our club's mission or the policy of the Park.

I request a copy of the new rules that you set for articles to be published in the Tribune at the workshop on June 10, 2008. I will appreciate your prompt response. I am enclosing a stamped self addressed envelope and money to cover the cost of copy of your new policy.

Sincerely,

Sharon Denson  
7054 McCords  
Alto, Mi 49302

Enclosures: Janet Jones Memo, Feb 6, 2008, Tribune rules  
Censored Let's Talk Tribune Article