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**PLANNING**  
**COMMISSION**  
**EXHIBIT # 156**

January 10, 2005

Robert McIntyre, Chairman  
Old Saybrook Planning Commission  
Old Saybrook Town Hall  
302 Main Street  
Old Saybrook, CT 06475

Dear Mr. McIntyre,

Re: Support for The Preserve

There are many good reasons why the town should support The Preserve. Some of these include the fact that most of the property will remain undisturbed and that there will be extensive walking trails open to the public.

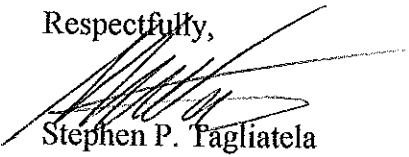
I would like to focus on the advantage of having a public golf course in town. The commission should be made aware that:

- Saybrook Point Inn does not presently have a golf facility that is accessible for our guests.
- Golf is the #1 sport people look for when making travel plans.
- Over recent years the introduction and expansion of other lodging facilities which offer golf nearby (i.e. Casino Hotels, Mystic Marriott, Adrian's Landing) has increased the competitive disadvantage of Saybrook Point Inn.

A golf facility would not only be a great recreational advantage for our citizens but it would also be a strong stimulus for the local economy by attracting people who would spend money in our shops, restaurants and lodging establishments.

I believe that there is a silent majority which supports The Preserve but the detractors have been vocal and have spent lots of money in ads and campaigning designed to change public opinion. I support this well designed project. I look forward to this recreational amenity as a great asset for the town. It is my hope that in addition to golf and walking trails there will eventually be horseback riding which would increase public enjoyment of the many acres that will remain untouched by the plan.

Respectfully,

  
Stephen P. Tagliatela  
Director of Operations

