1	TOWN OF SUNAPEE		
2	ZONING BOARD		
3	APRIL 12, 2012		
4 5	PRESENT: Charles Balyeat, Edward Frothingham, Dick Katz, Clayton Platt, Daniel Schneider, Aaron Simpson, Alternate, Roger Landry, Zoning Administrator, Jae Whitelaw, Town Counsel		
6	ALSO PRESENT: See Attached Sign-In Sheet		
7	Charles Balyeat called the meeting to order at 7:14 PM.		
8	The meeting minutes from the March 18, 2012 meeting were postponed until the next meeting.		
9	ELECTION OF OFFICERS		
10 11 12	Dick Katz made a motion to nominate Edward Frothingham for Chairman of the Board. Clayton Platt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Clayton Platt nominated Charles Balyeat as Vice-Chair. Edward Frothingham seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.		
13 14 15	CASE 12-05: ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL PARCEL ID: 0104-0020-0000 OF ZONING ADMINISTRATORS CEASE & DESIST ORDER ON AN AUTO BODY REPAIR BUSINESS IN OPERATION IN A RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT WITHOUT PLANNING & ZONING APPROVALS, DONNA DAVIS, 15 PROSPECT HILL ROAD		
16 17 18 19 20 21 22	Case 12-05 has been continued from the March 8, 2012 meeting. Attorney Friedrich Moeckel presented the case for Donna Davis Larrow and Series 2000 and presented packets of information to the Board for their review which was the information that was presented to the courts for the hearing of the case. Judith Whitelaw, attorney for the Town of Sunapee asked for clarification of the information in the packet and Atty. Moeckel stated that the packet included the certified minutes and everything that went to the Supreme Court for the appeal. Atty. Whitelaw told the Board that everything that was in that packet was in the packet of information that they had already received for the meeting except theirs had letters from the public.		
24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	Atty. Moeckel said that two years ago, the Board decided it was improper to address two letters that Roger Landry, the Zoning Administrator, wrote to his clients. The case went to the Superior Court and then to the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court said that it was unreasonable for the Board not to hear the appeal of the case and that is why the Larrows are before the Board now. There were two letters issued, the first dated January 12, 2010 and the second January 26, 2010 which suggested that what his clients were doing on their property was illegal. Atty. Moeckel maintains that it is not illegal and is in fact, by law, permissible and it will be explained why. Atty. Moeckel will discuss some legal issues such as whether the letters met the requirements of the law and if they do, what is the consequence of the letters.		
33 34	Atty. Moeckel first discussed the two letters (page 74 & 78 of the information packets he presented). The first letter (pg. 74), dated Jan. 12, 2010, says what his clients are doing is illegal as they are running a		

- 35 vehicle wholesale business and some type of auto service and Mr. Landry's review of files show that is in
- 36 violation of the Zoning and Planning regulations as permits were never obtained. Attorney Moeckel
- 37 further stated that it was interesting that the Town's attorney contradicted Mr. Landry and said that the
- 38 wholesale vehicle business is lawful (see page 94 & pg. 15 of the packet). Further, NH Law has
- 39 requirements for Cease and Desist orders and during the course of the litigation the Town took different
- 40 position and said they were not Cease & Desist orders though it says it on the top of the letter. Per RSA
- 41 676:17, 676:17-a and 676:17-b which are the statutes that talk about Cease & Desist orders. These
- 42 RSA's are very specific and state when the Town gives a Cease & Desist order they must comply to the
- 43 Statute to the letter. Atty. Whitelaw asked and Atty. Moeckel stated that copies of Statutes were not in
- 44 the packet of information given to the Board.
- 45 Atty. Moeckel continued that a Town can write a letter to a property owner to Cease & Desist but the
- letter has to comply with one or more of the Statues which the letters do not do. Specifically, there is
- 47 under RSA 696:17-a, a list of five things that must be included in a Cease & Desist order and the Jan. 12th
- 48 letter fails to identify the precise Zoning Regulation allegedly violated, any date of inspection, any
- summary of enforcement and any statement of a potential lien. Coupled with the Jan. 26th letter,
- 50 together, they are still missing all the requirements. Moving to RSA 676:17-b, there are twelve items
- 51 that are required, the letters failed to contain eight of the twelve statutory mandatory requirements.
- 52 Therefore his clients maintain the letters are illegal Cease & Desist Orders and the Board should decide if
- the letters are legally sufficient to proceed.
- 54 Clayton Platt asked if the Supreme Court discussed the legality of the Cease & Desist letters and Atty.
- 55 Moeckel said that the Court focused on the issue of whether it was Constitutionally permissible to be
- 56 unreasonably and they said the Board was unreasonable. The Court determined that the Board was
- 57 unreasonable and should have listened to the case that was before it.
- Atty. Moeckel referred to the Jan 26th letter (see page 78 of the packet) and stated that the Town's
- 59 attorney later took the position that rather than being all together illegal as the Jan 12th letter
- suggested, that in fact that what was going on the property was not all together illegal. Nevertheless,
- the Jan. 26th letter cited six different sections of the 2009 Zoning Ordinance, though the letter doesn't
- 62 state what version of the Ordinance is being referred to, that were in violation and this is presumed
- 63 after some type of investigation. On page 75 & 76 & 77 of the packet, are copies of pleas from the
- 64 applicant to the Zoning Administrator to conduct a thorough investigation as the business was legally
- 65 permitted by Mr. Landry's predecessor, Michael Marquise. Aaron Simpson asked if Atty. Moeckel was a
- 66 referring to a letter from the Town's attorney. Atty. Moeckel denied this and stated that the
- 67 information from the Town atty. that he was referring to was on pages 15 & 94 of the packet. On page
- 68 15 it is the end of paragraph 20, at the top of the page, and on page 94 it is the first full paragraph.
- 69 Atty. Moeckel stated that the issue of the case is not so much that in an impermissible wholesale vehicle
- dealer business at the property it is permissible and that it is lawful and permissible and the evolution of
- 71 the business is not illegal. The Law in the State says that if you establish a business, and it is lawful, that
- 72 business can stay there forever and it can expand so long as it is not substantially different see: RSA
- 73 674:19 —which is a Statute that allows grandfathering. This statute says that the only uses that are not

allowed are uses that are substantially different so you can do something that is different though the Zoning laws have changed but you can't do something that is substantially different. What was going on at Series 2000 was lawful when it was started and is lawful today as it is not substantially different. The key distinction between this case and other cases is in other cases the courts have found the use was substantially different. They have not expanded the building; they are not asking to add on, everything that is going on there is the same as it was in the beginning. The garage that was built, and in fact applied for and approved by the Town isn't getting any bigger. Atty. Moeckel said that another point he wanted the Board to think about is what happened in 1995 when Mr. Larrow came to the Town and asked for permission to do what they wanted to do, Mr. Larrow spoke with Mr. Marquise and they did what Mr. Marquise told them to do. Nothing further was said for 15 years with no problems until 2010 when there was a problem. Also, the Town of Sunapee was utilizing their services for various reasons such as automobiles and boats

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William Larrow explained his position on the case. In 1995 they asked for and were granted approval to establish a business in Georges Mills to do an auto wholesale business. The primary agreement between Mr. Marquise, Mr. Larrow and Edward Anderson, was the fact that they were not going to have retail sales to the public. There were to be no signs, no balloons, and no cars on the front lawn such as at a car dealership like Dartmouth Motors. However, the law associated with the DMV says that even though you are a wholesale dealer, we forgive you if you wanted to sell a couple of vehicles to the public. Mr. Larrow said that the main purpose of his business was to purchase a car, bring it to his garage, refurbish and restore it and then resold it. Restoring is: repairs, replacement of panels, mechanical, fiberglass, glass, detailing, and all these things fall under this umbrella. As they do these things, it requires parts, products, etc. that anyone may have in their own garage today. Consequently as they went through the work and did it, it was obvious to everybody because the dealer itself, though they did repairs, it is common for some dealers to make the repairs themselves, though some do not, it is a choice. They didn't advertise, they didn't put up signs, they didn't have a webpage or business cards, and they just kept doing what they were doing. In the terms of watercraft, they evolved in the later part of 1996. They did not solicit business, customers, such as the Town of Sunapee, came to them. This involves boats, three police cruisers, etc., however, they never billed the Town for the services as he thought it was something he should do and that he wanted to do, he didn't think he would get penalized. Mr. Larrow went on doing this type of work for 15, now 17 years, and never once tried deceive or tried to hide what he was doing. He gave the police department an estimate but they chose someone else (see packet of information). Mr. Larrow gets calls from customers that heard from someone else that he can do repairs. Mr. Larrow then goes to see the vehicle, boat, or car and gets it, fixes and returns it and if it is something he can't fix he directs them to a shop that can. However, there have been times he has come home to find something in his driveway with a note asking for a call. Mr. Larrow has never fixed wrecks; he has never run a body shop. Tom Callum from Tom & Dale's Auto Body in Newport has been doing body work for 19 years. He has known Mr. Larrow for around 10 years and often gets referrals if it is bigger than a bump or fender or such. Mr. Callum has been in Mr. Larrow's shop and there are probably more chemicals in a normal house than in Mr. Larrow's garage. Mr. Larrow felt that whatever he was doing was in response to the market and was a natural expansion. There has been no change in the building, no addition to the employees. He wishes there had been better

- communication between the Town and himself. One of the reasons he joined the Board was to see how
- the Zoning Board ran and to make sure nothing like this happened to anyone else.
- 117 Clayton Platt asked Mr. Larrow if there have been employees at the business. Mr. Larrow said no.
- 118 There may have been people, such as Edward Anderson, who work as general contractors for special
- projects; however, they have always been given 1099s.
- 120 Mr. Larrow stated he was therefore surprised why he received a Cease and Desist letter in January of
- 121 2010 after running a business for so many years. He could not understand why he received a letter that
- said what he was doing was illegal and that his business had never been approved to begin with. Mr.
- 123 Larrow said it felt that it was a "shoot first, ask questions" later action, however, it made him sit back
- and think about things. He hadn't spent time with Roger Landry except in the fall of 2008 as they
- received a Cease and Desist as they were putting an addition on their house and they did not have a
- three bedroom septic system on their house though they were on Town sewer. This was due to a
- records mistake in the Town Office and the project was then allowed to continue. Mr. Landry did an
- inspection of the foundation and they went into the garage at that time. Two years later he was
- somehow running an illegal business and body shop.
- 130 Mr. Larrow said that after receiving the Cease and Desist letter on January 12, he and Mr. Anderson
- went to the Town to meet with Mr. Landry. Mr. Larrow read notes, that he said were quotes, from the
- meeting (the date is in the information packet). Mr. Larrow and Mr. Andersen introduced themselves to
- 133 Mr. Landry. They had met before when they were looking at the possibility of NorthEast Towing going
- to the Touchette property. At this meeting, they started to speak about the Cease and Desist letter. Mr.
- Landry acknowledged "we know what is going on and who the players are" and said "we do not want
- 136 you out of business; you have run a clean business; there have been no complaints for 15 years,
- however, we need to clean up the paperwork from 15 years ago plus fit the new Zoning Regulations; you
- are an approved wholesale business not repair and boat work; I know that you are not a body shop and
- that you did repairs for the Town; I know my Board and everything should be pretty good and we need
- to do this paperwork; however, there are no guarantees." Mr. Landry did not promise anything to Mr.
- Larrow. Mr. Larrow said that Mr. Landry said "you may appeal my process and go to court, people have
- tried and spent money and lost; you cannot do what you are doing without Town approval; it does not
- matter how long you have been doing it". They then spoke about some of the players who were Kristen
- Senz a news reporter from the Eagle Times, Fred Gallup, Stuart Stone who owns a towing company in
- 145 Newport, Darren Carter who owns Midnight Auto a towing company who was unhappy with Northeast
- 146 Towing and Edward Anderson. The common thread with those people was that everyone had an issue
- 147 with Northeast Towing and Edward Anderson. Kristen Senz was a reporter who was calling the Town
- 148 Office looking for news and Series 2000 became front page news. Three days prior to their first Zoning
- meeting, a newspaper article came out that they had interviewed Donna Nashawaty, the Town
- 150 Manager, who said that to her knowledge at the time they had never done any work for the Town. Mrs.
- 151 Nashawaty spoke up and confirmed that at the time, to her knowledge, she was not aware of them
- doing any work for the Town. In the news release, Roger Landry, said that there was an alleged body
- shop. After reading the article, Mr. Larrow went to the Town Office and confronted Mr. Landry. He
- asked why a Town official would give an interview to a reporter three day before a quasi-judicial

hearing. Though you must give documents under the right to know law, he couldn't understand why they gave an interview. He didn't feel like they would be able to get a fair hearing from the Board after the article. Mr. Larrow said he isn't sure why this has taken two years of time and attorney's fees. Mr. Larrow stated that Attorney Whitelaw has said that Zoning laws and Zoning issues are complex. Mr. Larrow wants to be able trust who is at the Town office and be guided by the Town officials and doesn't feel like he had that.

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Mr. Larrow said that he reported himself to the Department of Environmental Services because he wanted to be classified -as a small generator of hazardous waste so that he could get printouts and notifications from DES and the Federal government about storage of hazardous waste. He wanted to be a member to ensure that it protects their own property and the neighborhood. Aaron Simpson asked when he had done this and Mr. Larrow answered it was around the 2000 time period. When the DES came out, they drove by the shop and couldn't find the shop, the person went into the shop, they generated the report and they said that they didn't qualify as anything, not even a small user. The DES came in on 3/28/2012 for an inspection. Atty. Whitelaw asked if the DES had inspected the business before and Mr. Larrow said no as he was crossed off the list because he doesn't qualify for being inspected. Atty. Whitelaw asked for clarification about when Mr. Larrow went to DES as she thought Mr. Larrow said it was around 1996. Mr. Larrow said it was around the 2000 time period and at that time they didn't have a number. They received their first DES number in 2010 which is when the state started wanting to collect fees. Mr. Larrow said there have been no complaints to DES about what they were doing on their property. There have been complaints, however there has been suspicions and there have been many allegations by neighbors who say he is pouring chemicals down the drain, and other things such as he is polluting the wells and more. Mr. Larrow asked for the Chair to read the DES letter into the record. It is a confidential letter but he is allowing them to do this. Atty. Whitelaw said that any information submitted to the Board is now part of the record and does not have to be read.

Mr. Platt asked what the relationship of Mr. Larrow is to NorthEast Towing. Mr. Larrow said that he and Mr. Anderson, who was an owner of Northeast Towing, have been friends for close to 20 years. When Mr. Anderson would come to work at the shop, he may be on call for NorthEast and he drove and parked his truck there. The young man who they had guardianship over, lived with them and was an employee of Northeast Towing parked his flatbed or wrecker between their home and their abutter Michelle Oldman. The young man would practice towing his car onto the flatbed.

Daniel Schneider asked for clarification about employees. Mr. Larrow said that he didn't have employees, he occasionally had one or two people who would work there but they were paid as contractors.

Mr. Larrow said that wanted to make sure the Board understood that in his point of view, when he met with Michael Marquise they did anything that was required of them. Mr. Simpson asked what was signed with Mr. Marquise and if it was in the record that was provided. Mr. Larrow said there was nothing besides the DMV paperwork and there was nothing else to his recollection that they were asked to do as they would have done it if it was asked of them. Atty. Moeckel said that what is telling to him about the file <u>is</u> that if the approvals were mandatory they would be in the file. The only thing that is in

- the file is that in 1995 there was one class of use; everything was permitted unless it was expressly
- 195 excluded. If it was permitted by right then they didn't have to ask permission. Mr. Simpson asked if
- 196 Atty. Moeckel had submitted a copy of the 1995 Ordinance. Atty. Moeckel said that he did not.
- 197 Atty. Moeckel read from the March 1996 Zoning Ordinance "Article 4, Section 4.10 Permitted Uses, All
- 198 Districts". "Section 4.11 Any use not specifically prohibited is permitted." "Section 4.20 Prohibited
- 199 Uses These are specifically prohibited for all districts: private dumps, heavy industry, long term
- storage, or disposal of toxic waste." These were the only things not permitted which means that if it is
- permitted by right you don't have to ask permission. However, in this case there was a building that was
- built intended for the establishment. Page 54 60 in the information packet are the copies of the
- building permit applications, etc. They were building the garage for the business.
- Aaron Simpson asked for copies of the attachments for the letter that Mr. Landry said in his letter dated
- January 26, 2010. Atty. Moeckel said that he never received any attachments and that Donna Davis
- Larrow, who received the letters, might be able to clarify this. Mr. Simpson asked if Atty. Moeckel had
- 207 looked at the sections of Mr. Landry's letters siting his concerns. Atty. Moeckel said that he had and
- 208 once the Board had heard the facts, he would be going through the six sections. Mr. Simpson asked Mr.
- 209 Larrow if it was true that the application to the DMV indicates that he was not going to be doing any
- repair only wholesale and that is the only document that Mr. Marquise signed. The DMV application is
- on page 51 of the information packet that Atty. Moeckel presented. Mr. Larrow said his agreement was
- 212 no retail sales. Mr. Simpson said that on the DMV application, there is a section for repair that that is
- 213 not checked. Mr. Larrow clarified that that part is checked if it a repair dealer who has repair plate. Mr.
- 214 Simpson said that based on what Mr. Marquise signed, the section for repair is not checked. Mr. Larrow
- said the application is for the type of dealership, not the type of work. There are nine different types of
- 216 plate dealers in the State and they are not easy to get. It is why the state required the Town to sign off
- 217 on the form to make sure that the place of business is not prohibited.
- 218 Atty. Whitelaw asked for clarification about the building permit as nothing was indicated on the permit
- 219 that it was anything other than a residential garage. The drawing indicated a deck and a garage. Mr.
- 220 Larrow said they were applying for a garage permit and there was no discussion about what it was for.
- Atty. Whitelaw said earlier, Mr. Larrow had referenced that they put up the garage for the business. Mr.
- 222 Larrow said he misspoke. Donna Davis Larrow said that the garage was built for the business as they
- didn't have a garage because their house with the garage underneath had burnt down. Atty. Whitelaw
- 224 said that there was nothing on the documentation that was presented to the Town that the garage was
- for business use as opposed to residential use.
- 226 Atty. Moeckel directed the Boards attention to the handwritten note on page 51 of the packet, dated
- 227 May 8, 1996 on which Mr. Marquise notes, in response to the State inquiry of whether the property
- 228 complies with local ordinances and requirements, he checks "no" and says "not applicable, the property
- 229 will comply with Article 1 of Site Plan Regulations". Which indicates that Mr. Marquise knew there was
- 230 nothing illegal going on and he knew what was going on. Mr. Simpson asked what Article 1 says. Atty.
- 231 Moeckel said that he has attempted to get the historical copies of the documents and they have been
- unable to get a copy of the 1992 Site Plan Review Regulations. The Site Plan Review Regulations were

adopted in 1987, revised in 1992 and then not again until 1999. However, he has a copy of the 2006 Site
Plan Review regulations which only refers to the 2006 amendments. Atty. Whitelaw stated that without
a copy of those regulations, the Board doesn't know if the information being given is applicable. Atty.
Moeckel said that it makes sense as Article 1 says these are the Site Plan Review Regulations and home
occupations are specifically excluded from them. This language, together with Mr. Marquise's notes,
makes sense as the regulations specifically exclude what was contemplated and Mr. Marquise said it
was not applicable. Mr. Landry said that there are copies of the 1992 Site Plan Regulations upstairs.

Atty. Whitelaw asked for clarification of the progression of what was done for expanding, the business and what was the timeframe? Mr. Larrow said that repairs to boats and repairs to cars are essentially the same. There was a change in the latter part of 1996 to 1997 to transition to doing watercraft (kayaks, canoes, motorboats). If he didn't think it was feasible he sent it to a boat shop. Atty. Whitelaw asked if there was a difference in the equipment needed to repair the boats. Mr. Larrow said in terms of repair there is not. Doug Richardson ran the service department at Bob's Beacon Marina for 18 years and brought boats to Bill in 1994/95 and decided he did great work but only brought him small \$1000 - \$1500 jobs. The Marina had previously been hauling to Winnipesaukee as they were the nearest fiberglass shop. Mr. Larrow is a perfectionist and gets jobs done well.

Atty. Whitelaw asked Mr. Larrow if there were cars that were being brought there on flatbeds or tow trucks. Mr. Larrow said that flatbeds hauling vehicles to his shop for work not true except for his own vehicles. There are three owners of tow truck companies present and Mr. Larrow had asked them all if there were any records from the companies of wrecks being hauled for repair to his shop and they had said they did not have any. He didn't want to repair wrecks and they don't have the facility to do wrecks. Christopher Pankhurst of 14 Prospect Hill Rd spoke and vouched for the Larrow's that they have not had vehicles hauled on tow trucks or wreckers nor have they expanded the business. He has lived on Prospect Hill Road for 10 years.

Donna Davis Larrow is not the owner of NorthEast Towing nor has she ever been. Mrs. Larrow spoke about the day she received the Cease and Desist letter from Mr. Landry. She was shocked as she didn't know what they were doing wrong. Town Counsel has said in the Supreme Court documents that the business is a legitimate business and the Cease and Desist letter said that it was not a legitimate business. Mrs. Davis discussed how she felt about the letter as well as how she feels like the Town of Sunapee should project themselves and that the way the letter was written was not how she feels the Town should do business.

Mrs. Larrow said that Mr. Landry pulled Mr. Larrow's dealer license and this was done as a tool for compliance to ensure that the Larrow's did everything he wanted them to do. Mr. Simpson asked for clarification about the dealer license and Mrs. Larrow said that Mr. Landry contacted the DMV and had the license removed saying they were not in compliance of the Zoning Ordinance. The Larrow's went to the hearing at the DMV and appealed that order and Atty. Whitelaw says that it is a legally established business. Atty. Whitelaw clarified that her position in the legal filings with the Supreme Court and Superior Court was that whatever business existed there when the Zoning Ordinance changed in 2000 was a legally operating business. The Larrow's had filed for and received permission to operate as a

wholesale dealer in 1995/1996 and whatever that business was didn't become illegal by the change in the Zoning Ordinance in 2000. The question is what the scope of the business was when the Zoning Ordinance changed. Mrs. Larrow said that they got the dealer's license in 1995 and the Cease and Desist letter said that they were an illegal wholesale dealer. If they were a legally established business, why was their license taken away? Atty. Whitelaw clarified that it is the State who makes the decision regarding licenses and it has nothing to do with the Board. Though it may have to do with conversations that Mr. Landry had with or documents that he produced for the State and she understands that while the Larrow's have an issue with that, in Atty. Whitelaw's opinion, it has nothing to do with the Board. Mrs. Larrow said that Mr. Landry contacted the DMV and told them to pull their license. The DMV is not going to rule in their favor over Mr. Landry's as he is a Town official. What the DMV said, even upon appeal, was that they have to get the Town of Sunapee to agree that they comply with Zoning rules and regulation. Atty. Moeckel said that the point he believes Mrs. Larrow was trying to address was the sentence on pg. 74 of the information packet which is from the Jan 12, 2010 letter which states "A review of our files has indicated this operation to be in violation of several of our Zoning and Planning Regulations since permits were never obtained. Since an automobile wholesale business and any other automobile service type business are not allowed in your Zoning District, I am issuing the following order: you are to Cease and Desist[.]" This letter was factually and legally wrong and based thereon if you look at page 67 in the information packet, there is a letter from the NH State Police, dated Jan 25, 2010, Mr. Landry's follow-up letter is dated the next day. Therefore, he was communicating with the State Police.

Mrs. Larrow said that the business started as wholesale dealership where vehicles were brought to the house and put into the two bay garage, they are cleaned, repaired and resold. What they do today is exactly the same thing whether it is a car or a boat. Also, Edward Andersen has been part of the business from the beginning of the business; he was a part of the original establishment of the business whether you call him an employee or not.

Mrs. Larrow has more concerns about procedure. When Mrs. Larrow received Mr. Landry's Cease and Desist letter she called the Town and spoke to Donna Nashawaty, the Town Manager as Mr. Landry was not there. Mrs. Larrow asked for Mrs. Nashawaty to help her with the situation. Mrs. Larrow said she received a very poor reception with her and the conversation disintegrated. Mrs. Nashawaty told Mrs. Larrow that she should educate herself, that there was nothing that she could do for her. Mrs. Larrow asked about meeting with the Selectmen, she asked about what her alternatives were and she did not get a good answer from her. She told her to educate herself and while she was offended by this, it may have been some of the best advice she has gotten in a long time as she has now educated herself. The problem with that is that it has taken two years and three months and they are back to where they should have been in their first hearing in March of 2010. Mrs. Larrow said that it concerns her that this is how Sunapee conducts business and that if there is an individual that does not take the time to educate themselves and find themselves in this position. It is embarrassing that the Town is in a Supreme Court decision, particularly one that they lost. Mrs. Larrow would like to have the Boards and the Town Office have well documented guidelines and approaches to how they conduct business. Mrs. Larrow said her final point is that this is her home, this is where she raised her children, this is where

they have their grandchildren come to pay, they are not operating anything toxic or hazardous and she hopes people would understand that they would not want to endanger the environment for themselves as much as anyone else.

Mr. Platt asked how much revenue and how much time was spent in 2009-2010 before the Cease and Desist letter was from cars and how much from boats. Mr. Larrow said the main income stream, which was cars, has gone with the license. He now mostly does boats and cars and small craft. He does not have the ability to retrieve, fix and sell cars. Mr. Larrow said that before the Cease and Desist it was mostly cars.

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Atty. Whitelaw asked in 1996, 97 & 98 how much time was spent on boats and how much on cars? Part of the issue with expansion of non-conforming use is what how much was the expansion. Mr. Larrow said that boats were seasonal and they may have had four in five months, zero for the next two months, then ten in one month, it varied with the seasons. A lot of it was due to the fact that they didn't advertise or solicit business, it was not the type of business he wanted or was allowed to have. Mrs. Larrow said that Mr. Larrow worked all the time, though retired and a part time business, it would have been considered a full time business for others.

Edward Anderson, of Sunapee, spoke for Mr. Larrow. Mr. Anderson asked the Board to think about the fact that there has been a business for 15 years that has run without complaints. Residents in the community used the business. Why, after 15 years was a cease and desist letter delivered? Mr. Anderson said that he is the reason for the Cease and Desist order and what he cannot believe that not a single person who started the issue was present: Kristen Senz from the Eagle Times, Darren Carter from Midnight Auto, Stuart Stone, Mark Marcel who started to go around to all the neighbors, Stuart Stone. But it happened because Stuart Stone and Midnight Auto were upset that Mr. Anderson got involved in a business with his sister. Mr. Anderson's sister and brother-in-law owned the business and Mr. Anderson helped his sister and became an owner of the company. Mr. Anderson was with Mr. Larrow when he met with Mr. Marquise when the business started. When Mr. Anderson became an owner of the company, when he would visit Mr. and Mrs. Larrow, he parked his towing truck at the business. Mr. Anderson had problems with Kristen Senz, who wrote an article for the Union Leader attacking him. No one noticed, however, the little article saying she was being removed from the paper. Stuart Stone went to Fred Gallup and this is where it starts to come at the Larrow's. Mr. Landry then looked at a business that was 15 years old and wrote a Cease and Desist letter and that they are in violation. As things progressed, the attacks on Mr. Anderson progressed to attacks on Mr. Larrow to get to Mr. Anderson. Mr. Anderson and Mr. Larrow spoke to Mr. Landry and Mr. Landry said that they were not there to put them out of business. Mr. Anderson continued saying that Mr. Landry said that repairing fenders does not make them a body shop and that he knew his Boards and that he would help them. Mr. Anderson advised Mr. Larrow to trust Mr. Landry. Mr. Anderson said that Mr. Landry threatened them. Mr. Landry stated he had never threatened and that he would talk about these comments during his time to speak. Mr. Anderson said that what they are dealing with is an attack on him and unfortunately, Mr. and Mrs. Larrow are dealing with the consequences. The business doesn't interfere with the environment, or with the neighbors except for one now which is where he parked the

tow truck. The Cease and Desist had nothing to do with Mr. Anderson not driving the tow truck there,

Mrs. Larrow asked Mr. Anderson not to drive the trucks to the property and he has stopped. NorthEast Towing has an impound lot one mile away where they bring the wrecks. Daniel Schneider asked if NorthEast Towing took repair work to Series 2000 and Mr. Anderson said he never took repair work to Series 2000. Mr. Schneider asked what Midnight Auto had a problem with. Mr. Anderson replied that Midnight Auto and Stuart Stone had a problem with NorthEast Towing as Mr. Anderson is a police officer and they felt that the police departments would give Northeast Towing Company preferential treatment and get the tows. Mr. Anderson said that under the Right to Know Law they filed paperwork and discovered that this had never happened. Mr. Schneider asked for clarification that they were upset about the competition for the towing business and not the repair business. Mr. Anderson confirmed that and said that NorthEast Towing has since been sold and he may stop by occasionally to see them but that is all that the neighbors will see of the truck. Mr. Anderson went with Mr. Larrow and spoke with Mr. Marquise and it was completely understood that they were going to be repairing cars at the business. He was very helpful and very polite and it was completely understood what they were doing at the business.

Doug Windsor from 9 Prospect Hill Rd who has lived there since 1980 spoke on behalf of Mr. and Mrs. Larrow. He stated that Georges Mills is a Village District that historically was an industry village and has always had industry. Mr. Windsor said that Mr. Larrow started his business in 1995 / 1996 and it has never changed. Mr. Windsor walks by Mr. and Mrs. Larrow's house every day and has never seen more than one vehicle and maybe one boat. Mr. Windsor is concerned that the Town Report incorrectly states about the Superior Court decision and a failure to properly report and be transparent which has to do with the Zoning Board is not doing its job in supporting the Town. Mr. Larrow's business has never changed and Northeast Towing was a problem before it was owned by Mr. Anderson and at the top of the hill but it was not a problem when Mr. Anderson owned the property.

Atty. Moeckel said he is going to try and tie the testimony to the law. In 1995 when the business started, the Town had one Zoning District and all businesses were permitted unless expressly prohibited and this business was not one of the prohibited ones. There was no reason to get a variance or a special exception because it was permitted by right. Per pg. 78 of his information packet, the letter suggests that "the Statement of Property Usage was never filed." The reason that this is important is because he mentioned that per the Site Plan Review regulations, home occupations were expressly excluded from the application of the Site Plan Review Regulations which meant that home occupations did not have to go through site plan review if you meet the five requirements. Mr. Marquise in 1996 said that the project would comply with Article 1 and would therefore not need to go through the approval. Atty. Moeckel went over the five requirements and stated that Series 2000 met all the requirements. Number 5 of the checklist states that "the owner of the property files a Statement of Property Usage with the Planning Board which documents the current use of the property and proposed use of the property". In Mr. Landry's letter on page 78 of the information packet, dated January 26, 2010, the letter says that the Larrow's are violating six separate sections of the Zoning Ordinance and they never filed a Statement of Property Usage. Atty. Moeckel stated that Mr. and Mrs. Larrow did exactly what Mr. Marquise told them to do, if he gave them a document, they submitted it. Atty. Moeckel said that he didn't know where the Statement of Property Usage was but apparently it is not in the file. However, Mr. Marquise made notations on the 1996 application which said they were going to comply with the Site Plan Review regulations. Atty. Moeckel stated Mr. and Mrs. Larrow were doing exactly what was told of them and that if they were going to go through the trouble of submitting applications to the Town to get approvals then they must have filed the Statement of Property Use. Atty. Moeckel said that with respect to the six separate sections of the Zoning Ordinance, Mr. Landry sites Article 1, Section 1.33, Legal Non-Conformity. Atty. Moeckel said that what he believes the Ordinance states is that if there is existing use you are grandfathered, If there is a change in ordinance then you must comply with the ordinance. Mr. Landry's letter sited Section 4.10 of the Zoning Ordinance listed the permitted uses, as this is a home occupation is has always been permitted. Section 4.20 which is Prohibited Usage which says that any use not specifically prohibited is permitted. Atty. Moeckel says he agrees with that, unless it is a grandfathered usage which is what RSA 674:19 which says that even if you start something when it is permitted, you are allowed to expand it, and you can expand it to something different it just can't be something that it is substantially different. The business started in 1995 and was lawful and permissible. Series 2000 preexists the distinctions that the current Zoning Ordinances have. In respect to Article 6 Section 6.30, which relates to Non-conforming Uses, says that any lawful use which is nonconforming with Section 4.10 may continue provided that it is not perceived as a health or safety hazard or is not a nuisance; existing uses that are non-conforming with Section 4.10 at the time of passage of this Section may expand in size up to 50% without a variance or special exception provided that the Site Plan Review approval is obtained from the Planning Board. This provision was not adopted until the year 2000. Testimony that you heard was that everything that the Larrow's have been doing that was allegedly illegal, predated the year 2000. Atty. Moeckel stated that Mr. Landry's letter sited Article 8 Section 8.10 which gives power to enforce Zoning Ordinances. Att. Moeckel said that while Mr. Landry may have the power to enforce violations, they maintain there is no violation. Finally, Mr. Landry's letter sited Article 9 Section 9.12 which states that Site plan review required which is true unless the Site Plan Review regulations expressly exclude the type of business from the Site Plan Review regulations.

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Daniel Schneider asked about site plan review in regards to grandfathering and if the business was grandfathered why is Atty. Moeckel talking about at Site Plan Review. Atty. Moeckel said that it is because Mr. Landry said that his clients were violating Article 9 Section 9.12. Mr. Landry said that when he gets into his testimony he will address that.

Mr. Simpson asked about the Statement of Property Usage and asked if it is in the Site Plan Regulations. Atty. Moeckel said that it is under Article 1, Number 5 of the Site Plan Review Regulations. Mr. Simpson asked and Atty. Moeckel confirmed that the business would be excluded from the Site Plan Regulations. Atty. Moeckel restated that he has never been able to locate a copy of the Site Plan Review regulations in effect in 1995. Atty. Moeckel said he has been going off the last copy of the Regulations which have some indication of when certain amendments appeared. Atty. Moeckel said that Mr. Marquise, in 1996, said that all the regulations are not applicable as they comply with Article 1 and gave them the thumbs up and for 15 years they were all set. One of the issues that came up in 2010 was that his clients, according to Mr. Landry, were trapped because they needed to appeal his decision within 30 days. His response is that he has a decision from 1996 that was never appealed. Therefore, if you are going to hold his clients to the 30 appeal period, he contends that the Town did not appeal for 15 years and

cannot overrule Mr. Marquise's decision. Mr. Simpson asked for clarification if Atty. Moeckel's clients maintain they filed their Statement of Property Usage. Atty. Moeckel said his client's position is that they signed everything Mr. Marquise gave to them. 15 years then elapsed and he doesn't know if they remembered what they signed. Mr. Simpson asked if Atty. Moeckel thought they had to file the Statement of Property Usage. Atty. Moeckel said yes, he believes they would have had to and Mr. Marquise was helping them. Mr. Simpson asked that even though the Site Plan Regulations didn't apply to the property, would the Larrow's still have had to file a Notice of Usage. Atty. Moeckel said that he believes that they were supposed to, unless Mr. Marquise made it not applicable. The problem is that you have a municipal agent who was telling the property owner what to do. The property owners relied on the municipal agent and the fact the Town is coming back to them now brings into two legal issues. When you have a municipal agent that is making representations to a property owner to help a property owner get permits, etc. and the property owner relies upon those representations, then the Town can't later change its mind. In this case, the doctrine in municipal estoppel is very rarely used and is only applied in extraordinary circumstances such as this where the Town is coming back 15 years later. There is nothing in the file asking for a Statement of Property Usage. Atty. Moeckel went over everything that was discussed and the testimony presented.

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Atty. Moeckel said he looked for a provision in the Zoning Ordinance that describes what constitutes a substantial or different use because that is what the law requires and he didn't find one. The Supreme Court therefore gives a three prong test. The testimony that has been heard answers the question "to the extent of which this use in question, this new use reflects the purpose of the first use." This means that if this business or repairing boats and cars, is it part and parcel of what they originally were approved for or is it something legally different? Mr. Schneider asked what Atty. Moeckel meant as "originally approved". Atty. Moeckel said that the position Town has taken is that in 1995/1996 the Larrow's were approved for a wholesale dealership only and they can't do anything else. The testimony that has been presented is that everyone at the time understood what they were doing. Mr. Schneider asked if this was prior to Zoning. Atty. Moeckel said that it was prior to Zoning but that distinction that the Town has taken is that Series 2000 may have been permitted lawfully to be only a wholesale automobile dealer and nothing else. Atty. Moeckel's response to that is that yes, they are repairing boats and they are repairing cars, but that doesn't matter because that additional work was a natural expansion and lawful under NH Law. The second prong is about if the auto repairs and boat repairs are a different use. They vehicle repair is not different than the boat repair. Atty. Moeckel stated that the third prong is "whether the use will have a substantially different effect upon neighborhood" and stated that testimony that has been heard shows that it does not.

Atty. Moeckel stated that his clients relied on 1995/1996 approvals, they relied upon the Town's representations, the Town is authorized to make those representations and in fact the Town recognized the business by utilizing services of the business. Mr. Simpson asked about the second part of the test and how it asks if the use is different in character and nature. Atty. Moeckel said the case law comes down to when they are looking at expansions of non-conforming use, are you increasing the size of the footprint? Atty. Moeckel gave an example and stated that it is footprint that is grandfathered. Mr.

- 471 Simpson asked if a financial increase in business was a change. Atty. Moeckel said not at all and the
- 472 Supreme Court decisions favor business expansion and do not stifle businesses.
- 473 Atty. Whitelaw asked Mr. Larrow if he agreed with the testimony that what he does is contained in the
- garage. Mr. Larrow said every once in a while there may be an automobile or boat out of the garage but
- 475 the work takes place in the garage.
- 476 Atty. Moeckel said that the good news is that NH Law does not require someone with a pre-existing,
- 477 non-conforming use to come in and ask to expand. The rule is you may expand or intensify a non-
- 478 conforming use internally as a matter of right. This is so long that the expansion started before a change
- in the Zoning Ordinance prohibited it. Testimony that has been presented is that the expansion started
- 480 before the Zoning changes and is grandfathered.
- 481 Mr. Larrow clarified that if he washes an automobile or boat he might do that outside, this can include
- detailing. Mr. Larrow also said that when Mr. Anderson was with him and they met with Mr. Marquise,
- 483 Mr. Marquise knew Mr. Anderson was involved in Series 2000. Also, they complied with all that was
- 484 asked of them.
- 485 Ann Marie Thomas asked Mr. Landry if there are any other businesses that have been in existence for 15
- 486 years or 10 years that he has gone into the records and given a Cease and Desist letter. Ms. Thomas said
- that by the testimony given that the Larrow's haven't expanded. Mr. Landry said that he cannot answer
- 488 her question at this time as he is asking him to recognize what Atty. Moeckel is saying is the law and he
- doesn't agree with that, therefore, he will make a testimony later in the hearing. Ms. Thomas asked for
- 490 clarification in Mr. Landry's perspective. Mr. Landry said that that in the eight years he has been with
- the Town as Zoning Administrator, there have been several businesses that have expanded and failed to
- come in for a Site Plan Review and received Cease and Desist letters. A non-conforming business can
- 493 expand up to 50% provided that they come in and redo its Site Plan Review that it originally had. If it did
- 494 not have one, it should submit a Statement of Property Usage which then goes under review to
- determine if a Site Plan Review needs to be done. Chairman Frothingham said that Mr. Landry will make
- 496 further explanation in his testimony.
- 497 Clayton Platt asked for a five minute recess which was allowed.
- 498 Chairman Frothingham called the meeting back to order at 9:36 pm.
- 499 Chairman Frothingham said there are letters available for public record if the public wants to see them.
- 500 Mr. Landry suggested that Mr. Marquise go before him.
- 501 Mr. Simpson had one question about page 57 of the information packet that Atty. Moeckel presented
- and why it was in the packet. Atty. Moeckel said that it was part of the file and part of the court
- documents. Atty. Whitelaw says that appears as though it is an example.
- Michael Marquise, who previously served as Zoning Administrator and Town Planner, and still serves as
- Town Planner, spoke about the case. Roger Landry came on in 2003 as Zoning Administrator. Mr.

Marguise said that when they received requests for dealers, those were handled separately in terms of not needing a Statement of Property Usage. In this case, when he spoke with Mr. Larrow, it was clear that the business would be a wholesale dealer and understanding was as the statement is written "property will comply with Article 1 of Site Plan Review Regulations." Mr. Marquise said that he does not think that it was a statement of fact as much as it was a statement of requirement. Mr. Marquise said, he knew there was going to be repairs, however, as he understood, the business would be buying a car, fixing it and then selling it. Mr. Marquise said a concern of his at the time was that the sales would not be like a regular auto dealer with displays and advertising as it was specifically prohibited under Part 3 of Article 1. Mr. Marquise said during that period, without Zoning, the Town had limited ways to regulate and Site Plan Review was the only place. Mr. Marquise said he thinks that the case falls under what Article 1 stipulates which is that the business had to comply with Article 1. Mr. Schneider asked if what Mr. Marquise was saying was that the Larrow's did not have to have a review and Mr. Marquise said they did not have to have a review as the understanding was that the business was falling under the home occupation. Mr. Marquise said that nothing that he could see and nothing that was described to him would have triggered Site Plan Review. Mr. Simpson asked Mr. Marquise if at the time period was a Statement of Property Usage not necessary. Mr. Marquise stated that when he received the very specific dealer requests that he treated the requests as a Statement of Property Usage. Atty. Whitelaw asked if, from what Mr. Marquise remembers, is the business described what was proposed in the beginning? Mr. Marquise said that he believes that there was a separate process for boats where they received a different form for people who bought and sold boats. It was clarified that there is a separate registry for boats and boat sales and it is a separate form if you are going to be engage in that practice. Mr. Marguise reiterated that he did not receive a separate form for boats. Atty. Whitelaw stated that Mr. Larrow does not buy and sell boats, he only does repairs. Mr. Marquise said that boats were not indicated on the form so he was not aware of boats being part of the business. Also, Article 1 talks about onsite sales and service. He said that someone bringing something to the business to be repaired is different than what he remembered as it was going to be Mr. Larrow would get the automobile, fix it and then sell it. Mr. Simpson asked if Mr. Marquise understood that Mr. Larrow was going to be working on his vehicles and no other people's vehicles. Mr. Marquise said that it was his understanding that what the very specific form was for a wholesale dealer, basically taking vehicles that you own and being able to have a plate to buy the vehicle, take it to his property, fix it and then resell it. Mr. Marguise stated that he understood that it was specifically that type of business is 1996.

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Atty. Whitelaw asked if that was what Mr. Larrow did, was go get a car and bring it back to his property? Mr. Larrow said yes. Mr. Larrow said that dealers have plates and it is common for the dealer to do repairs. The DMV does not say that the dealer cannot do certain things. Daniel Schneider asked when Mr. Larrow started repairing cars that were not owned by him. Mr. Windsor stated that Mr. Larrow repaired his vehicles in 1995 and 1996. Mr. Larrow said that to him, it was all synonymous, and it was understood that all the dealers did this. He said he does not have a date that he started to do repair work.

Atty. Moeckel asked if Mr. Marquise heard Mr. Larrow testify earlier and if he agreed with Mr. Larrow in respect to the initial meetings. Mr. Marquise said that the basic meetings were as Mr. Larrow indicates.

Atty. Moeckel asked if the handwriting and initials on page 51 of the information packet were his and Mr. Marguise confirmed they were. Mr. Marguise clarified that the document indicated was not in the Zoning file, it was in a file called "car dealers" they did not trigger Zoning at the time. Atty. Moeckel asked Mr. Marquise if Mr. Landry ever asked him about the Cease and Desist or any other details about the property before Jan. 12, 2010. Mr. Marquise said he doesn't remember the dates. Atty. Moeckel asked if Mr. Marquise was aware that Mr. Landry served the Larrow's a Cease and Desist. Mr. Marquise said that he was aware that a Cease and Desist was issued but he has no idea about dates. Mr. Marquise said that he and Mr. Landry spoke about the documents Mr. Marquise signed off on. He is not sure of the first time that they spoke and if it was before or after the Cease and Desist was issued. He did advise Mr. Landry that this document would be in the file. He believes they had basic discussions about what Mr. Marguise remembered. Atty. Moeckel asked if Mr. Marguise remembered anything that Mr. Landry said to him about the property. Mr. Marquise said that Mr. Landry described that there was servicing being done and they discussed the towing business. They may have spoken for five to ten minutes total about the case. Atty. Moeckel asked if Mr. Marquise was aware in 1995/1996 that the garage was being built for the purpose of the business. Mr. Marquise stated that he can't remember though it could have been possible that he was aware that the business would be done in the garage though the permit does not say that it is for the business. Atty. Moeckel asked if in reference to page 11, Tab B of the packet, it was Mr. Marquise handwriting on the document. Mr. Marquise said that it was but to clarify the document is for a bonded dealer, not a wholesale dealer. Mr. Marquise wrote on the document "no transactions to be done at the property." Atty. Moeckel asked if by writing that Mr. Marquise meant that the business would otherwise be complying with the Town. Mr. Marquise confirmed this. Atty. Moeckel asked if when Mr. Marguise spoke to Mr. and Mrs. Larrow and Mr. Anderson and was telling them how to do things, if Mr. Marquise was giving honest answer and if Mr. Marquise agreed with him that Mr. and Mrs. Larrow and Mr. Anderson were relying on the information that he was giving them. Mr. Marquise said there was never an intent to be dishonest, he did the job prior to Mr. Landry for 13 years and he understood that they were relying upon him to give him the correct answers. Atty. Moeckel asked, after Mr. Marquise wrote and approved the 1995/1996 wholesale dealer application, did the Larrow's go forward in that endeavor? Mr. Marquise clarified that 1995 was the bonded dealer application and they amended it in 1996 to a wholesale dealer. However, Mr. Marquise had no suspicion that they were not operating properly during those years. Mr. Marquise stated that he knew nothing about the business, it was running quietly and he had the assumption of what he believed was their understanding of what the business would be.

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Atty. Whitelaw asked Mr. Marquise if there were any requirements at that time, before the Zoning change, for Mr. Larrow to get any kind of permit for the work that he said he was doing. Mr. Marquise stated that in regard to the boats, if that had come in under the separate boat approval, that it would not have triggered any of the regulations. In regard to someone bringing a vehicle and having it repaired, if Mr. Marquise had knowledge about that, it would have triggered a requirement to go before the Planning Board for a Site Plan Review under Article 1 Section 2. Atty. Whitelaw asked if there was a difference in the Zoning Ordinance at the time between a home occupation and a home business. Mr. Marquise said there was no difference. The only definition for home occupation was in Article 1 of the Site Plan Review regulations. Mr. Schneider asked at that time, why would the repair business trigger

618	Daniel Schneider		
616 617	Dick Katz	Clayton Platt	
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614	Edward Frothingham	Charles Balyeat	
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611	Melissa Pollari		
610	Respectfully submitted,		
609	The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 PM.		
607 608	Dick Katz made a motion to continue the meeting to May 10, 2012, 7:00 PM at the Town Office Meeting Room. The motion was seconded at Daniel Schneider. The motion passed unanimously.		
595 596 597 598 599 600 601 602 603 604 605 606	Atty. Moeckel asked if it was true that the conversation Mr. Marquise had with the Larrow's was focused on on_site sales. Mr. Marquise said that he was concerned because the license was a wholesale dealer license. Mr. Marquise said his thoughts would be different if the box had been marked repair. Mr. Marquise said that had he understood that the repairs the focus would have been on people going to the business. Mr. Larrow reiterated that it would have been a different type of dealership. Mr. Marquise said that Atty. Moeckel asked if the conversation was centered upon sales and that is what he was confirming. Mr. Marquise said that he understood that Mr. Larrow was going to repair vehicles that he brought in. Atty. Moeckel asked if Mr. Marquise had ever told Mr. Larrow that he could not have other people bring vehicles there for repair without going to the Town for a Site Plan Review. Mr. Marquise said that he doesn't remember the conversation, however, usually the conversation centered around the interface with the public and he always tried to make it very clear that once you crossed that line, that is where Site Plan Review kicked in.		
594	Aaron Simpson asked for the old regulations to be made	le part of the record.	
592 593	the only way of regulating merchant businesses. Mr. No business is an onsite service business and would require	Marquise said that under Article 1, he believes the	
590 591	meant to do is to protect the public such as in terms of Schneider asked if this was prior to 2000 and Mr. Marc	•	
589	the property. Mr. Marquise stated that it is an importa		
587 588	Site Plan Review as the dealer business did not. Mr. M that time was that the dealer business was strictly a ho	·	