

Dear UUCB Community,

The Freestone Committee (Committee) was taken aback and confused by the Board's decision to reject the latest offer, and instead recommend the Congregation rescind Resolution 22-1 and sell Freestone in its entirety, thereby revoking congregational votes to continue Freestone. This was despite the Board recognizing that the \$250K offer package apparently met the terms of Resolution 22-1 after the Freestone Oversight Committee unanimously determined the offer met the first milestone of the Resolution.

The Congregation's vote in March 2023 which passed Resolution 22-1 was the culmination of a year's long, extensive information and outreach campaign. And less than 6 mos ago, a congregational vote reaffirmed that Resolution.

The Freestone Committee has spent the last 2 ½ years in pursuit of the \$250K directed by the Resolution. Recognizing that Freestone land was part of the "unseeded land" of first Americans, the Committee initially sought a conservation easement on all parcels, but ultimately was not successful. Next, the Committee tried to sell our adjacent raw land lots 1 & 2. A buyer was found and we were under contract, but they backed out due to concerns about the potential of not finding water to support development. The Committee then pursued drilling of wells to address that issue. And those efforts failed, confirming little value for the lots.

With the time running short on reaching the first milestone, two generous donors stepped up with a \$250K offer, which included a generous price for purchase of the two waterless lots. The Freestone Oversight Committee affirmed unanimously that the proposal met the Resolution's first milestone, and your Committee is now fully prepared to move forward.

And the Board's process doesn't align with our Bylaws, not to mention fairness. Their vote was done during a closed Board executive session. Our bylaws permit only a few specific items to be decided in an executive session and overriding a congregational vote is not one of them. By discussing and deciding this in a closed door executive session the Board denied members the opportunity to be heard and participate and the opportunity to hear Board members' reasoning and how they voted.

The Freestone Committee is disappointed in the Board's actions which attempts to throw out years of hard work and expenditure of donated monies attempting to comply with Res 22-1, and instead propose revoking it and rekindling more congregational discord.