

November 15, 2021

Michael Voccola
Corporate Vice President
Associate General Counsel
Procaccianti Companies
1140 Reservoir Avenue
Cranston, Rhode Island 02920-6032

Dear Michael,

With regards to your RFP due today surrounding the Lighthouse Inn property I regret that I am unable to adequately present a full proposal at this time.

This has been an extremely difficult decision for me as I see it as a once in a lifetime opportunity for the New England Fishing industry. However, with trying to run a seafood company in the midst of this pandemic and dedicating countless hours defending our industry from false perceptions I find myself sacrificing my personal life already without spear heading a project of this magnitude.

In the event you do not receive a proposal that adequately meets the guidelines of your request I would like to share with you my vision of what could be created with this opportunity. Maybe some of these thoughts could help bridge the gap with a proposal you do receive that doesn't quite make the grade.

I see this property being "a complex" or "fishermen's terminal" used by multiple entities that are either directly in the fishing industry or affiliated with it including DEM, NOAA, ASMFC, NMFS, NSF, URI, collaborative research groups, gear development and last but not least climate change research and awareness.

DEM, NMFS, ASMFC and NOAA already have satellite offices, here, they could hold meetings, workshops and showcase to the public their accomplishments in managing sustainable fisheries and their continued efforts to rebuild stocks by educating the thousands of visitors that pass through as well as draw surrounding schools to visit and learn about the New England fishing industry.

It could be a facility for collaborative research projects where the industry and the scientific community could work together maximizing funds and grants by reducing overhead and collectively brainstorming gear modifications, climate monitoring, etc.

Another excellent tenant would be URI. Despite the negatives surrounding the size of the rooms and outdated bathrooms I believe the building itself to be structurally sound and certainly has the potential as a dormitory for marine science students as well as housing for fishery observers and visiting scientists. I am not up to speed on ADA guidelines so this I cannot comment on.

This facility is perfectly suited for the public to interact with the industry as well as enjoy the seafood that is landed in the Port. With the associated parking and proximity to the thousands of people that otherwise just pass through the port, it could become a destination attracting thousands of visitors not going to Block Island by holding Seafood Festivals showcasing the sustainable fisheries and aquaculture industry of Rhode Island. Communities everywhere are faced with budget constraints and unfortunately local events are becoming fewer as a result.

I cannot speak for the other companies on the waterfront but I would love the opportunity to showcase an provide Narragansett Crab Company products there.

I truly believe that the opportunity provided here should be to benefit of the fishing industry including the City of Naragansett and not a single use facility that will be privately held strictly for commercial use.

So, in lieu of a well-defined and organized proposal today, I recommend that if a suitable proposal does not surface in this process you consider these thoughts and perhaps put together a small committee that would consider these uses and if there was enough interest a board could be formed to raise capital and hopefully build something that the public could benefit from in perpetuity.

I would gladly participate in this process and actively help as my schedule allows to support its development.

Sincerely,

Jon Williams President

Narragansett Crab Company

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