

Halton Place neighbours surprised at news of three-party settlement

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Under the agreement, overnight accommodation is prohibited on the property, social gatherings and charity events can only be held there if they're specifically related to the horses how, and all those accessory uses must occur under the time of the show.

The agreement also addresses noise, site plan and building permits and servicing issues.

"There was a great deal of back and forth with respect to the restrictions, and the restrictions represent a compromise," said Wilker. He said it narrows the scope of the hearing.

"The settlement was filed for the purpose of disclosure to the parties and in order to assist everybody in organizing the hearing," said Wilker after the hearing adjourned. "There's still a requirement for a hearing."

"The Town and Region have agreed the limited proposal is acceptable to the Town and Region subject to stringent conditions. This is a package deal. All those building code matters have to be dealt with, all the site plan matters have to be dealt with, all the controls have to be adhered to," said Wilker.

Jane Thompson, lawyer for the

NEC, said the NEC wasn't consulted on the settlement and that it will be reviewed by NEC staff, who will then report to the NEC with a recommendation as to how to treat the settlement.

She said the NEC could reject it, support it or propose modifications.

"The game has changed a bit," said Thompson.

Thompson said they would attempt to report to the NEC on the issue at its November meeting, any follow-up with the NEC wouldn't be until its next meeting in January, so they would look for future hearing dates after that meeting.

"It caught me off guard," said Pemberton. "I didn't know there was a settlement. I knew there were discussions."

Pemberton said Halton Place is appealing the NEC decision and, "we, the neighbours, are supporting the Niagara Escarpment Commission."

"We don't agree with everything. We need better definition of some of the phrases (in the agreement)," said Pemberton.

The parties to the hearing are to take part in a conference call Dec. 5 to nail down the issues for the hearing and set hearing dates.

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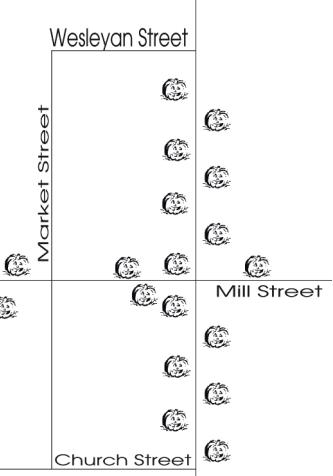
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