



Readfield  
MAINE



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#### Submission information

Form: [Public Comment Form](#) [1]  
Submitted by Anonymous (not verified)  
August 25, 2021 - 2:49pm  
66.63.67.158

#### Date

August 25, 2021

#### Name

Anonymous

#### Email Address

#### Phone Number

#### My meeting, public hearing, or general comments are for:

Select Board

#### Date of Meeting or Hearing (if known)

August 25, 2021

#### Agenda Item or Issue (if known)

26 Mill Stream

#### Your Comments

I am writing this comment anonymously because having had Mr. Bittar stop at my home and have an angry conversation with my husband trying to promote his barn, I do not feel comfortable putting my name to anything that might go against Mr. Bittar and his event center/Barn, for fear of retaliation. This I believe is something that many Readfield residents are experiencing right now. I do thank those brave residents who have submitted thorough and fact-driven comments thus far with their names attached. The fact that this Barn's campaign has been driven by fact-less statements and driven by anger, enough to scare residents of Readfield, should be enough to throw out the application. That being off the table, the simple fact that in the past Mr. Bittar has re-worded his application or intent of use-in-order to get approval, and then use the space however he wants, even if not approved, should be considered here, and the risk that this may happen again. I know full well the negative effects this will have on neighbors, not just immediate neighbors, but in a much greater radius. Trees are not at all enough of a sound break - my property abuts 2 noisy users through 14 acres of woods - and I can still hear when there is music playing or dogs barking or hooting & hollaring of party goers. This tree buffer/forest is a greater expanse than is present at the Mill Stream property to those on Old Kents Hill & adjacent roads. It would be one thing, if in this same zoning district, there were no residences in visual or audible distance, within reason, and a community center/Barn was constructed for the original intended use here. Then if abutting lots were sold and houses built - then residents would be well aware of what they are building next to

and the consequences (both positive or negative) of living near an event center. However, here this is not the case. This is an established residential neighborhood, where an event center's effect on these residents should be considered with the highest regard. It is clear that the residents of this neighborhood do not approve of this Barn's use, and have expressed how this use will negatively impact them, their daily lives, and the values of their homes. It is clear there would be distress and disruption of many residents in a much larger radius from the event center's location. It is clear that this application comes from a place of anger, and that true use of this event center remains unclear. To those of the Readfield select board - if a definitive decision cannot be made either way, perhaps a 5-year moratorium should be placed on this property. Mr. Bittar needs to recognize that if he truly desires an event space as he originally proposed, then perhaps it is best to build it where it will be warmly received, and surely another location within the town of Readfield could be found. I think it was best said by another commenter, who emphasized that it is NOT the use that he was against, but rather the LOCATION of the proposed use. The Barn as a community center or event space is a wonderful idea and a place that could truly thrive in Readfield and benefit both Mr. Bittar as well as Readfield residents. It's just not in an acceptable location currently.

**Source URL:** <https://www.readfieldmaine.org/node/20984/submission/6031>

**Links**

[1] <https://www.readfieldmaine.org/select-board/webforms/public-comment-form>