

14OA005

705 S. Barrett Blvd.
P.O. Box 1519
Lusk, WY 82225

April, 8 2014

REGARDING PAWS PET BAKERY & MT. RUSHMORE BIRDS

City of Rapid City, SD
Community Planning and Development Services
300 6th Street
Rapid City, SD
57701-5035

Dear Community Planning and Development Services:

This letter is to inform you of my frustration surrounding the possibility of removing a valued and long-standing business from the downtown district. As a native of Rapid City, I remember what an eyesore the 900 block of downtown Rapid City has traditionally been. The transformation of the block, in large part due to Paws Pet Bakery & Mt. Rushmore Birds, has brought diversity and monies to not only the 900 block, but also other shops in the downtown district.

I choose to spend my dollars in Rapid City due to the services provided at Paws Pet Bakery & Mt. Rushmore Birds. I could drive to Casper, WY or even Denver, CO for supplies related to my companion African Grey Parrot, however the bird specialty shops in Casper and Denver are nowhere near the quality, cleanliness, and professionalism found at Paws Pet Bakery & Mt. Rushmore Birds. On a typical trip to Rapid City, my family and I not only spend a significant amount of money at Paws, but also often stay at the Adoba Eco Hotel, shop at other businesses in Rapid City, and eat at area restaurants, both downtown and within the greater city.

If Paws Pet Bakery & Mt. Rushmore Birds, were no longer allowed to operate in its current location, customers from Nebraska, South Dakota, and Wyoming would be forced drive to other cities to spend our dollars. Paws Pet Bakery & Mt. Rushmore Birds is *the reason* why I come to Rapid City to shop on a monthly basis. The shop is not a "pet shop", but an aviary, retail establishment, and education center for individuals who live with companion birds. I cannot understand why the Community Planning and Development Services is being so short sighted regarding this issue. Why would a business that has operated in downtown Rapid City for the past seven years suddenly be closed? Would the city prefer to bring back the filthy adult "entertainment" store that use to occupy the location? If diversity in the downtown district is eliminated, starting with the removal of Paws Pet Bakery & Mt. Rushmore Birds, then I have no reason to shop in Rapid City. This would adversely affect thousands of companion pet owners and the economy of Rapid City.

Sincerely,



Michelle L. Carr, M.Ed.
(307) 851-8483

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APR 14 2014

cc: Paws Pet Bakery & Mt. Rushmore Birds

Rapid City Community Planning
& Development Services

14OA005

From: Barbara Paur [<mailto:barbpaur@g.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, April 15, 2014 4:04 PM
To: Planning Commission
Subject: PLANNING ZONING ISSUE

To the Members of the Rapid City Planning Commission and The Rapid City Council:

We have operated Mt Rushmore Birds in the downtown core since 2007. As a specialty bird store we are currently located at 910 Main St which is our third downtown location. We are certified Avian Specialists selling and caring for exotic companion birds. We do not sell other animals or pets. We sell bird food, toys, cages and supplies plus we provide bird boarding and grooming services. We have a 'rescue – rehome program' with many of those birds coming to us from the Black Hills Humane Society as they are not capable of properly caring for exotic companion birds. We continue to provide long term care for several relinquished birds which are not able to be placed in new homes. We are annually licensed and inspected by the State of South Dakota. We have also paid for an annual kennel license from the Black Hills Humane Society.

Our customers are from South Dakota, North Dakota, Nebraska, Wyoming and Montana. Last summer we even served a customer who lives in Dubai. Some of our out of town customers make a week-end of it when they travel to shop in our store.

At the March 6 Planning Commission meeting, Vicki Fisher of Community Planning & Development Services explained that while we have been a downtown business for 7 years without any complaints, it was recently determined that we are not in compliance with the ordinance governing businesses permitted in the downtown core. No one seems to know why this has only recently become an issue but now the objective is for us to be able to remain a downtown Rapid City business and continue our active involvement with Destination Rapid City. Vicki intends to present an ordinance amendment for consideration at the April 24th Planning Commission meeting and the May 5th Council Meeting.

We would like to invite you to visit our store prior to that meeting so that you can personally have a look at our business. We will be happy to answer any questions you might have. We are open Monday through Saturday from 10 AM to 5 PM. (Parking is usually challenging during the lunch rush as several of our neighbors are restaurants.)

We thank you very much for your consideration of our continued efforts to remain an asset in the downtown Rapid City business community.

Barb & Patrick Paur, Mt Rushmore Birds

14OA005

Fisher Vicki

From: Limbaugh Brett
Sent: Tuesday, April 01, 2014 9:37 AM
To: Fisher Vicki; Laroco Robert
Subject: FW: zoning

From: Kooiker Sam
Sent: Sunday, March 30, 2014 7:12 AM
To: Stephanie Hansen
Cc: Mayor's Office Group; Limbaugh Brett
Subject: RE: zoning

Stephanie, thank you for your concern. I've asked my office staff take a look at this and work with the planning Department to find out what's going on.

Sam

Sent from my mobile device.

From: [Stephanie Hansen](#)
Sent: 3/29/2014 11:54 PM
To: [Kooiker Sam](#)
Subject: zoning

I am a loyal customer of Paws bakery and Mt Rushmore Birds. I have recently heard that there is a problem with them getting their license. I am not sure what the problem is. Barb has been in business for many years and have helped many people. The pet store also has a yearly birds and blooms at Jolly Lane Green House. Over two thousand people came to visit the birds as well as other bird clubs. Barb and her store is very important to this community. She is the only store that us bird owners have that specialize in all size of birds. Please let her stay in business in the downtown area. She brings business to the downtown area.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Stephanie Hansen
605-484-7256
3741 Canyon Lake Dr Apt 2-104
Rapid City, SD 57702
ssjc2007@gmail.com

Fisher Vicki

From: Limbaugh Brett
Sent: Tuesday, April 01, 2014 9:36 AM
To: Fisher Vicki; Laroco Robert
Subject: FW: Paws Bird Supply Store

From: Jacqueline Johnson [<mailto:jacquelinej@bestfriends.org>]
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2014 11:26 AM
To: Limbaugh Brett
Subject: Paws Bird Supply Store

It is my understanding that the Planning Commission is asking Paws Pet Supply Store to relocate somewhere other than downtown where they have been for years. I wanted to tell you a little story about how Barb Paur has positively, albeit inadvertently, benefited Rapid City.

In 2004 my father was in the Rapid City Regional Hospital Hospice House. I would spend the nights with him, and then go down to Paws for a little bird therapy. Because of the time I spent there, I ended falling in love with, and adopting, a little Goffin's Cockatoo named Taupe. As I have an obsessive personality, I then set out to learn everything possible about parrots. Barb Paur was a remarkable resource for me.

In 2010 I had the amazing good fortune of going to work for Best Friends Animal Society as manager of their parrot department. Best Friends is the 3rd largest Animal Welfare group in the country, and has the largest No-Kill sanctuary in the world. This wouldn't have been possible without the knowledge and skill I learned from Barb.

Last May I was doing an "immersion day" (a day when we work in another department) at the Development Office. One of the tasks we had to complete that day was to find rescues and shelters that could benefit from, and had room for, semi-truck loads of Blue Buffalo Dog Food. I called the Black Hills Humane Society in Rapid City, and they were thrilled to take possession of an entire semi-load.

Because of Barb and her birds I went to work at Best Friends. Because I work for Best Friends I was able to supply a truck load of dog food to the Rapid City shelter, which ended up saving the city a good chunk of money.

I am a property owner in Rapid City, and I am in the process of moving back to the state. I fully intend to support Barb Paur and her wonderful store. Barb has been an amazing community asset for many, many years and deserves respect for the work she has done.

--
Jacqueline Johnson
Best Friends Animal Society
Manager - Parrot Garden
5001 Angel Canyon Rd.
Kanab Utah 84741
(435)-644-2001 Ext-4798
Cell (435) 889-1505
jacquelinej@bestfriends.org
www.bestfriends.org

Every day 9000 animals die in America's shelters because they're homeless.
Best Friends is building programs to change that.
You can save one when you adopt instead of buy.
You can save dozens when you have your pet neutered to prevent accidents.
You can save hundreds when you help spread the word.
Let's work together and **Save Them All!**

14OA005
Learn more at www.bestfriends.org

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Fisher Vicki

From: Limbaugh Brett
Sent: Tuesday, April 01, 2014 9:35 AM
To: Fisher Vicki; Laroco Robert
Subject: FW: Paws Pet Bakery & Mt. Rushmore Birds

From: Gary Aitken [<mailto:rurbande@gmail.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, April 01, 2014 8:23 AM
To: Limbaugh Brett
Subject: Paws Pet Bakery & Mt. Rushmore Birds

Brett:

I'm writing to you today in regards to the Paws Pet Bakery & Mt. Rushmore Birds. There has been a concern from the shop that they might be forced to close or relocate due to some ordinance or law that states a "pet shop" may not be located in the downtown core.

I feel that such an arbitrary idea does not serve our city well. Paws has been a station of aviary excellence that performs a unique need in our city for more than 7 years now. Bird owners from far and wide visit to get their companions groomed and taken care of. The store, which has been in its present location for almost a year now, also serves the city: Many rescue birds have been taken into the store when the city doesn't have the expertise or resources to take care of the birds it receives.

I understand how many might perceive a pet shop to be unsightly, as they often are. However, every time I have visited Paws, it has been clean smelling and immaculate. Each bird in there receives personal attention until the very hour until it is adopted into a new home.

Barbara, the owner, is a professional in every sense of the word, and enjoys working in Rapid City. I believe it would not only be a shame, but a moral wrong to insist that she and her birds find a new location to operate from.

I hope you'll take this letter into consideration before you decide to pursue action regarding Paws.

James Gary Aitken

Fisher Vicki

From: Limbaugh Brett
Sent: Tuesday, April 01, 2014 9:37 AM
To: Fisher Vicki; Laroco Robert
Subject: FW: Paws Pet Bakery and Mt. Rushmore Birds

From: Debbie Bridges [<mailto:acorncorgis@msn.com>]
Sent: Sunday, March 30, 2014 8:46 AM
To: Limbaugh Brett
Subject: Re: Paws Pet Bakery and Mt. Rushmore Birds

Hello Brett,

I am writing to express my concern about this store and the unreal possibility that after doing considerable work on their store, securing approvals, permits, etc., they find out they do not fit into the city scheme for downtown.

One of the things my husband I look forward to when coming to Rapid City is walking the downtown area and going into Paws Pet Bakery to shop not only for my dogs but also for my birds. The store is immaculate and very inviting. We attend the dog show at the Civic Center as do many of my friends. Walking to downtown is a quick break from the show and being able to shop at a locally owned shop within a reasonable walking distance is a highlight of the weekend. If we forget any supplies they have it. I feel downtown areas should be diverse, offering something to everyone in the community and beyond and this store is a delight.

Years ago we spoke with a gentleman who owned a business downtown that sold Irish and Scottish goods. It was a fun shop but the last time we were there the man told us the planning commission was out of control and wanted to shut down any business that did not fit into their master plan. At the time I thought he was silly and paranoid but now I see he might have been correct.

Please consider the people that shop downtown in your decision and do not make the mistake of writing off a small locally owned business. Paws Pet Bakery draws people from all over the country. We come from Colorado and we thoroughly enjoy the store. I have a friend from Nebraska that buys her bird supplies and birds there when she comes for the show and then shops the remaining stores in the area. This small shop has local flavor and is quite unlike Petco or PetsMart or any of the national pet supply stores.

I would hate for your downtown to become another generic downtown. What you have now is special and interesting and one of the reasons we drive to Rapid City for the shows.

Kind Regards,
Debra Bridges
acorncorgis@msn.com

RENNER & ASSOCIATES, LLC.

616 SIXTH STREET, RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA, 57701
605-721-7310
FAX 605-721-7313

March 28, 2014

City of Rapid City
Common Council
300 Sixth Street
Rapid City, SD 57701



Re: Vacation of Right-of-Way Request
North 30' Adjacent to Lot 5, Block 2 of Rapid River Subdivision, Section 3, T1N, R7E, BHM,
Rapid City, Pennington County, South Dakota
Address: 2020 Jackson Blvd., Rapid City, SD.

Attached is the Vacation of Right-of-Way Exhibit. We are requesting the authorization of the Mayor and Finance Office to sign the Vacation of ROW City Application and Petition Request forms. The portion we are requesting to vacate was dedicated as Alley in August of 1953. It currently is not being used for this purpose.

Thank you. Please do not hesitate to call or e-mail with questions.

Sincerely,

Renner & Associates, LLC
Renee Catron-Blair

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Fisher Vicki

From: Limbaugh Brett
Sent: Tuesday, April 01, 2014 9:37 AM
To: Fisher Vicki; Laroco Robert
Subject: FW: Regarding Paws Pet Bakery & Mt. Rushmore Birds

From: Leanna Andert [<mailto:leanna.andert@mines.sdsmt.edu>]
Sent: Sunday, March 30, 2014 6:44 PM
To: Limbaugh Brett
Subject: Regarding Paws Pet Bakery & Mt. Rushmore Birds

Hello Brett,

My name is Leanna and I would like to voice my concern regarding Paws Pet Bakery & Mt. Rushmore Birds. I've heard that the council is trying to get her to close shop and/or move, again, just because someone felt that birds shouldn't be sold in the downtown area. Have you been into her shop and talked to the owners? They don't just "sell birds" they rescue birds who were abused or lost. They take in birds that are near death, or birds that have plucked out all of their feathers due to being in a bad home, and attempt to make them healthy again along with finding them a new forever home. They also re-homed an abandoned rottweiler. I believe the store adds to the variety of the shops in downtown, and shouldn't be forced out. We need to support the small, family run businesses not make them close shop. So please, go into your future meetings with the knowledge that your not just talking about some petshop in downtown, your talking about rescue facility. Thank you.

Fisher Vicki

From: Kooiker Sam
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2014 9:14 PM
To: Limbaugh Brett
Cc: Mayor's Office Group; Fisher Vicki
Subject: FW: Paws Pet Bakery and Mt. Rushmore Birds

Brett,

Please update Chad Lewis on this issue when you have a chance. He asked me about it tonight and I wasn't sure of the status....

An update to the rest of the council would be wise also since they are being contacted on this issue.

Sam

From: Jeannine Bockwoldt [jbnbockwoldt@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2014 8:54 PM
To: Kooiker Sam; Limbaugh Brett; Nicholson Jeanne; Fisher Vicki; Lacock Fletcher; Laroco Robert; Wolff Andrea
Subject: Paws Pet Bakery and Mt. Rushmore Birds

This is absolutely insane! Why should a business suffer because of the stupidity of city people that can't even keep track of their own ordinances. Now 7 years and 3 stores later they tell these wonderful people they can't sell their birds in the downtown corp! Seriously! It is the cleanest facility with any sort of animal in that you will EVER find! They are professionals and know what they are doing! They have always been HUGE proponents for the downtown district AND local businesses! I guess the city doesn't value the tax revenue they get from this business, nor do they care about peoples' or companion birds welfare! Who do you think rescues all the birds FROM the Humane Society? Barb Paur has bailed the Humane Society out how many times whenever they had a bird that came in there, since they obviously don't have a clue how to care such amazing creatures! And yet, you won't see them fighting for her right to have a store that no one in the past seem to care if it was there or not! What EVER happened to common sense? This sickens me to no end!!!!!! Come on Rapid City, get your stuff together!

And please, before you make such judgement calls, at least visit the operation so you have some idea of what the business is and who and what you are affecting.

Fisher Vicki

From: Jeannine Bockwoldt [jbnbockwoldt@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2014 8:55 PM
To: Kooiker Sam; Limbaugh Brett; Nicholson Jeanne; Fisher Vicki; Lacock Fletcher; Laroco Robert; Wolff Andrea
Subject: Paws Pet Bakery and Mt. Rushmore Birds

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Fisher Vicki

From: Limbaugh Brett
Sent: Tuesday, April 01, 2014 9:37 AM
To: Fisher Vicki; Laroco Robert
Subject: FW: PAWS pet store

-----Original Message-----

From: Charles Tague [<mailto:charlestague@sky.com>]
Sent: Sunday, March 30, 2014 3:05 PM
To: Kooiker Sam
Cc: Limbaugh Brett
Subject: PAWS pet store

Mr. Mayor,

I have been in contact with PAWS pet store for over 5 years now. I am active duty and purchased my baby Jerry Calico Macaw from PAWS over 5 years ago. My family comes back to SD just to come to this store. We spend thousands in SD while coming to this store. We are stationed at Fairchild AFB, WA right now. However, when we were stationed overseas, RAF LAKENHEATH, we stayed in contact with PAWS and received amazing assistance from Barb while thousands of miles away. We own a house in SD, thinking about keeping it because Barb at PAWS is a huge reason for us to come back. We love this store, we love Barb and I will guarantee we would not be coming back to SD near as often if you close her down. I hope this e-mail helps you understand how important it is to keep an expert like Barb in your community. She has people traveling from all over the United States to come to this store. PAWS can't be shut down we all need this store to stay open! Thank you for your time and consideration.

Dallas Tague, TSgt, USAF
Fairchild AFB, WA

Sent from my iPad

Laroco Robert

From: Limbaugh Brett
Sent: Thursday, April 03, 2014 1:10 PM
To: Fisher Vicki; Laroco Robert
Subject: FW: the situation at PAWS pet bakery and avian and pet supply business on Main Street

Here is another comment for the files

-----Original Message-----

From: Cathie Draine [<mailto:cathiedraine@rap.midco.net>]
Sent: Thursday, April 03, 2014 1:05 PM
To: Planning Commission
Subject: the situation at PAWS pet bakery and avian and pet supply business on Main Street

Members of the Commission:

I learned with great distress of the possible action that would cause Barb Paur to cease business at Paws because , as I understand it, the city does not want a pet store in the city center.

I am confused by this for many reasons: first Paws operated for a number of years in a very prominent downtown location - almost at the corner of St. Joseph and 6th streets - and it was never more than a spotlessly clean, visually attractive place of business. The new location of Paws is presenting the same image - clean, attractive and engaging.

Additionally, I would hope the Planning Commission is pleased and supportive of the efforts to move reputable, locally-owned businesses into the area where Bully's, the art gallery and Paws have located. Are those not attractions that would appeal to area visitors?

There are any number of locations in town that truly fit 'a pet store' in the sense that a variety of animals and reptiles can be purchased there - namely the Humane Society, Pet Smart and Pet Co and possibly some in other venues.

Paws does none of that and unless given strong argument and examples to the contrary, I would suggest and hope that the Commission will revisit their position and allow Paws to remain as a contributing part of the community.

Sincerely,

Cathie Draine
10500 Quaal Road
Black Hawk, SD 57718
787-5956



Peter & Aida Compton
 908 Main St
 Rapid City SD 57701-2640
 (605) 342-3559
 Email: AERCompton@aol.com
 www.bullyblends.com

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APR 17 2014

MAYOR'S OFFICE

April 16, 2014

City of Rapid City
 Attn: Mayor Sam Kooiker, City Council, and
 Planning & Zoning Commission
 300 6th St
 Rapid City SD 57701-5034

Regarding: Paws Pet Bakery & Mount Rushmore Birds

Greetings,

We are absolutely dismayed at the actions taken against Barb Paur's business, which has served the citizens and creatures of Rapid City for seven years. Precisely what activity is she performing that does not equate with legitimate commerce? If the Humane Society is able to license the boarding facility for abused, abandoned, or rescued birds, is it not providing a safe and necessary function for the City and County? How is it that her business is now suddenly illegal, if it was previously able to obtain building permits, sales license, and pay taxes for so many years? If simply rewording an ordinance would make it legal, then why is she not allowed to be "grandfathered" in? If an anonymous donor steps in and pays the \$300 fees, and it is suddenly legal, does not that stink of extortion? Mayor Kooiker, we voted for you to clean up City Hall. This harks back to the days of citizens jumping through hoops to get something done!

Converting a decrepit porn theatre into a set of bright charming shops was a million-dollar undertaking, and the City knew exactly what was going in there. Forcing a senior business woman to go through all this bureaucratic nonsense is shameful behavior. If the City now thinks it's illegal, then too bad. Overlook it. Correct the ordinance, not the business. Move on to something more productive. Seriously.

Aida Compton Peter Compton

AIDA & PETER COMPTON
 Owners

cc: Barb Paur, Paw Pet Bakery & Mount Rushmore Birds



Peter & Aida Compton
908 Main St
Rapid City SD 57701-2640
(605) 342-3559
Email: AERCompton@aol.com
www.bullyblends.com

April 16, 2014

City of Rapid City
Attn: Mayor Sam Kooiker, City Council, and
Planning & Zoning Commission
300 6th St
Rapid City SD 57701-5034

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Aida Compton Peter Compton

AIDA & PETER COMPTON
Owners

cc: Barb Paur, Paw Pet Bakery & Mount Rushmore Birds



Peter & Aida Compton
908 Main St
Rapid City SD 57701-2640
(605) 342-3559
Email: AERCompton@aol.com
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April 16, 2014

City of Rapid City
Attn: Mayor Sam Kooiker, City Council, and
Planning & Zoning Commission
300 6th St
Rapid City SD 57701-5034

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AIDA & PETER COMPTON
Owners

cc: Barb Paur, Paw Pet Bakery & Mount Rushmore Birds