

Planning & Building Services Staff

County of Mendocino

Main Office:

860 N. Bush St, Ukiah CA 95482

Phone: (707) 234-6650

Coast Office:

120 W. Fir St, Fort Bragg CA 95437

Phone: (707) 964-5379

Web: www.co.mendocino.ca.us/planning/

Mendocino County

JUN 17 2021

Planning & Building Services

>>> Leib Ostrow <leib.ostrow@gmail.com> 6/16/2021 4:59 PM >>>

Re:CASE#: MS_2019-0003 (Continued from May 6, 2021)

To the members of the Mendocino Planning Commission,

First, I would like to thank you for taking the time to do public service and help our community exist and grow in balance with the land we caretake and support wise and sustainable growth. I always thought it was a challenging and thankless job, but having been apart of the process of subdividing this one piece of land, I now know first hand how complicated, time consuming and challenging it can be. My hats off to your dedication. I know you deal with many rules and regulations so I thought I might add a bit of human touch and tell you about the real people involved in this minor subdivision.

My name is Leib Ostrow. I am Julia Carson's life partner and I am hoping to purchase the newly subdivided parcel and build my retirement home and spend the rest of my life here. Julia and I met almost fifty years ago and reconnected in a magical way five years ago. We have chosen to have separate residences. Julia is not a land developer trying to turn a profit, we are real people desiring to live next to each other and be constructive members of the community because we love this place. Even though I realize you need to follow the rules set forth, it would be helpful to know a bit about the folks and the piece of land you are deciding the fate of. I wish you could all visit and see the work we've done so far.

I was the owner of a musical instrument shop in the 1970's in San Francisco and every weekend I would head up the coast to Mendocino. I fell in love with the area. I dreamed of someday living here and making a life. Then life brought me further north where I purchased a piece of land and created a successful music label that employed many local people. I also cofounded the Trees Foundation, an organization dedicated to "restoring the ecological integrity of the north coast". I am still on the board of directors as it turns 30 years old this year. I plan on using the skills I have to support conscious business and inspired music here in my retirement.

I am an avid gardener and we already created a beautiful garden and orchard. Having resided in the north coast for over forty five years, I have lived through a few droughts and am very serious about water conservation. So I plan on providing emergency water storage and use rain catchment to supplement the water used for our irrigation. All the plants are on a drip system with timers and heavily mulched so they require minimal water. Much of the food we consume is grown in the garden year round and the give the extra to our neighbors and the local food bank. Our area is zoned for agriculture and we are excited to be a part of that.

I love this piece of coastal paradise and am very much in tune with the land and wildlife that reside here. I plan on building a simple structure that is environmental in nature, utilizes alternative energy and is energy,uses a minimum of resources build. I built my first home this way and know the importance of respect and balance with the land we reside on. I believe Julia and I will be good stewards to the land and good neighbors in our community. I am sure we will have negligible impact on water usage here and I and hoping you will allow us to have a reasonably small road so we won't have to tear up the land any more than necessary and we will plant more trees and beautify what we own.

Thanks for your time and energy,

Leib Ostrow
