

Good morning/afternoon council members and staff. I thank you for hearing my deputation regarding the Airbnb properties that have cropped up in the last few years/months in Ethel Park. My name is Kristen Engel and I have been a resident of Brock Township for the past 18 years, I live at [REDACTED].

My first concern is parking issues. In Ethel Park we do not have viable long term parking on the streets. If emergency vehicles need to get through for any reason it just simply cannot happen when cars are parked in the middle of the street and this happens each and every weekend. In addition cars are illegally parked on my property where I have actually had to put up barriers so this does not happen on a continual basis.

My second concern is the number of occupants allowed in one dwelling. Often there are 25 people or more and according to by-law, the maximum allowed for an overnight stay is 10. We are not zoned in Ethel Park for an Event Center so the advertisement on Airbnb is grossly misleading. Further to this is the Fire/Housing code which clearly states that there needs to be an escape window in each and every bedroom, unfortunately this is simply not the case in these properties.

Next is the issue with garbage. We have been constantly picking up trash from properties including beer bottles that are thrown into the lake, condoms thrown over fences as well as used feminine products. We are a respectable community and close knit and do not appreciate our properties being uses as dumps.

Over the course of 8 weeks, the police have responded 7 times to noise complaints, fireworks, occupancy issues, garbage, parking, lewd behaviour to list a few and by-law enforcement attends almost every weekend. This has not deterred any aberrant behaviour mainly because no charges or consequences have been enforced. Simply talking to the renters does not produce results or a change in behaviour. It should be noted that it is sad that the police force is diverted from serious emergencies to deal with a situation where lawful behaviour is not non-existent.

Lastly I would like to comment on the lack of respect for by-laws. I am told that fireworks are allowed on the May long weekend and the July long weekend. Why is it that people can randomly light of fireworks late into the night every weekend with no respect to the people who live here? This happens all of the time, during the day and night when we, the residents, are trying to sleep so we can get up to go to work the next day. When you approach the owners of the properties in question all we get is "well it's the lake." That may be true for them but for the rest of us it is our homes and we all live hear year round.

In closing we think there needs to be...

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- A.) Enforcement of existing by-laws
- B.) Proper licencing in place for these properties
- C.) There needs to be consequences for the owner of these properties to be liable for their renter's actions.

Calling the police and by-law has had no results. We cannot sustain calling the police each weekend, we cannot sustain calling by-law each and every weekend...as they have much greater priorities and rightfully so!

In closing we expect to do 2 things...

1. Enforce the existing by-laws
2. Put in place further measures to ensure that the needs of long term residents are respected

I thank you for time and effort.

Kindly,

Kisten

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