I went to see the sample construction materials. I fully agree with the Town Architectural Review Board and Town consulting architect that the proposed materials are inferior and not acceptable. The siding is no better than reinforced venetian blinds. I have seen more substantively built trailers and even garbage sheds. Do a search on Google if you don’t believe me. The windows are flimsy. They appear glued onto the plane of the building. I can imagine the thin glass and weak frame breaking with the first gust of a hurricane.

I remember when Tuxedo Farms was first proposed, Robert Stern, renowned architect and at that time Dean of the Yale School of Architecture came to talk to us. He was so proud that the development would use real shingles, real cut stones, and wood windows with real mullion bars.

What has happened to the high-end, high quality development that was promised to us, and on which basis the building permit was granted?

Tuxedo was founded in 1886. We have houses and commercial buildings that were designed and built by famous Gilded Age architects like Bruce Price and James Brown Lord. Every resident is proud of our town’s architecture, history and quality of life.

If you bring in card-box buildings with one or two bedroom apartments and no covered parking and family houses with up to 3 bedrooms but insufficient garage space, what sort of people will Related be bringing to Tuxedo?

I can tell you it won’t be millennials as Related claims, because millennials like to live in cities, and not in suburbs far from their work, and they will not wish to walk five minutes in the freezing cold of winter to unlock their frozen cars parked at the curb. Please Google – there are many studies on millennials.

Related is asking us now for a one-page materials change. But what else will they be asking next, as Andy Bearish has noted? What other changes, other dumping-downs, will they next be requesting?

Also, the requested materials change, as observed by Bonnie Franson, our Town Planner, constitutes the lowest common denominator. What safeguards do we have that the builder will not build every house, every building to the lowest common denominator?

The board discussed briefly that we could ensure a mix of historical styles, and a mix of materials. But if a person were spending a million dollars to buy a house, would he/she wish to have as neighbor a poor-quality house? Reducing the standards of building materials but still maintaining the overall quality of the development simply does not hold water.