

# Mono County Community Development

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Comment letters received after 4:00 pm Monday, July 20 – Tuesday, July 21 1:00 pm.

- Dana Ellis
- Janet Reese

July 20, 2020

Dear Board of Supervisors-

My name is Dana Ellis, Swall Meadows resident since 2005, and I am writing in opposition to your approval of Brandon Barter's short-term rental permit.

There are several reasons to deny this permit. First, this is a remote, challenging area to live in and is wholly unsuitable for tourist accommodations. There are no amenities in Swall and it is a 30-minute drive in both directions over very windy roads to reach either Mammoth or Bishop. These roads are especially dangerous in the winter. Those who live here full time seek the isolation of Swall Meadows, but as a tourist lodging option it is illogical, especially since Mono County has a plethora of immensely more suitable choices.

Second, if you maintain this permit you set a precedent for future short-term rental permits to be granted. Once that door is open, it can't be closed. This means new people entering Swall on a regular basis, which will negatively impact our community and its neighborhood trails.

Third, the beauty of Swall is not only the environment but also the community of friends and neighbors who work together to keep it a safe, clean, and pleasant place to live. That community spirit will be strained once some start inviting paying guests at the expense of those who want to maintain the local community as is.

Lastly, to summarize, the more outside attention an area gets the more use an area gets, with more use comes more impact both to the fragile environment and to the people who live here. The majority of long-term

residents in Swall moved here to get away from that attention and impact, it is simply not right that this decision threatens their choice.

Nobody objects to Mr. Barter making money from the long-term rental of his rooms. What we object to is short-term rental permits being allowed in a community where it makes no sense and is mostly unwelcome. I plead with you now to deny this permit, uphold the appeal and allow Swall Meadows to remain a bastion of tourist freeness.

Thank you for listening, I hope you actually hear what is being said and ponder the power you wield here to either preserve or negatively impact a very special place. Since the pandemic, this refuge has been even more cherished for those of us who live here full time, please do not take it away.

Sincerely,

Dana Ellis

97 Valley View Rd

15 year Swall Meadows resident

**From:** [j.reese](#)  
**To:** [Kelly Karl](#)  
**Subject:** Support of Appeal 20-001 Montroni & Peterson  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 7:18:11 AM  
**Attachments:** [Board of Supervisor"s July 21.rtf](#)

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Dear Kelly,

Attached is an email supporting the Appeal filed by Montroni & Peterson. I would appreciate it if you would see that it was read at the meeting today or otherwise given to the Members of Mono County Board of Supervisors.

Thank you so much.

Sincerely,

Janet Reese

261 Mountain View Drive

Swall Meadow, CA 93514

July 21, 2020

Mono County Board of Supervisors

Dear Members of the Mono County Board of Supervisors:

My name is Janet Reese. My husband and I have lived in Swall Meadows for 30 years. We have a very vested interest in the future of the community we love. There are a number of reasons I object to short term rentals in Swall Meadows, several which I have mentioned in my previous comment letters. Right now there are two issues I wish to raise in support of the Appeal filed by Amy Montroni and Pete Peterson.

First: Notification by the County Officials to the community members of Swall Meadows that the issue of short term rentals had been raised was critically lacking from the beginning. Only property owners within 500 feet of Mr. Barter's property at 320 Mountain View Drive were notified in writing of the May 21, 2020 Permit Hearing and the Appeal Hearing of July 21, 2020. Given the restrictions of today and the encouragement to "Stay at Home", to rely on the rest of the community to pick up a copy of The Sheet to find out about County Hearings, was unreasonable. Most of the community learned of the first meeting because a "Notice of Public Hearing" received by a nearby property owner posted it on the community bulletin board just six days before the Hearing. Others learned from the discussion that ensued on the Nextdoor Forum. This is an issue that is important to the entire community of Swall Meadows, not just those who live within 500 feet of Mr. Barter. Everyone should have been notified and have had an opportunity to discuss in public meetings. That did not happen and was a serious oversight by the County. **If more had known about Mr. Barter's request to establish a short term rental, and had the time to make known their objections, perhaps Mr. Barter's request would have been denied.**

Second: I urge the Board of Supervisors to fully consider the results of the petition collected by Amy Montroni and Pete Peterson. **The results reveal a highly significant number of property owners in Swall Meadows are NOT in favor of owner occupied short short term rentals. The community is speaking out against short term rentals and in favor of the Appeal filed by Amy and Pete. Please vote in favor of this Appeal 20-001 Montroni & Peterson.**

Thank you for allowing me to express my opinion.

Sincerely

Janet Reese