



April 28, 2026

Mr. Thomas A. Grier  
The Running Wise Law Firm  
P.O. Box 686  
Traverse City, MI 49685

**Via email only to:**  
[tag@runningwise.com](mailto:tag@runningwise.com)

Re: Apollos Properties LLC / Special Land Use Permit  
Our File No.: 3205.17

Dear Mr. Grier:

As you are aware, the Leland Township Zoning Ordinance provides as follows:

*“Section 4.07 STAY*

*An appeal shall stay all proceedings in furtherance of the action appealed from unless the Zoning Administrator certifies to the Zoning Board of Appeals after notice of appeal has been filed with the Zoning Administrator, that by reason of facts stated in the certificate a stay would, in the Administrator's opinion, cause imminent peril to life or property, in which case the proceedings shall not be stayed otherwise than by a restraining order, which may be granted by the Zoning Board of Appeals, or, on application, by court of record.”*

This language is similar to the language contained in the Zoning Enabling Act, which provides:

*“An appeal to the zoning board of appeals stays all proceedings in furtherance of the action appealed. However, if the body or officer from whom the appeal is taken certifies to the zoning board of appeals after the notice of appeal is filed that, by reason of facts stated in the certificate, a stay would in the opinion of the body or officer cause imminent peril to life or property, proceedings may be stayed only by a restraining order issued by the zoning board of appeals or a circuit court.”* MCL 125.3504(3)

Last week the applicant filed an appeal of the Planning Commission's decision from April 15, 2026. While I understand that there has been discussion about convening a special meeting of the Planning Commission to correct the legislative history recited in the April 15, 2026 decision, that meeting, as of this writing, has not been scheduled. As such we believe that April 15<sup>th</sup> decision, at this moment, is final.

Beginning in October of last year Youth for Christ suspended its activities at the property while it awaited issuance of a special land use permit. As you can appreciate, once it was established that

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the applicant met the criteria in the Ordinance the applicant was entitled to the special land use permit.

The purpose of this letter is to advise the Township that while the matter is on appeal before the Zoning Board of Appeals, Youth for Christ intends to resume its activities (as outlined to the Planning Commission) at the property commencing **Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>**. If the Township contends that there is a legal basis prohibiting resumption, please let me know immediately.

Sincerely,



Robert W. Parker

RWP:ekb

Cc (via email): James VanSteenhouse  
Brad Wierda, Esq.