



CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

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MICHAEL A. NUTTER
Mayor

April 12, 2013

Sam Sherman
Chairman, Philadelphia Historical Commission
Room 576 City Hall
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Dear Mr. Sherman:

Deputy Mayor Alan Greenberger informed me that you and some other Commissioners were upset by my remarks at this morning's Historical Commission proceeding concerning OCF Café's application for Commission approval for its proposed alterations to the historic property at 2100 Fairmount Avenue. He told me that some Commission members believe that my remarks called their integrity into question.

What I intended to communicate to the Commission was this: first, in considering the application, use the same standards applied to other applications before the Commission today; and second, hold accountable the applicant -- whose principal admitted today that he had disregarded previous Commission direction -- for meeting whatever conditions the Commission would require it to meet.

My remarks were intended to highlight the Nutter administration's policy that all citizens who interact with City representatives should be held to the same standard and comply with City directives. I never intended to imply that the Commission had not or would not apply a uniform standard in this matter, and genuinely regret that some Commissioners interpreted my remarks in that way.

As I said at the hearing, I have no opinion about what the hearing outcome should be, and I have no reason to believe that the Commission treated OCF Café's application any more or less favorably than any other. I fully support the good work of the Historical Commission and its members.

Please convey my regret to the Commissioners.

Sincerely yours,

Joan Markman
Chief Integrity Officer

cc: Alan Greenberger, Deputy Mayor for Economic Development
Jon Farnham, Executive Director, Historical Commission