December 13, 2023

Office of Novelle E. Francis Senate President 3022 Estate Golden Rock Christiansted St. Croix, VI 00820

## Testimony of Positive T.A. Nelson

Greetings Mr. President, Novelle Francis, Jr., Senators of the 35th Legislature, Central Staff, and People of the Virgin Islands.

We are grateful and humbled to have this opportunity to present Serenity's Nest, a Zenergized space on plots nos. 219 and 220 Morning Star, on the North Shore of St. Croix, Virgin Islands.

I am Positive Terrence A. Nelson, here with my third son Tywreh A. Nelson. My family is the owner of parcel number - 2-02501-0109-00 consisting of .5342 acres and parcel number 2-02501-0110-00 consisting of .5039 acres. We are here, as the process dictates, to solicit your favorable consideration of a rezoning, or at minimum, a user variance to allow us to develop these plots.

These said two plots have opened a portal for goodness we now call "Serenity's Nest", where your Zenergy is nurtured.

Serenity's Nest is an inspiration created to facilitate the need for an atmosphere which fosters Zen, calming internal connection to Peace, Nature, and Self. Zen zones are usually green space which encourages relaxation, rejuvenation, clear thoughts (discernment), and artistic expressions. "Zenergy" is good energy.

We intend to operate as a Zen Garden with an outback garden grill "stop-spot" equipped with WiFi, a farm-park with ample shaded gazebos and seating, a bar, a gift shop, salon; and eco-lodging/ glamping. The space may be rented for approved events. It is already a perfect place for meditation, yoga, private picnics, for artists looking for a highly charged environment with creative energy, and outdoor concerts/parties.

During tourist season and cruise ship days we will open more frequent and longer hours to accommodate the island's visitors as well as provide spaces to vendors catering to cruise passengers passing on the Salt River Road.

Beyond the aforementioned uses, individuals and organizations will be able to contract Self-Improvement, Leadership, Professional Development and Consultation workshops by Positive Consulting, an affiliated firm.

Currently, activities which takes place at the site includes Serenity Sundays – a weekly event where there is food, drinks, live music.

 $Yoga\ with\ Amanda-Wednesdays,\ Saturdays,\ Full\ Moon$ 

Chess Club – Sundays, and as scheduled

The Grow Room – Daily Broadcasted Self-Growth lectures

Event rentals – parties, concerts, community events, dinners, luncheons, speaking engagements, and panel Discussions

Agriculture - Multi-crop farming,

Fruit trees, fauna, Manicured landscape, seedlings,

Land and water conservation

Massages by appointment

Cannabis Community Conservation - First Sunday of Each Month

In the past we've participated in numerous Community conscious activities such as:

- Plastic Recycling program drop site
- Men's Health Expo in collaboration with Department of Health and Phi Beta
  Sigma Fraternity, Inc. (2 consecutive years)
- Coding classes
- Act Out Ensemble Performing Arts Group
- Community Talent Show
- Rastafari Community Conversation
- Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Meeting Space
- King Cobra TKD/ Self-defense

At Serenity's Nest we also pride ourselves in being a venue for experienced and upcoming Virgin Islands Artists to exhibit and sharpen their performance on stage. We have been graced with the presence of:

- Dezarie
- Ras Attitude
- Kenya Eugene
- Ras Batch & Empress Ima
- Stanley and the Ten Sleepless Knights
- Naza Nile
- Spragga Benz
- Katalyss TRT and FYAH TRAIN
- Kurt Schindler & the Schindinglers
- Peace Maker
- Danny I
- Mercy Child
- Johnny Redlocks
- Reggae Bubblers
- V.I. Fire Band
- Express Band
- Big Daddy Chulo
- Tuskani
- Gyasi Clarke

- Unit Band
- Mystic Rainbow
- Blackness Creese
- Anchants
- Mekiel Rueben
- "The Trouble Makers" Band (Dec 19<sup>th</sup>)
- Lokal
- J Hodge
- Baz n Dem
- Family Man
- Abia
- Mada Nile
- Apostle
- Positively Nelsons
- Cherise King
- Simplicity
- Nube Dan
- Pressure
- DJ Zion Roots Sound
- DJ Hilltop Sounds
- Jahmeca Sounds
- Alkebulan Empress Sounds
- Syndicate Sound
- Ninjah P Sound
- Akea Beka Sound Station
- DJ Kazz

Initially, one of my three neighbors had concerns about our planned development. She did testify at the DPNR hearing in opposition. However, we have since discussed the matter much more in depth and she is no longer in opposition. I must tell you that my neighbor is one of those neighbors you would love to have. We've both been in the area for some time, she being first. We've had a wonderful relationship; we are a great example of being your "neighbor's keeper". I own and live on plot # 221 Morningstar between planned site and my neighbor. I too value Serenity and will not just do all within my power to protect and cherish it, but also to create it.

Mr. President, and Committee of the Whole, I have been in your position. I know firsthand the challenge we face as a developing territory while trying to preserve land, culture, and heritage. I am a fiber in the madras of the Virgin Islands. I express and exhibit my love for the land itself, her peoples and our entangled flamboyant history of resilience and sustainability. Pride for me is not a noun (a thing), ...it is a verb (action).

I Positive Terrence Alesta Nelson, in front of Almighty God, the people of the V. I. and the world, and this August Body humbly ask that you give us, the ability to be a space of Spiritual, Natural, and Self-Growth. I will be a good steward. My word, my actions, my intent is to contribute to healing and growing not only

Zenergy (good energy) but in tapping into Serenergy (God energy). The world must know, "Doing Good is Doing God" and there is an energy portal on St. Croix intentionally enhanced to help us.

Help us to make Serenity's Nest a lasting reality. We are prayful for a favorable decision.

Thank you. May Peace be unto You.

My Son Tywreh has a presentation to make, also. Then we will answer all your questions.

Respectfully,

Positive T. A. Nelson





