

## Adam Zack

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**From:** Jeffrey Otis <jeffo@rockisland.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 12, 2021 9:40 PM  
**To:** Vacation Rental Comments  
**Subject:** VR comment

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Dear Planning Commissioners,

My mom is in assisted living in Burlington. She and my dad built a house in West Sound in 1987 and lived there until my dad passed soon after his 92nd birthday in October of 2019. After my dad's passing, mom tried living in the house alone but she was fearful at night. I should not have left her alone. I called and visited every day and would help her with daily chores as I live nearby. Friends and neighbors would visit as well. Two days before my dad's memorial, mom fell and broke her hip. I found her on the floor bleeding and crying for help. She can't live by herself but wants to come home. I've tried to make that happen but the cost of full-time caregiving is exorbitant (around \$20,000/month). The next best thing is to bring her home periodically, which I've done a few times.

As her representative, I applied for a vacation rental permit in 2020 in order to help pay for her caregiving expenses, though we haven't activated the permit. We leave the house furnished so that she might be able to come home at some point and for friends and relatives to visit. Many people have contacted me about renting the house long-term. I would love to do that, but doing so would preclude mom, friends, and family from staying in the house as well as the higher income that mom may need to pay for her caregiving. I don't know if we will ever activate the vacation rental permit, but it is important to my mom's care that we have the ability to do so should the need arise.

This is a very personal account of why we have a vacation rental permit. I hesitated sending this for that very reason, and I appreciate your sensitivity to that. I decided to send it because I thought the public should be aware that there are multiple reasons for having a vacation rental permit.

Sincerely,

Jeff Otis