

To Kristen Leahy and the Planning Commission:

I attended the Planning Commission Meeting last Tuesday, May 28th. I found it shocking what has become of our Democracy.

It wasn't very long ago in U.S. history that corporations were mysteriously given the rights of personhood. That was a very bad move for the People. But now, The Telecommunications Act of 1996 quite openly grants corporations more than equal rights. They have the power over human health and well-being. How could that have happened?

The feeling at the meeting, I thought, was one of powerlessness. At least, I know that I was feeling that. It may seem an extreme analogy, but would our town government, and our citizens stand by as people here were being executed? What would we do in the face of such immorality? People historically, in those situations, have hidden and shrugged in powerlessness hoping it would not be them next.

I have no idea if there are actions we can take locally. I'd love to feel we have the potential to do something rather than shrug and not look at the meaning of what is in front of us.

Judith Ruskin