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Today: 67.6°F / 19.8°C
 Scattered Clouds
 Wind: South at 7.0mph / 11.3km/h.
 Humidity: 87%
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Do you fly the flag on Flag Day?

- Yes
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Town Crier

June 2008						
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Full Story Details

Walkersville Officially Denies Muslim Farm Purchase; Attorneys May Appeal

Reported by: [Megan Healey](#)
 Thursday, Jun 5, 2008 @ 11:29pm EST



WALKERSVILLE, MD - The town of Walkersville has officially denied a Maryland Muslim community a special exception to build on a large piece of farmland.

At Thursday night's meeting, the planning commission unanimously voted to adopt the formal written decision barring the Ahmadiyyah Muslim Community (AMC) from building a recreation and convention center on Nicodemus Farm.

Land-owner David Moxley and his attorney say they are considering several options at this point; those include, appealing the decision in state circuit court, as well as filing first amendment freedom of religion violations in federal court.

Current zoning law states religious groups may build on agricultural if granted a special exception by the town. Back in February, the planning commission cited traffic, and several infrastructure concerns centered around AMC's annual convention, as the main reasons for denying the request.

Moxley's attorney, Roman Storz, says he believes the decision was racist and violated the group's civil rights.

"It's a complete sham. All of the issues involving the land use itself had been appropriately taken care of. The Ahmadiyyah's made a very thorough application and backed it up with sound engineering, demonstrating that there would be no negative impacts on the town," he says.

Ahmadiyyah's president says he's disappointed with the final outcome, and he and his attorney will issue a statement regarding future action over the next couple of days.

Any legal action must be filed within the next 30 days.

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