

**From:** [Ty Wessell](#)  
**To:** [Laurel Evans](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment - Ed Dolan  
**Date:** Friday, February 5, 2021 10:05:09 AM

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Dr. Ed Dolan has asked this letter to be included as public comment for Tuesday's Executive Committee meeting. Thanks.

Ty

**From:** Ed Dolan <dolanek@rockisland.com>  
**Date:** January 28, 2021 at 4:02:12 PM EST  
**To:** editor@leelanaunews.com  
**Subject: Letter to the editor (re Great Barrington)**

Dear Editor:

I was disconcerted to learn that the Leelanau Country Board of Commissioners is considering support for the Great Barrington resolution, with its false hope of easy escape from the Covid pandemic.

The seductive idea behind Great Barrington is to shelter the vulnerable (Grandpa, diabetic daughter) while the less vulnerable live their lives free of masks and restaurant closings, achieving "herd immunity" naturally through mild Covid cases. That theory of "focused protection" sounds great but it has three big flaws.

First, how easy is it, really, to shelter the vulnerable? If Grandpa lives with the family, do you lock him in his room or send him to a motel for six months? What if diabetic daughter works as a retail clerk or receptionist? Who is going to pay her rent until herd immunity arrives?

Second, Great Barrington completely ignores long-haul Covid – the debilitating pains, fevers, or brain fog that last months after "recovery" from the initial sickness. Even if you are young and healthy, your chance of long-haul disabilities from Covid is probably 10 times higher than your chance of death. Covid is NOT "just a bad case of the flu."

Third, if we knew there would never be a vaccine, the long, painful "focused protection" path to herd immunity might be the only way. But we do have a vaccine. It would be insanity to choose the high-risk way out when the lower-risk way is so near at hand.

Ed Dolan

Northport