

The Association of the Oldest Inhabitants of The District of Columbia

Established Dec. 7, 1865

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William N. Brown

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John Gill, Sr.

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AOI
4425 Greenwich Pkwy,
NW, Washington, DC
20007-2010

202-342-1638

Luncheon RSVP's
202-342-1865

Web site:
www.aoidc.org

E-mail:
aoi_of_dc@verizon.net

January 20, 2010

Mr. Mark B. Loud, Chairman
D.C. Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, NW Suite 200 South
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: Emory United Methodist Beacon of Light Church, BZA# 17964
6100-20 Georgia Avenue, NW

Dear Chairman Loud and Members of the BZA:

The Association of the Oldest Inhabitants of the District of Columbia – the District's oldest civic organization which was founded in 1865 – would like to comment upon the applicant's proposal for development which would encroach upon the nearby Ft. Steven's Civil War Historic Site.

The AOI does not want to deny the church its ability to expand or serve its constituents; however, we believe any improvements to the church's facilities should respect the adjacent fort, its views and historic setting. The Battle for Fort Steven's in an historic one in the history of our city and the Civil War. Those who fought so bravely surely prevented an assault on our Nation's Capital that would have had a terrible impact on the prosecution of the War and the future of our nation.

The AOI supports the positions and questions put forth and raised by the Alliance to Preserve the Civil War Defenses of Washington in their December 2nd and 11th, 2009 letters to the BZA regarding this application and we strongly urge the BZA to take a position that defends, protects and preserves historic Fort Stevens by denying the extended height to 63 feet, requiring the appropriate set-back and providing screening to shield it from view of the fort.

Sincerely,



William N. Brown, President

Cc: Alliance to Preserve the Civil War Defenses of Washington

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BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT
District of Columbia

CASE NO. 17964

EXHIBIT NO. 59

The Association of the Oldest Inhabitants of the District of Columbia – the District's oldest civic organization – was established on December 7, 1865, to preserve memories and matters of historic interest. By virtue of our long presence and participation in the city's prosperity and improvement, we continue to work and strive for the city's stability, security and advancement – to aid in every way the prosperity and well-being of the District while preserving the heritage of its past.

EXHIBIT NO.59