

April 8, 2014

District of Columbia Zoning Office

To Whom It May Concern

I am writing to urge you to provide the Keegan Theatre with the adjustment it needs on the Certificate of Occupancy to continue providing the community with wonderful theater productions at the Church Street Theatre and to renovate the facility.

My husband, Kenn, and I currently are members of the Keegan Board. Our connection to the Keegan Company, and particularly to Susan and Mark Rhea, goes back to their longstanding educational connection to Mt. Olivet United Methodist Church in Arlington.

We first met Mark and Susan years ago when they began working with the teenagers at Mt Olivet to put on high-quality theater productions in order for the kids to raise money for their annual Habitat for Humanity activities and trips

This wonderful partnership and outreach to our church community has been going on for more than 15 years Through these productions, the Mt. Olivet Players have been able to raise several hundred thousand dollars for their Habitat work over the years and several have gone on to major in theater Some of the participating Mt Olivet adults have gone on to perform in Keegan Theatre productions (and still do).

Along with directing the productions, Keegan Company members work with the teens to design, build, and paint the sets and in arranging the light and sound systems They teach the kids to run the equipment and to deal with last minute crises. Our son, Sam, learned sound and lighting design from Mark and others, and gained real confidence from their trust that he could do difficult jobs and be successful

Based on our experience with this partnership, Kenn and I were delighted to join the Keegan Theatre Board, and have become even bigger fans of the Company

I urge you to grant the adjustment so that Keegan Theatre is able not only to put on great productions in a modernized space, but to sustain and expand its powerful outreach and educational activities in the Washington, DC community Thank you.

Ann Leigh Speicher

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BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 18722
EXHIBIT NO. 39

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