ANC 5A

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 5A

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February 22, 2000

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
OFFICE OF ZONING
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Ms. Jerrily R. Kress
Director
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, N.W. Suite 210
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: BZA Case No. 16531, Father Flanagan's Boys Town of Washington

Dear Ms. Kress:

The Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 5A held a special, quorumed meeting on Wednesday, February 16, 2000 at the North Michigan Park Recreation Center in order to hear the concerns of those property owners within 200 feet of the property involved in the above-referenced application. Also, to receive certain assurances from officials in the Department of Public Works (DPW), the Department of Health (DOH), and Boys Town.

In response to previously expressed concerns about the effects on their properties of the water run-off, the engineer for Boys Town discussed the steps that would be taken to re-direct the water.

Ms. Constance Washington, Site Director, Boys Town, in response to an earlier request, submitted a schedule for "achieving the storm water and acoustic mitigation work".

Mr. Kenneth G. Laden, Administrator, Department. of Public Works (DPW), District Division of Transportation, discussed steps that can be taken by the Department to re-direct the water which the home owners say is affecting their properties. Mr. Laden suggested alley borings in addition to other remedies.

Mr. Collin Burrell, Watershed Protection Division, Department of Health, suggested the need for a geo-technical study and that DPW and Boys Town work together to alleviate the problem.

Another concern was the demand placed on the resources of the Metropolitan Police Department, Fifth District (MPD 5D) with calls for service. Lt. Taylor, MPD 5D, presented some figures on the calls for service to Boys Town. A concern as to

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whether there is proper supervision of the resident youth was not addressed. It is also unclear whether absconders pose a threat to the community.

Following discussion, a motion was made from the floor that the application be denied until the issue of the water drainage is addressed, motion seconded and carried. The ANC 5A Commissioners voted unanimously to support the community's position.

It is to be noted that BZA Application No. 15805 Summary of Evidence, neighbors opposing the application complained of water run-off and erosion ad feared that "their investments would be jeopardized if Boys Town were allowed to operate on the site". Also in BZA Application 15805 Findings of Fact we read "The applicant is willing to form an advisory committee to serve as a liaison between the facilities and the community."

The Board ordered that BZA Application No. 158 05 be granted subject to certain conditions, one of which was:

> The operator of the facility, Boys Town USA, shall establish an advisory committee, which shall consist of representatives from Boys Town and members of the community (including area residents, who, at the public hearing on the application, expressed an interest in participating). The advisory committee shall meet quarterly and shall report to the ANC 5A annually.

To my knowledge, this condition has not been complied with, especially as regards reporting to the ANC 5A.

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 5A, having voted to support the community, recommends that the application be denied until the water drainage problem, and any other previously cited concern, has been resolved.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Norma M. Broadnax

Norma M. Broadnax
Chairperson