# ANC 5A ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 5A

SLOWE SCHOOL DEMOUNTABLE
14TH & IRVING STREETS, N.E. ▼ WASHINGTON, D.C. 20017
TELEPHONE 202-635-6563 ▼ FAX 202-635-6565


September 19, 2000


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**VIA FACSIMILE to (202) 727-6072**
Original Mailed


DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT
2000 SEP 20 P 3:34


Ms. Jerrily R. Kress
Director
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, NW Suite 210
Washington, DC 20001

*Re:* BZA Case No. 16531, Father Flanagan's Boys Town of Washington, 4801 Sargent Road, NE

Dear Ms. Kress:

Transmitted herewith is the report of Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner Timothy Thomas, SMD 5A-04, regarding the above-referenced case.

A regularly scheduled ANC 5A Committee-of-the-Whole meeting was held on September 7, 2000 at the ANC 5A office.

Eight commissioners were present and voted unanimously to support the recommendation of Commissioner Thomas that the application be denied. Seven members present constitute a quorum.

If there are any questions please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Norma M. Broadnax
Chairperson

Enclosure


BZA
Case No. 16531
Exhibit No. 66





Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16531
EXHIBIT NO.66

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Ms. Norma M. Broadnax
Chairperson
Adivisory Neighborhood Commission 5A
14th & Irving Streets, NE
Washington, DC 20002

*Re:* BZA Case No. 16531, Father Flanagan's Boys Town of Washington, 4801 Sargent Road, NE

Dear Commissioner Broadnax:

The following is my report pursuant to BZA's Public Meeting Minutes dated April 12, 2000, with regard to the following issues:

1. **Water Run Off**. As of September 14, 2000, the date of the last scheduled Community Liaison Committee meeting, site Director, Connie Washington reported that despite BZA's condition that "All storm water run-off controls not directly associated with the proposed new construction must be installed and operating", these controls are not installed and operating.

2. **Noise Abatement**. Although Boys Town has taken some measures to reduce noise from the emergency generator and the cooling tower, several residents at the Community Liaison Committee meeting on September 14, 2000, reported that they are still disturbed by the noise coming from the emergency generator and the cooling tower, despite the alleged measures taken by Boys Town. Therefore, these measures have not been effective in abating the noise from the emergency generator and the cooling tower as they are a continuing disturbance to many of the residents living nearby.

3. **Community Liaison Program**. Although Boys Town's attempted to establish a Community Liaison Program and held several meetings with a so-called Advisory Liaison Committee since April 12th, a motion was passed at the September 14th meeting (the vote was 7 for, 3 opposed and 3 abstentions – which included a vote by Connie Washington, the Site Director of the Sargent Road facility!) that asked did Boys Town actually establish a Community Advisory Committee with proper rules of procedure and clearly defined representation of the community.

The reason for this motion was that the Boys Town's Site Director acknowledged that the so-called Advisory Liaison Committee had no rules of operation; did not have any bylaws, did not follow Robert's Rules of Order; did not have specific membership criteria, and basically that the group that had been meeting as the Advisory Liaison Committee was an "informal" group led by the Site Director, Connie Washington, who set the agenda and kept the minutes. Most of the community's residents who have attended some of these meetings are frustrated by the lack of progress made by Boys Town in resolving the water run off, noise, security and other problems caused by the Boys Town program, and have expressed their concerns that nothing has changed to improve or to deal with these problems to date. Therefore, most of the so-called "members" of the Advisory Liaison Committee do not feel that they have had an opportunity for meaningful input on the so-called Advisory Liaison Committee as it has been currently constituted by Boys Town's Site Director.

4. **Security Plan**: Connie Washington reported to the people who attended the meeting at Boys Town on September 14, 2000, that although Ms. Washington presented a written Security Plan to the group for the first time, she had not coordinated the development of this plan with either ANC 5A nor the Commander of the 5th District Police Precinct as required by the BZA.

Because residents within 200 foot radius of the Boys Town's Sargent Road facility remain very concerned about this project and because they have been unable to work cooperatively with Boys Town, they are requesting that the BZA not grant the special exception requested by Boys Town under Section 303 pursuant to 11 DCMR 3104.1 and Section 303.

Boys Town's inability to meet the BZA's conditions is sufficient reason for the BZA to reject Boys Town's request for a special exception in this circumstance.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy Thomas
Commissioner ANC 5A-04