10 April, 2000

'00 ABR 14 A9:09

Ms. Jerrily R. Kress, FAIA
Executive Director
Office of Zoning
441 4th Street, N.W. Suite 210
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Ms. Kress:

The Linden Neighborhood Association has reported to me the vote taken by members of the Board of Zoning Adjustment in the matter of the Welch Family Limited Partnership #10 and Dee's Diamond in the Rough request for a parking variance which will allow them to have a pending application for a Public Hall license.

I couldn't believe that Ms. Sheila Cross-Reid, Chairman and Robert Sockwell would vote in favor of allowing any community and especially our community to have a business with a Public Hall license!. Such an act would mean that I would be unable to come home and find a place to park on my street. The potential exist for violence, loud music, public urination, increase call volume to the police and emergency medical services and would keep me awake when I need to be sleeping so that I can go to work and pay my taxes.

I, understand from our co-presidents, that two members have to vote on this issue and I ask that the BZA bow to the will of the community and disallow this nightmare from taking shape. The Linden Neighborhood Association has offered repeatedly to meet with Ms. Hunter and work out an alternative to a public hall license. We have asked to meet with the owner Steve Royall. We have asked to meet with the owner of the building, Mr. Ken Welch, who was arrested two weeks ago for housing code violations. Ms. Kress, do you really think this community has any concrete assurances that once a parking variance is granted that all the parties involved with 1335 H Street will comply with D.C. regulations? How could the BZA Chairman do this to us? Is the Chairman not there to represent the interest of the business, community and government fairly? After hearing what happened from our co-presidents, I am greatly alarmed by the actions of those who are sitting on this Board.

I understand that the Chairman wanted letters from the community showing that our co-presidents had the authority to represent our interests. You may present this correspondence as my authorization to the BZA, that the Linden Neighborhood Association represents ME in this matter and I fully support the hard work put forth by my fellow community members. You should further understand that we are not opposed to businesses on H Street or anywhere else. We are actively seeking to redevelop H Street. The Arts project at the Atlas Theater is one of several projects the Linden Neighborhood Association will be supporting. The issues of parking in this specific case are ones that involve a distance of 3 and ½ blocks with people that already have shown that they are not truthful. Public Hall licenses are not the type of businesses we are pursuing here. This type of license will drive away businesses that could come in and stimulate

BZA
Case No. 16554
Exhibit No. 42

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16551
EXHIBIT NO.42

economic growth along the H Street corridor.

Finally, I ask that Sheila Cross-Reid and Robert Sockwell re-examine the merits of this issue and vote to support the wishes of the community that were fooled by Ms. Hunter's tactics and signed a petition that did not fully explain her motives. I ask that Anne Renshaw and Rodney Moulden vote NO in this matter and end it gracefully so that this community may move on with the positive forward motion that we have started and are very proud of here along H Street.

Thank you for your consideration in supporting the opinions and efforts of this community.

Sincerely,

Colleen B Grzeskowiak
Signature

COLLEEN B. GRZESKOWIAK
Name (print)

705 12th STREET, NE
Address

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20002
City/State/Zip Code

(202) 399-3389
Phone Number

cc: Linden Neighborhood Association
Councilmember Sharon Ambrose
Councilmember Harold Brazil