NAYLOR DUPONT
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 7B

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January 29, 2001

Mr. Robert Sockwell
Chairman, Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, Northwest
Suite 210
Washington, D.C. 20001

RE: Application Number: 16657

BZA
Case No. 16657
Exhibit No. 26

RECEIVED
D.C. OFFICE OF ZONING
2001 FEB -7 PM 3:59

Dear Chairman Sockwell:

On Saturday, January 20, 2001, citizens residing in the immediate area of this application informed the Advisory Neighborhood Commission 7B (ANC 7B), that the Board of Zoning Adjustments indicated in their January 9, 2001 hearing that ANC 7B was in support of this application.

Please be advised that ANC 7B did not take a stand on the establishment of this business at their December 16, 2000 Town Hall meeting. The ANC 7B allowed the "Power to Become" Childcare Center an opportunity to present their proposal to the community. The ANC 7B also presented to this organization the numerous concerns raised by the residents who reside in this immediate area. The ANC 7B instructed Minister A.M. Brooks to meet with the residents prior to the January 9, 2001 hearing to bring this matter to a resolution. The ANC 7B also agreed to hold a separate meeting if necessary to assist in the resolution of this matter. Apparently, Minister Brooks did not follow the advice of ANC 7B.

As the Commissioner for ANC 7B03, I join residents of this area in opposing Application Number 16657. Based on reasons cited by residents in their December 22, 2000 and January 7, 2001 correspondence to the Board of Zoning Adjustment, I do not believe that this project is in the best of interest of the community.

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16657
EXHIBIT NO.26

I can be reached at 202.724.2123. Thanking you in advance for your immediate attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Roscoe Grant, Jr.
Chairman
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 7B

Enclosures
Minutes ANC 7B Town Hall Meeting dated December 16, 2000

Cc:
Ms. Barbara Ashby
Andrew Altman, Director, Office of Planning
Minister A.M. Brooks
Commissioner ANC 7B 02 B. Three Feathers Kazemi
Commissioner ANC 7B 04 Moses Smith
Commissioner ANC 7B 05 Kathy Chamberlain
Commissioner ANC 7B 07 S. Thetus D. Boyd

DRAFT MINUTES
ANC 7B Townhall Meeting
December 16, 2000

Prepared by Kathy Chamberlain, Secretary ANC 7B
Commissioner, 7B05

Please do not quote from these minutes until they have been officially approved by ANC 7B. Normally this is done during the next monthly meeting.

Commissioners Present –5
7B02 - B. Three Feathers Kazemi
7B03 - Roscoe Grant, Jr.
7B05 - Kathy Chamberlain
7B06 - John D. Hicks
7B07 - S. Thetus Boyd

Commissioners Absent –2
7B01 - Denise Reed
7B04 - Willard C. Poteat

Neighborhood Watch -present
Dennis Logan, Chairman

Chairman Grant called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

Resolutions

1. Minutes from the ANC 7B meeting of November 18, 2000, were approved. Motion by Kazemi; second by Hicks. Approved unanimously.
2. The Monthly Treasurer's report dated December 16th, 2000 covering the period November 19-December 16, 2000 was approved, with a balance of $14,311.66. Motion by Hicks; second by Chamberlain. Approved unanimously.
3. Commissioners approved the increased payment of $258 (from $230) in Workman's Compensation. Motion by Hicks; second by Kazemi. Approved unanimously.
4. Commissioners passed a resolution to give office manager Alyce Foster a $200 bonus for her excellent work. Motion by Grant; second by Kazemi. Approved unanimously.
5. Commissioners passed a resolution to approve the payment of up to $200 for another year of Internet dial-up and web hosting service by Frontline Communications (formerly Pressroom Online Services).. Motion by Chamberlain; second by Hicks. Approved unanimously.
6. Commissioners passed a resolution opposing increased trash at the Benning Road Trash Transfer Station. Motion by Boyd; second by Hicks. Grant, Boyd, Hicks, and Kazemi voted YES. Chamberlain voted NO.
7. Commissioners passed a resolution to allow Mr. Glover to distribute a petition in support of keeping DC General open. Motion by Grant; second by Kazemi. Grant, Boyd, Hicks, and Kazemi voted YES. Chamberlain did not vote.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Hicks reported that the new allocation for ANC 7B will be $16,532.10 for Fiscal Year 2001. The FY 2000 allocation was $15,303.86.

Commissioners Reports

Commissioner Hicks

Debra Davis, a resident of the Twining neighborhood, has agreed to fill the 7B06 seat being vacated by Hicks. No one ran for this seat in the election. Ms. Davis is an active member of the community and will be an asset to the Commission.

Commissioner Kazemi

On December 1st, residents signed an adopt-a-park agreement with the National Park Service to adopt the bus stop kiosk area at Fairfax Village. The agreement was signed by Lillian Chatmon and John Hale, Superintendent of National Capitol Parks East. Lillian Chatmon stated that the NPS has approved the replacement wrought iron fence for the area.

Commissioner Boyd

Toys R Us and Murray's Steaks are two establishments that have not been supportive in the toy donation program or the holiday luncheon being planned for children on December 21 at St. Luke's Church.

A meeting was held regarding the Community-based Residential Facility on 35th St, with representatives from Councilmember Chavous's Office, DCRA, DOH and others. The most important outcome was a lesson in what not to do in the future when CBRF's are being placed in the community.

Some day soon we'll wake up and find our neighborhoods cluttered with cell towers. The Commission should preempt this scenario and pass a resolution to oppose them (No resolution was proposed.)

Commissioner Chamberlain Lillian Chatmon was recognized and commended for her leadership in beautification projects, particularly the new adopt-a-park program in Fairfax Village. Residents of Fairfax Village should participate in this program and not leave the work to the handful of area residents who are already involved in several beautification projects and being stretched too thin.

A hearing by the National Capital Revitalization Corporation is taking place, concurrently with the ANC meeting, to obtain feedback on the "Proposed Revitalization Plan" dated December 7, 2000. Very late notice was given for this hearing, and the document under review was not made available to citizens far enough in advance of the meeting. Chamberlain wrote a 2-page commentary on the plan, which (it was later learned) Pastor Senger, President of the Hillcrest Community Civic Association, read into the record at the hearing. The document is short on specifics. Skyland and the Sousa Bridge Gateway are two areas of very high importance to ANC 7B which should receive attention from the NCRC. There will be 2 other hearings in the city on the proposed plan. It is important that residents on ANC 7B neighborhoods attend at least the one scheduled for Jan. 6th at 2:00 at the Southwest Branch Library, 900 Wesley Place., S.E. at K Street.

The Pennsylvania Ave. task force meeting for December has been cancelled. Starting in January, it is important for residents to attend these meetings, held the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 9:30 am at the 6D MPD substation.

Commissioner Grant

The new office manager, Alyce Foster has been doing an outstanding job and is recommended for a bonus. (see resolution above for bonus). Two commissioners, Poteat and Hicks, will no longer be on the commission in 2001. Grant presented Commissioner Hicks with a gift of appreciation from himself and Comm. Chamberlain. Poteat was not present was also received a goft. Grant noted that in addition to Debra Davis filling the 7B06 position, Linda Green has agreed to fill the 7B01 position, long-ago vacated by Comm. Denise Reed. Yet-to-be-seen Moses Smith will replace Will Poteat, 7B04.

A letter to DPW outlining problems that were originally presented by a representative of the 6th District MPD has not been answered.

Grant noted that no representative from the Neighborhood Service Program was present.

Bobby Spence, President and CEO of the Urban Assistance Fund, paid for the ANC Christmas luncheon which is to follow the meeting. The purpose of the Urban Assistance Fund is to help citizens in need. Notify Comm. Grant of any ward 7 citizens in need.

Dennis Logan, Chairman, Neighborhood Watch

Great progress has been made in our neighborhoods over the past 8-10 years. There was a time when neighbors did not know each other. All that has changed through neighborhood watch and a strong ANC. Residents should be particularly alert during the holidays and take extra precautions to protect themselves and belongings. If citizens witness and crime activity and don't feel it was handled well by police, call Logan.

Police Report

Sgt. Ron Thomas, PSA 610, reported that of 24 officers on the roster, 2 are sick and several are detailed. Officers are writing numerous tickets for moving violations, particularly in the 4200 block of Southern Ave. and the 2500-2600 blocks of Branch Ave. He reviewed the crime report and noted that crime is down as compared to this time last year.

No representative from PSA 608 was present.

"Power to Become" Child Care Center

Parties interested in opening the "Power to Become" child care center have run into opposition from several neighbors who are concerned about increased traffic congestion and question the need for another daycare facility given that St. Timothy's is available. Minister A.M. Brooks defended the need for the new center . A hearing is scheduled for January 9th. The Commission did not take a stand on the establishment of this business, but will have a separate public meeting if necessary. It is expected that the child care business representatives and residents will work out a compromise.

Willie Lynch, representing Ward 7 Councilmember Kevin Chavous

He reported on the trash transfer station press conference and supported the resolution on the Benning Rd transfer station (see resolutions above). He acknowleded that no one has offered a solution that would satisfy all parties, but stated that the ANC should take a stand anyway.

Community Concerns and Announcements

ANC representatives should attend meetings of civic associations.

Citizens expressed appreciation to PSA 610 officers for cracking down on loitering and drug dealing at and around the Ft. Davis Rec. Center.

A citizen stated that WASA is doing a terrible job of workmanship and leaving street holes open for long periods of time. Chairman Grant replied that a WASA representative would be invited to a future ANC 7B meeting.

A citizen expressed concern that the new ABC bill does not contain a provision opposing the sale of single containers of beer.

There are not enough mail boxes in the 7B01 and 7B03 neighborhoods. Linda Green will take an inventory and make a recommendation for the Postal Service.

A new homeless shelter is being planned for 36th and Alabama Ave. This is a major concern for the community.

Adjournment and Christmas Luncheon

The meeting adjourned at 11:30, followed by the Christmas luncheon. 35 people attended.