W. JEROME MCGEE • ARCHITECTS • PLANNERS
7826 Eastern Avenue, N.W. • Suite 30 LL • Washington, D.C. 20012-1324 • 202/726-7272 • FAX 202/726-2946

President
W.J. McGee, AIA
Vice-President – Finance & Marketing
B.W. McGee
Executive Assistant – Administration
L.T. Dennis

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ZONING
MAY -9 AM 9:44

STATEMENT OF CERTIFICATE AND HARDSHIP

TO: District of Columbia
Board of Zoning Appeal

RE: The Atonement Episcopal Church
5073 East Capitol Street, S.E.
Reverend Robert B. Hunter, Rector

Having, to the best of my understanding completed the various documents required to accompany this "BZA" application, the purpose of this statement is two-fold: (1) to certify and verify the subject facility does, in fact, exist as an active religious body and (2) to justify the claim to hardship.

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

As the Architect, I can without reservation, attest that the referenced Church is an active and progressive body of Christian subscribers with religious services being conducted on a regular and continuous basis under the pastoral leadership of Reverend Robert B. Hunter, one of the signatory of this application. To the best of knowledge, this congregation had worshiped in this building as a Church since the 1950's. A copy of its Certificate of Occupancy further attest to its existence.

STATEMENT OF HARDSHIP

The Church physical plant consist of two (2) three-story ajoining structures. The original structure comprise the Sanctuary and Chapel on the street level and the Multi-Purpose Room and the Kitchen on the lower or basement level. This section was built in the 1950's. The second structure, also three-story, was built along the alley sometime later essentially for Administrative use. Unfortunately, during the planning and design of the addition, although the three different floors were contiguous, not enough thought was given to circulation. And perhaps, the element of immobility due to age was not a factor in the planning criteria. Therefore, the main purpose of this appeal is to improve the physical circulation in the entire Church by rendering all facilities accessible to both the ambulatory as well as the physically handicap. To accomplish this, certain interior changes must be made, but most importantly, an elevator addition must be constructed which is the crux of our hardship. The District of Columbia Zoning law states in essence:

BZA
Case No. 16742
Exhibit No. 3

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16742
EXHIBIT NO.3

> "When a structure is on a corner lot in a zoning district which requires a side yard and rear yard, the rear yard is determined by the one with the greatest distance or in more compliance with the requirement leved by the Zoning Code".

In our case, the building sets back from the alley is 15 feet and 22 feet from the west property line. Thus, the west side of our structure and not the alley side, becomes our rear yard. Accordingly, our hardship is, there is absolutely no other location on the site to construct an elevator whereby the immobile and physically handicap may gain access to the entire structure, but on the west side of the building. Obviously, this cannot be done as a matter "right" but can only be done as a matter "privilege" granted by the Board of Zoning Appeal. Therefore, the Reverend Robert B. Hunter, Rector, Officers and Members would mot fervently appreciate relief from this hardship by your favorable consideration in this matter of grant his variance.

Respectfully submitted,

W. Jerome McGee
President

WJMcG:ylt