GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 5C

680 RHODE ISLAND AVENUE, N.E., SUITE H-4
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20002

TELEPHONE: 832-1965/1966 - FAX: 832-1969

November 6, 2001

Mr. Geoffrey Griffis, Acting Chairperson
Government of the District of Columbia
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, N.W., Suite 220
Washington, D.C. 20001

Attention: Sheri M. Pruitt, Secretary

RE: Application 16787 – of Lorraine Wilson, pursuant to 11 DCMR 3103.2 for a use variance under Section 2101.1 to operate an "Inn" in the R-4 District at premises 2415 and 2417 1st Street, N.W. (Square 3127, Lots 51 and 52).

Dear Acting Chairperson Griffis:

This letter is written to formally and respectfully request that the Board of Zoning Adjustment for the District of Columbia waive the "seven day filing requirement for written reports from ANC's" pursuant to 11 DCMR 3307.1, in order that the attached report may become a part of the official record in connection with the above-referenced case.

Please note that Application 16787 was heard and considered by ANC 5C on October 16, 2001 -- the date of our regularly scheduled monthly meeting. Unfortunately, ANC 5C does not have a staff person to reduce its comments to writing and to submit them to regulatory bodies such as the Board of Zoning Adjustment. For this reason, by and large, the responsibility is assumed by myself, the chairperson of the Commission. In my particular situation, the extensive press of pre-existing and competing professional as well as personal responsibilities, essentially, precluded me from preparing and transmitting the attached report to you before today's date. Hence, it is necessary that we make the instant request for a waiver of the seven day filing requirement for the submission of written reports from ANC's.

We thank you in advance for your favorable response to our request for a waiver of the seven day filing requirement for written reports from ANC's; indeed, we trust that the attached report will be given a chance to receive the "great weight" to which it is entitled.

Yours truly,

James D. Berry, Jr.
Chairperson

JDB

BZA
Case No. 16787
Exhibit No. 29

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16787
EXHIBIT NO.29

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Dear Acting Chairperson Griffis:

I write on this occasion to inform you that the officers and members of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 5C (ANC 5C) met on October 16, 2001 to consider, among other important issues, the above-referenced application. In this regard, it is important to note that timely and proper notice was given to the public concerning this regularly scheduled monthly meeting, held at the Paul Laurence Dunbar Senior High School, 1301 New Jersey Avenue, N.W., and it should also be indicated that a quorum of our membership was present at the time that this issue was discussed with the Mr. Edward Johnson et al. and subsequently voted upon by the body.

In brief, the officers and members of ANC 5C voted unanimously to support the application of Lorraine Wilson to operate an "Inn" in the R-4 District at premises 2415 and 2417 1st Street, N.W. (Square 3127, Lots 51 and 52). Indeed, we join the members of the Bloomingdale Civic Association, Inc. in this regard.

Our reasons for supporting the applicant's request for special relief from the Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) are several. Of primary importance is our understanding that the functional equivalent of an "Inn" has been operating at this location for the past number of years without any disruption that has become known and/or is apparent to us. Secondly, the applicant has apparently made special provisions for off-street parking that seem sufficient to accommodate the maximum number of guests who would be visiting the facility at any given point in time. Thirdly, we are not aware of any traffic, parking, trash nor other concern emanating from these properties that would make their continued existence and operations in the community, objectionable.

Please note that the Commissioner representing the Single Member District in which the subject premises are located, Ms. Gwen Southerland, conducted a couple of site visits (both announced and unannounced) to the facility and also conducted an informal, random survey of residents of the area immediately surrounding the proposed "Inn." In this connection, it is Commissioner Southerland's best judgment that the proposed "Inn" exists within a wholesome and productive neighborhood environment in the Bloomingdale community and that it appears to "blend" into this environment, well. Finally, at the time that our vote on this issue was taken, it is our understanding that no one had been in contact with the BZA to express an objection to granting the applicant the requested special relief and consideration that will bring the current operation of the "Inn" into compliance with District of Columbia Law.

In light of the preceding, ANC 5C supports the application of Lorraine Wilson to operate an "Inn" in an R-4 District at premises 2415 and 2417 1st Street, N.W.

Sincerely,

James D. Berry, Jr.
Chairperson

cc: Members, ANC 5C
Cleopatra F. Jones, President, Bloomingdale Civic Association, Inc.

JDB

Fax Transmission

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Telephone: (202) 832-1965/Fax: (202) 832-1969

TO: Sheri M. Pruitt, Secretary
Board of Zoning Adjustment

Acting Chairperson Geoffrey Griffis
Board of Zoning Adjustment

DATE: 9/26/2001

FAX NO.: (202) 727-6072

PAGES: 4, including this cover sheet.

FROM: James D. Berry, Jr.
Chairperson

SUBJECT: Application 16787 – of Lorraine Wilson, pursuant to 11 DCMR 3103.2 for a use variance under Section 2101.1 to operate an "Inn" in the R-4 District at premises 2415 and 2417 1st Street, N.W. (Square 3127, Lots 51 and 52).

COMMENTS:

Transmitted, herewith, is a formal request for a waiver of the seven day filing requirement for written reports from ANC's, as well as the actual report that ANC 5C would like to file in connection with the above referenced application We hope and pray that you will grant our request for a waiver, in order that the findings of our report in the matter may be given "great weight."

cc: Members of ANC 5C
Cleopatra F. Jones, Bloomingdale Civic Association, Inc.

JDB