Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A
Zoning and Licensing Subcommittee
618 19th Street NE
Washington DC 20002
Chair Commissioner Gregory J. Ferrell
E-mail Ferrell56 @A0L.Com
Telephone 388-4732 Cellular 997-0667

RECEIVED
D.C. OFFICE OF ZONING
2002 JAN 22 AM 8:38

January 19, 2002

Mr. Geoffrey H Griffis
Chair of the Board of Zoning and Adjustment
441 4th Street NW Suite #212

VIA FAX

RE: BZA Application No 16818

Dear Chair:

On December 12, 2001, at 900 G Street NE, eight of the eleven members of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A Zoning and Licensing Sub Committee attended our monthly Sub Committee meeting and convened at 7:00 pm.

With a constituted quorum of eight members, the sub committee heard from Mr. Robert Simon III who presented his case in support of the application for a special exception to operate a community center on the second floor at the premises located at 518 10th Street NE (square 936, Lot 52) in a R-4 district.

The location of the building has been used as a training center for boxers for over 40 years. Notwithstanding, the inappropriate zoning designation, the previous owner of the training center maintained his operations without impeding on the well being of the surrounding community during the course of 40 years.

BZA
Case No. 16818
Exhibit No. 26

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16818
EXHIBIT NO.26

Jan 19 02 10:43p Gregory Ferrell 202 388-4723 p.1

It was noted that the applicant is seeking a special exception for the second floor where the training center is located and not the entire building. Mr. Simon indicated that he will have operational hours from 6:30 am until 8:00 pm and would have only three to four staff members. Currently there is off street parking on the premise to accommodate four to five vehicles. Mr. Simon also represented to the sub committee that his intention is to arrange a meeting with the new charter school, which is within walking distance from the training center if additional parking is needed. However in 41 years there have never been any problems with parking for patrons of this establishment.

Mr. Simon stated that training sessions are approximately 90 minutes and his facility would only have a very few vehicles using public parking within the designated Zone parking requirements for Ward Six residents.

There was no opposition to the application and the sub committee members voted unaniously to recommend to the full ANC to support the application, noting that the second floor is the only portion of the premises seeking the special exception. Members of the sub committee commended Mr. Simon for his desire to continue on with the use of this very historic landmark that has been the training site for World Boxing Champions and Olympic medal winners. Pugilist such as Mohammed Ali, Sugar Ray Robinson, Bobby Foster, Johnny Gant, Sugar Ray Leonard and many others trained at this site.

The Sub-Committee directed Mr. Simon to appear before the full ANC on January 3, 2002 at 7:00 pm. However, the ANC was unable to convene due to a communication oversight between the staff at Miner Elementary School where we hold our monthly meetings and our ANC resulting in the re-scheduling of our meeting.

Mr. Simon was present January 3, 2002 but unable to present his case due to the oversight. Commissioner Daniel Pernell III the newly elected Vice Chairman for ANC 6A is designated to speck on behalf of the ANC in this matter. Due to a conflicting schedule I am unable to attend the hearing.

At the discretion of the BZA to ameliorate this oversight our ANC would be amicable to having this matter before our full ANC in order to provide the applicant the opportunity to have the great weight consideration requirements of law satisfied before the BZA votes on this matter.

Sincerely

Gregory J. Ferrell
Chair ANC 6A Zoning and Licensing Sub Committee