District of Columbia Government
ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 6A
Vice Chairman, *Daniel M. Pernell, III*
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January 22, 2002

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District of Columbia Government
Board of Zoning and Adjustment
Attention, Mr. Geoffrey H. Griffis
441 4th Street NW Suite #200
Washington, D.C. 20001

RE: BZA Application No 16818, "Arman Brick" *pursuant to 11 DCMR 3104.1 for a special exception for a community centert (boxing training) under section 209 in a R-4 District at premises (second floor) 518 10Th., Street, N. E. in (square 936, Lot 52).*

Dear Members of the BZA:

My name is Commissioner, Daniel M. Pernell, III of Ward 6 and the newly elected Vice Chairman of the 6A Commission.

On December 12, 2001, the ANC 6A held a Zoning and Licensing meeting at Capitol Towel Apartment at 900 G., Street, N. E. with eight of the eleven members present. Those members constituted a quorum. Mr. Robert Simon III, representative of the application presented his application for 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 an R-4 district.

The location of the building has been used as a training center for "Amateur and Professional Boxers" or for any individual interest for more than 40 years. The previous owner of the training center maintained and operated the existing site without impeding on the well being of the surrounding community during the course of 40 years.

Let be 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 his hours of operation are between hours from 6:30 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. and that there will be three or four staff members available on the site. Presently there has been a concern with off street parking on the premise to accommodate for four or five vehicles. As the Vice Chairman, I had the opportunity to talk, to the manager of the 10Th., Street Auto Repair Shop which is located below the Gym Center Mr. Mark Holt and he confirmed to me, that Mr. Robert Simon and his staff would be able to use the available parking space during the mornings hours between 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. and evenings hours between 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

BZA
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Exhibit No. 32

Board of Zoning Adjustment
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CASE NO.16818
EXHIBIT NO.32

Mr. Simon also mentions a Charter School within walking distance of the boxing gym and agrees to arrange a meeting with the school if additional parking is needed. For more than 41 years, that the gym has been there. There have never been any problems with parking for the patrons of the 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.

During the Zoning and License meeting there was no opposition to the applicant and the sub committee members voted unanimously to recommend to the full ANC 6A to support the application, noting that the second floor is the only portion of the premise seeking the special exception. Both a member of Stanton Park Neighbor Association and the Single Member ANC were present and posed no opposition. 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 6A on January 3, 2002, at 7:00 p.m. However, the 6A ANC's were unable to convene due to a communication oversight between the staff at Miner Elementary School where 6A hold our monthly meetings and our ANC resulting in the rescheduling of later meeting.

Mr. Simon was present January 3, 2002 but unable to present his case due to the oversight. As the newly elected Vice Chairman of the ANC 6A I was designated to speck on behalf of the ANC 6A in this matter. Due to a busy schedule, Chairman of the Z and L Commissioner, Gregory Ferrell, is unable to attend this hearing.

Members of the Board, after the January17, 2002, meeting of the whole and heard no opposition from my colleagues concerning this particular application and presently here as the newly elected Vice Chairman of the ANC 6A. I recommenced that the applicant and their application for special exception for a community center to be approved.

Thank you:



Vice Chairman, Daniel M. Pernell, III
Vice Chairman of the ANC 6A Commission