16970

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TESIMONY OF DOROTHY RICH
Case 16970 / Hearing Nov. 4, 2003

I am unable to appear because of a previously scheduled work commitment out of town.

Please enter the testimony below into the record. Thank you.

D Rich

Notes from Dorothy Rich, resident and property owner , 3301 Newark St. NW, Washington, DC.

I have been a resident of DC since 1958 and owner of my current home at 3301 Newark St, at the corner of 33rd Place and Newark, since 1968. I am a longtime worker in education , with programs in parent involvement and special education in DC and beyond. For this work I have been recognized as a Washingtonian of the Year. In short, I know about and support good education and as a former Board member of NCRC, I am in support of its work in education.

At first, when NCRC proposed its 10 student expansion, I was reluctant to oppose its efforts. But, it became clear that what is proposed cannot be just for 10 new students, but what could well become a large new building for a variety of wide-scale teacher training and conference needs.

I am not opposed to teacher training and conferencing. This is what I do. But NCRC is a small school embedded a residential neighborhood. It is not located on a major thoroughfare. My front corner is part of its thoroughfare.

When NCRC is in session and without my own driveway, I often have to seek a parking space far from my own doorway, lugging groceries and materials for my work.

I believe in sustainable change and service to the community and student needs. What I have suggested and suggest again is that NCRC grow , if growth is needed, by expansion into satellite centers. This is what other schools do when they grow and it makes sense for NCRC.

As an NCRC Board member in the late 1960's , I was instrumental in establishing its first programs for handicapped students from the neighborhood and beyond. I am pleased to see this continuation by NCRC of its efforts to meet the needs of many and diverse students. I will trust that NCRC continues this commitment.

If the BZA supports the terms of the current NCRC expansion it will not only change the nature of the school but the nature of the community which has been very supportive over the years of the school and of the District of Columbia.

Thank you.

Dorothy Rich / 202-362-7889

Dr. Dorothy Rich

11/02/03

BZA
Case No. 16970
Exhibit No. 271

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16970
EXHIBIT NO.271