JEFFREY BLOUNT . 4420 HAWTHORNE ST., NW WASHINGTON, DC 20016

Mr. Geoffrey Griffis,Chair
District of Columbia Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, NW
Suite 210
Washington, DC 20001

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2002 DEC -9 PM 4:10

Dear Mr. Griffis:

There is an old home in Cleveland Park. Inside, our future is being attended to. It is being nurtured, challenged, and warmly grounded. Inside NCRC, good citizens are being helped to grow. I can speak to this because both of my children are former NCRC students. The school played a tremendous part in their love of learning and their notion of how to coexist in our society. The lessons learned there are have proven invaluable to my children individually and to our family as a whole.

Inside the old home there is also a binder, which protects the footprint of a formidable curriculum. It's value lies in the way that it brings together children from all different backgrounds, of varying economic circumstances and educational needs. With a low teacher to student ratio, the curriculum is brought to each child in an incredible hands on learning experience provided by a very professional group of teachers and support staff. But curriculums, like children, do tend to grow. NCRC has been in need of space for some time now. Among the issues being faced are children working on motor skills in the library and staff members having limited meeting space for themselves and for meeting with parents. The school would like to add to the property a carriage house, which would add two new classrooms and a larger room underneath for physical education and large community meetings. The school would also like to make renovations to the existing structure. I have viewed the latest plans and find them to be nicely done and in keeping with the existing structure. I applaud them for meeting with neighbors, parents and parents of alumni in order to assess the impact such restructuring would have on the community. I applaud them for listening and adapting their plans in an attempt to come up with a design that would be acceptable to all parties.

NCRC is a very special institution, which is there to take care of children. I have two schools in my neighborhood and I do understand the concerns of people who live near them. But of all the institutions that could possibly appear in a neighborhood, a preschool seems to me the least offensive. The one kind of institution worthy of sacrifice from any community.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Blount

BZA
Case No. 16970
Exhibit No. 46

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16970
EXHIBIT NO.46