LINDA FREES
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1 August 2007

Ms. Jerrily Kress, Director
D. C. Office of Zoning
441 4th Street, N.W. (Suite 210 South)
Washington, D. C. 20001

Mr. Asher Corson, Chair, ANC 2A
c/o West End Library
1101 24th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20037

Good Morning:

RE: Restaurant @ The River Inn Hotel
924 25th Street, N.W.

APPEAL #16984

The River Inn is – and has been for over a year – in violation of your order regarding the restaurant windows which front on 25th Street. Do not put the neighborhood off again by claiming lack of time or inspectors to enforce your rulings. This is important and surely you cannot condone a blatant disregard of your work.

By vote 13 May 2003 of the BZA, the owner of the River Inn attested that renovation plans would provide "no greater visibility of the restaurant than what existed before the renovation." The previous Zoning order required that "no part of the commercial adjunct or the entrance to the adjunct (i.e. the restaurant) shall be visible from a sidewalk." In total violation, the new folding windows installed subsequently (which are opened when the mood strikes the restaurant, forcing noise upon the neighborhood) are a blatant violation of the Zoning order. Furthermore, the slated blinds which would have prevented visibility from the sidewalk are perpetually drawn up three-quarters of the way thereby not only insuring violation of your ruling but doing so in a most insolent manner. The renovated landscaping installed which hugs the ground in replacement of a 3-foot hedge also encourages visibility from the sidewalk.

ANC 2A supported the neighborhood position in 2002/3 but the Office of Zoning's lack of enforcement has been demeaning to us. I request enforcement action now.

Sincerely,

Linda Frees

Linda Frees

BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 16984
EXHIBIT NO. 49

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