ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 1B
GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
COLUMBIA HEIGHTS / LEDROIT PARK / SHAW / UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

1B01 Lawrence T. Guyot, Jr.
1B02 Philip C. Spalding
1B03 Catherine Hammonds
1B04 Deborah R. Thomas
1B05 Jarvis Houston
1B06 Theodore "Ted" Butler
1B07 Sertira "Cookie" A. Wilson
1B08 Charles E. Glover
1B09 Sinclair "Nupe" Skinner
1B10 Kelvin P. Esters
1B11 Raymond Wright

9 November 2003

Geoffrey Griffis, Chairperson
Board of Zoning Adjustment
Office of Zoning, Suite 210
441 4th Street NW
Washington, DC 20001

2003 NOV 17 PM 1:45
D.C. OFFICE OF ZONING

RE: BZA Case No. 17080
Asian American LEAD

Dear Chairperson Griffis:

At its regularly scheduled meeting on November 6, 2003 (notice of which was properly given, and at which a quorum of seven of eleven members was present) ANC1B voted unanimous support (7-0-0) for the application of Asian American LEAD for special exception to allow establishment of a community center in the R4 district at 1323 Girard Street NW. Single member district Commissioner Charles Glover gave full support to the proposed renovation and reuse of the building at 1323 Girard Street, and the Commission unanimously delegated Commissioner Philip Spalding to represent ANC1B before the Board on this application.

ANC1B believes that AALEAD's application fulfills all of the requirements of DCMR 11, 334 in adapting use as a community center in an R4 district. AALEAD is a listed 501(C)3 organization and fully compliant with the demands of 334.5. AALEAD is organized to promote the well being of a targeted community located within the District and Columbia Heights community as required in 334.1. From the design and expected activities of the proposed community center, ANC1B believes that the new use will not become objectionable to neighboring properties. While the Asian American community is scattered throughout the District, a demographic concentration is present in the Columbia Heights community, and as specified in 334.4 the proposed center on Girard Street would be convenient to the targeted population. ANC1B did not question applicant on structural changes, however, architectural and building changes were not specified in the current application. We have seen architectural renderings of the proposed center and do not feel that they should trigger the restrictions in 334.3. If structural changes arise in the renovation of the property and come before the Board, ANC1B will be willing to vote on these matters when presented.

ANC1B is pleased to recommend passage of AALEAD's application for special exception, and asks the Board to give great weight to our enthusiastic support.

Sincerely,

Deborah R. Thomas, Chairperson

Philip C. Spalding, Secretary
Box 73710, Washington, DC 20056

CC: AALEAD
Councilmember Jim Graham

BZA
Case No. 17080
Exhibit No. 22

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 17080
EXHIBIT NO. 22