Maret / Pleadings

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT

Application No. 16313 of The Maret School, pursuant to 11 DCMR 3108.1 and 3107.2 for a special exception under Section 206 and a variance from the required size of a parking space (Section 2115) to allow alteration, repair and additions to an existing private school in an R-1-B District at premises 3000 Cathedral Avenue, N.W. (Square 2133, Lot 843).

HEARING DATE: March 4, 1998
DECISION DATE: March 4, 1998 (Bench Decision)

CORRECTED SUMMARY ORDER*

*This order corrects Condition No. 3 related to the total square footage of the addition. The corrected portion is asterisked on page 2.

The Board provided proper and timely notice of public hearing on this application by publication in the D.C. Register, and by mail to Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 3-C and to owners of property within 200 feet of the site.

The site of this application is located within the jurisdiction of ANC 3C. ANC 3C, which is automatically a party to this application, submitted a written statement in support of the application, with conditions.

As directed by 11 DCMR Section 3324.2, the Board has required the applicant to satisfy the burden of proving the elements which are necessary to establish the case for a special exception pursuant to 11 DCMR Section 206. The Board has also required the applicant to satisfy the burden of proving the elements that are necessary to establish the case for a variance from the strict application of the requirements of 11 DCMR 2115.2. No person or entity appeared at the public hearing in opposition to the application. Accordingly, a decision by the Board to grant this application would not be adverse to any party.

Based upon the record before the Board, the Board concludes that the applicant has met the burden of proof, pursuant to 11 DCMR 3108, that the requested relief can be granted as being in harmony with the general purpose and intent of the Zoning Regulations and Map. The Board also concludes that granting the requested relief will not tend to affect adversely the use of neighboring property in accordance with the Zoning Regulations and Map.

Based upon the record before the Board, the Board further concludes that the applicant has met the burden of proof, pursuant to 11 DCMR 3107, that there exists an exceptional or

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extraordinary situation or condition related to the property which creates an undue hardship for the owner in complying with the Zoning Regulations, and that the requested relief can be granted without substantial detriment to the public good and without substantially impairing the intent, purpose, and integrity of the zone plan as embodied in the Zoning Regulations and Map. It is therefore **ORDERED** that this application be **GRANTED, SUBJECT** to the following **CONDITIONS:**

1. Construction shall be in accordance with plans marked as Exhibit No. 11 of the record, except as modified by these conditions.

2. The applicant shall have up to two years to apply for a building permit for Phase I of the project. The applicant shall have up to ten years to apply for a building permit for Phase II of the project.

3. With regard to the Academic Center (Phase II): The building shall be a maximum of 40 feet in height; there shall be no roof structures; there shall be three stories of which the lowest is partially below grade (varying with the topography) plus a basement; the building shall completely replace the existing Lower School building and shall be located as shown on the school's site plan; and the addition shall be no larger than 42,000* square feet total (FAR and non-FAR space).

4. ANC 3-C shall have the right to comment on the architectural design of the addition to the Academic Center (Phase II) before the applicant proceeds with obtaining city approvals for the addition.

5. The design of the Implement Building shall be flexible. The design may be revised to be consistent with the determinations of the Historic Preservation Review Board.

6. The existing curb cut on Cathedral Avenue at the western end of the site shall be retained in its present general location to the extent permitted by the Department of Public Works.

7. For each construction phase, the applicant shall work with the residents of the neighboring streets to limit construction crossings or curb cuts, maintain cleanliness on public streets and limit construction traffic.

8. The applicant shall provide a total of 135 parking spaces. Up to 75 percent of the parking spaces may be compact-sized spaces, provided that there is a corresponding reduction in surface parking area.

9. Parking surfaces to be created along the driveway and under the drip line of existing trees shall be of pervious material for the benefit of the trees and/or to permit grass to grow.

10. In an effort to limit all-day student parking on neighborhood streets, the applicant shall support the efforts of th the ANC to restrict on-street parking through Residential Parking Permits, time limitations, or other adequate means.

11. The applicant shall work in good faith with neighbors to provide and maintain an adequate landscape buffer to adjacent properties and to resolve any drainage problem that may arise (now or in the future) from the Maret property.

12. The maximum number of students shall not exceed 600, and the number of faculty and staff shall not exceed 125. The applicant shall provide enrollment and staffing figures to the ANC upon request.

13. The cottage which is to be relocated, shall be maintained in good condition.

14. The applicant shall maintain its property fronting on Garfield Street in a clean and orderly manner.

15. The applicant shall use its best efforts to prevent its students from congregating in the neighborhood to "hang out" or smoke.

Pursuant to 11 DCMR Section 3301.1, the Board has determined to waive the requirement of 11 DCMR Section 3331.3 that the order of the Board be accompanied by findings of fact and conclusions of law. The waiver will not prejudice the rights of any party, and is appropriate in this case.

VOTE: **3-0** (Betty King, Sheila Cross Reid and Susan Morgan Hinton to grant; Laura M. Richards not present, not voting.)

BY ORDER OF THE D.C. BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT

ATTESTED BY: Madeliene H. Dobbins

MADELIENE H. DOBBINS
Director

FINAL DATE OF ORDER: APR 3 1998

PURSUANT TO D.C. CODE SEC. 1-2531 (1987), SECTION 267 of D.C. LAW 2-38, THE HUMAN RIGHTS ACT OF 1977, THE APPLICANT IS REQUIRED TO COMPLY FULLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF D.C. LAW 2-38, AS AMENDED, CODIFIED AS D.C. CODE,

TITLE 1, CHAPTER 25 (1987), AND THIS ORDER IS CONDITIONED UPON FULL COMPLIANCE WITH THOSE PROVISIONS. THE FAILURE OR REFUSAL OF APPLICANT TO COMPLY WITH ANY PROVISIONS OF D.C. LAW 2-38, AS AMENDED, SHALL BE A PROPER BASIS FOR THE REVOCATION OF THIS ORDER.

UNDER 11 DCMR 3103.1, "NO DECISION OR ORDER OF THE BOARD SHALL TAKE EFFECT UNTIL TEN DAYS AFTER HAVING BECOME FINAL PURSUANT TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL RULES OF PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE BEFORE THE BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT."

THIS ORDER OF THE BOARD IS VALID FOR A PERIOD OF TWO YEARS, AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDER, UNLESS WITHIN SUCH PERIOD AN APPLICATION FOR A BUILDING PERMIT OR CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY IS FILED WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS.

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