Exhibit 7

Amazing Life Games
1844 MINTWOOD PLACE, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20009
202/265-0114

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4C
Jacqueline Mitchell
1314 Decatur Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20011

February 27, 2004

Dear Ms.Mitchell:
We feel that we would be an asset to the community if you would support our request to the D.C. Board of Zoning Adjustment for a special exception to locate Amazing Life Games Preschool at 1309 Farragut Street. We hope to contribute to the community there as we have for decades at 1844 Mintwood Place.

History

Our preschool has been in operation since 1972, when it began at a church at 16th and Taylor Streets and later at our current location at 1844 Mintwood. In 1992, we became a cooperative, which has been wonderful for the school. Most parents work in the classroom two days a month, allowing them to know the children, experience working with the staff and understand better how the school functions. For parents, children and staff, the school is like an extended family.

Philosophy

Amazing Life Games' main goal is to help the children learn social skills. When individual conflicts arise, children are encouraged to tell one another what they want and to describe their feelings. Then they're guided in arriving at their own solutions. Broader issues that affect the whole group are handled in large circle discussions. All of the staff members are gentle, but firm, and respectful in assisting children and in problem solving. Children are encouraged to be independent within the structure of the school. We also place a high premium on creative play with a special teacher, Oran Sandel, who helps us improve our ability to play with each other. Oran has 30 years of experience in improvisational theater with Living Stage and other local theaters. We feel that through imaginative play children learn to be part of a loose team and their imagination and cooperation are fed. In the two years we normally have students, we like to see them progress in this way: At first, getting what they want is the most important thing for them. Later, as they become more involved in playing with other children, keeping the play going becomes the most important thing. ALG actively seeks children and staff from diverse ethnic, racial, and religious backgrounds.

BZA
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Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
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Staff

Our staff has been with us a long time: myself, Pickett Craddock, since 1972, and Jose Rivera since 1980, Natasha Nenadovic since 1999 and Allan Moran since 1995. Both our staff and the parent coopers would accompany us to the new site for classroom activities. Our child-to-staff ratio this year was 5 children to one staff from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., when we have 20 children, and 7:1 from 1:00 to 3, when we have a maximum of 14 children, and 4:1 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., when we have four children. We plan to continue a similar ratio next year. We will meet the DCMR 29 Chapter 3 Child Development Facilities section 316.1 requirement, which calls for an 8:1 ratio for the city.

Code and Licensing Requirements

We are licensed by the city and accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), meeting the high standards of both. Currently we have 20 children at a time in 1844 Mintwood Place and plan to have 28 children at 1309 Farragut Street. We will meet the city's requirement of 35 sq. ft. per child for a total of 980 sq. ft., which we have on the first and second floor (section 328.3). In order to use the second floor for children, we will have a dedicated staircase which has an outside door and emergency lights and is enclosed with fire doors (DC Construction Code Supplement 1999, single exit converted stories, Table 3604.1.2). The whole stair area will have a one-hour flame retardant rating. There needs to be a second entrance to the basement, which we will put in. We will have pull stations by each exit with horn strobes. We will have a fire suppression system over the stove in the kitchen because we do cooking projects.

As required, we will put in two more toilets and sinks on the first floor in a room which is currently a pantry (section 329.1). The adult toilet will be in the basement. The second floor toilet will be repaired and functioning with a step provided for the children (section 329.2). We plan to put in a short fence in the front to separate our yard from the neighbors so our children will not intrude on the neighbors' yards. We plan to grade away from the house on the west side so that water will go in the drain that is already there and not in the basement.

Typical Day

On an average day, staff arrives at 8:30 a.m. and parents drop off their children between 8:45 and 9:30 a.m.. There is an art project on the art table when children arrive, and they may do that or listen to a book, play legos or work a puzzle in the blue room. They may choose the big room with the house corner or build with blocks or trains. About 10:00, the art project is put away and children are encouraged to get their lunches(which they bring to school in lunch boxes), wash their hands and have a snack. They may choose to go to the toilet before snack or after. Next, everyone gets on coats and we walk to the park, where we play outside for an hour to an hour and a half. When we get back from the park, everyone washes hands, diapers are changed, and children are encouraged to eat lunch. Children are free to play in the three rooms until 12:30, when we have a circle time in the big room. We talk about what month it is and our focus for the month and other things of interest to everyone, sing a song, and then the 1 o'clockers are picked

up. The cooping parent goes home at 1:30, one staff member leaves at 1 p.m. and two staff stay with 14 children. The afternoons are less active, with stories, playdo or games. One staff member may take 7 children in the backyard to plant flowers, play in sand or pretend to be on a rocket ship to the moon. At 2:30 there is another time to wash hands and have last call for lunch. Often there is a story at lunch time. Then the 3 o'clockers get ready to go home. Currently there are 3 or 4 children who stay until 6 p.m. with one staff member. We could legally have 8 children but we haven't had more than 6. They go to the bathroom and settle down for an hour's nap. The children wake slowly and in good weather, parent pick-up is at the park, and in the winter it is at the school. Some parents pick up at 4:30, some at 5:00 and some at 6:00. Two days a week we have special teachers; music and improvisation in the morning and we also take field trips about once a month.

Use of 1309 Farragut Street

At 1309 Farragut Street we would have an active play room on each floor, a quiet play room on each floor, an art/lunch room on each floor and bathrooms on each floor. The kitchen for cooking projects would be on the first floor. We plan to use the Hamilton Street Playground during the morning and the West School playground in the late afternoon. We plan to walk to Hamilton Park through the alley and only cross one street, Gallatin, to get there.

Community Focus

We are immersed in the Adams Morgan community. At 1844 Mintwood Place, where we back onto Kalorama Park, we have been very involved with the neighborhood in park renovations and maintenance. We participated in work days at the park and helped plan the playground. One of our staff has been on the Kalorama Park Advisory Board for eight years. We also have a good working relationship with Earl Johnson, who heads the recreation program there. Often the school makes lunch for Christ House, an outpatient treatment center for the homeless on Columbia Road. We have also made supper for the homeless shelter at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. In addition, we visit the fire department and learn about fire safety annually.

As a small school, our daily operations will not have an adverse effect on the neighborhood. Instead, we will fulfill a community need for a child development center.

Pickett Craddock

Pickett Craddock
Director
Amazing Life Games Preschool