Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B
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May 27, 2005

Jerrily R. Kress, FAIA
Director
District of Columbia Office of Zoning
441 4th Street, NW
Suite 210-South
Washington, DC 20001-2714

Geoffrey Griffis
Chairperson
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, NW
Suite 210-South
Washington, DC 20001-2714

RE: Case Number 17330

Director Kress and Chairperson Griffis:

Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 4B is pleased to provide you with the following report concerning the above-mentioned Case Number:

At 7:00pm on Thursday, April 28, 2005, ANC 4B convened its April Public Meeting at the Omega Gospel Center, located at 6210 Chillum Place, NW. Proper notice of said meeting was in accordance with the Code of the District of Columbia: Division I: Title 1: Chapter 3: Subchapter V: Part A, 1-309.11(c).

The roll call of the ANC 4B Commissioners, with six (6) out of nine (9) Commissioners present, established that a quorum of ANC 4B existed; accordingly, the Commission, in the course of this meeting, considered Case No. 17330 – an application for Special Exception in Area Variance – filed before the Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) on March 28, 2005, seeking to allow the construction of a one-story rear addition to the residence of Alexander and Trenita Davis, located at 7435 8th Street, NW (Square 3178, Lot No. 106).

Through their Authorized Agent, Stephen W. Gell, Mr. and Mrs. Davis presented documentation concerning this application, which was forwarded to ANC 4B by Director Kress and which provided the following information:

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 17330
EXHIBIT NO. 26
BZA
Case No. 17330
Exhibit No. 26

1) Detailed schemata of the proposed addition from the firm of Scott W. Sterl, AIA, PLLC;
2) A petition signed by seventeen (17) of the Davis' neighbors in support of Application No. 17330; and
3) Information affirming that this application is in compliance with:
    a) Zoning Regulations 223.1, 404.2 and 3104.1; and
    b) Sections 306.2(g), 1508.1(6) (of the Ward 4 Plan), 1509.1(b) (2), and 1509.3 of the Comprehensive Plan Amendment Act of 1998.

Upon reviewing the above-mentioned data, the Commissioners of ANC 4B voted seven (7) to zero (0) to adopt the following resolution in support of Application No. 17330:

RESOLVED: The Commissioners of ANC 4B support the application for Special Exception in Area Variance, allowing for the construction of a one-story rear addition at 7435 8th Street, NW, as described in BZA Case No. 17330. Pursuant to DCMR Title 11, 3115.1(g-h), ANC 4B furthermore authorizes Commissioner Doug Payton, Jr., in whose SMD, 4B01, the affected residence is located, to present to the BZA the report of ANC 4B regarding this matter.

To support, further, this report, ANC 4B has enclosed the Minutes of the April Public Meeting of ANC 4B, which the Commissioners of ANC 4B approved at the May Public Meeting of the Commission held on May 26, 2005 at the Emery Recreation Center, 5701 Georgia Avenue, NW.

Should the Office of Zoning or the Board of Zoning Adjustment require further information or clarification concerning this application, this report or both, please contact Commissioner Doug Payton, Jr., Executive Secretary of ANC 4B, on 202.291.6185 or via e-mail at dvanwormer@yahoo.com.

Sincerely yours,

Judi Jones
Chairperson, ANC 4B, SMD 4B01

Doug Payton, Jr. (Douglas Neil Payton Jr.)
Executive Secretary, ANC 4B, SMD 4B01

Enclosure

cc: Alexander & Trenita Davis
Stephen N. Gell
Scott W. Sterl
Adrian M. Fenty, Councilmember, Ward 4
Shirley Richardson, President, Concerned Neighbors, Inc.
ANC 4B Commissioners

Monthly 4B Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) Minutes
Thursday, April 28, 2005, 7:00pm
Omega Gospel Center
6210 Chillum Place, NW
Washington, DC 20011-1402

Minutes of the Meeting:

1. Chairperson Judi Jones called the Meeting to order.

2. Acting Secretary Doug Payton conducted the Roll Call – All Commissioners were present, except for Commissioners Pat Kidd, Wesley Hickman and Michael Burke, the last of whom arrived late. This Roll Call established a quorum of the Commissioners of ANC 4B.

3. Acting Secretary Doug Payton read the Minutes of the March Public Meeting of ANC 4B, which was held on March 24, 2005. The Commissioners of ANC 4B approved these minutes with minor changes after a motion by Treasurer Muriel Bowser and a second by Blondine Hughes.

4. Treasurer Muriel Bowser presented the Fiscal Year (FY) 2005 Financial Report for ANC 4B, which showed total disbursements of $9,867.92 with $38,158.09 and $41,370.03 as the respective Ending Balances for the Commission's Checking and Savings Accounts. Additionally, Treasurer Bowser remarked that she would present the Commission's Financial Report for the Second Quarter of FY 2005 at the May Public Meeting of ANC 4B.

5. In response to the absence of the Secretary Kidd, Chairperson Jones consulted Gottlieb Simon, Executive Director of the ANCs, in order to determine what steps the Commission could take to ensure continuity in ANC 4B's service to the community. Director Simon advised that Commissioner Jones, as Chairperson of the Commission, could appoint an Executive Secretary, whose term of service for the position of Executive Secretary would be at the discretion of the Chairperson and who would assume the duties of the Secretary of ANC 4B, as described in the By-Laws of ANC 4B, as amended on April 1, 2001 in Article V, Section 16. Accordingly, Chairperson Jones submitted Acting Secretary Doug Payton's name to ANC 4B for consideration. Following a motion by Commissioner Hughes, which Vice Chairperson Cherita Whiting seconded, the Commissioners voted to establish the position of Executive Secretary with Acting Secretary Doug Payton assuming the position by a vote of six (6) Commissioners in favor to zero (0) with one (1) abstention.

6. Allowing for questions from the Commissioners of ANC 4B and the audience, presentations from the Commission's guests commenced and included:
    a) Architect Eric Colbert and Bruce Levin, Representative of Centex Homes, who presented schemata of the proposed condominium at 7041 Blair Road, NW, the former site of B&B Caterers;
    b) Ed Reiskin, Deputy Mayor for Public Safety, who outlined Mayor Williams' Budget Proposal. Deputy Mayor Reiskin noted the May 10 vote on the Budget before the Council of the District of Columbia and urged community input on this matter; and
    c) Bonnie Hart-Johnson of PEPCO, Steve Jumper of Washington Gas and Laurence Jones, Public Policy Analyst of the DC Office of the People's Counsel, who participated in a question and answer discussion concerning utility rates and concerns.

7. ANC 4B Commission Business proceeded with:

    a) Application Number 17330 before the Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA), which is a request for a Special Exception in Area Variance, allowing the construction of a one-story rear addition at 7435 8th Street, NW, located in Single Member District (SMD) 4B01, represented by

Commissioner Payton. Commissioner Payton presented the following resolution concerning this matter:

RESOLVED: The Commissioners of ANC 4B support the application for Special Exception in Area Variance, allowing for the construction of a one-story rear addition at 7435 8th Street, NW, as described in BZA Case No. 17330. Pursuant to DCMR Title 11, 3115.1(g-h), ANC 4B furthermore authorizes Commissioner Doug Payton, Jr., in whose SMD, 4B01, the affected residence is located, to present to the BZA the report of ANC 4B regarding this matter.

Following a motion by Commissioner Payton, which Chairperson Jones seconded, the Commissioners of ANC 4B voted unanimously to support this resolution; and

b) Commissioner Faith Wheeler presented a resolution opposing the installation of a pay phone on public space in front of Szechuan House, also known as Grand China Carry-Out, located at 6925 Blair Road, NW. After some discussion among the Commissioners, Commissioners Wheeler and Jones with input from Commissioners Bowser and Payton presented the following resolution:

RESOLVED: The Commissioners of ANC 4B oppose the application to occupy Public Space for the purpose of operating a pay telephone at 6925 Blair Road, NW, in accordance with the ANC 4B moratorium on the installation of all pay phones in ANC 4B, which was unanimously adopted by a vote of ANC 4B on March 25, 2004.

Following a motion by Commissioner Payton, which Commissioner Hughes seconded, the Commissioners of ANC 4B voted unanimously to support this resolution.

8. Community Concerns & Announcements:

   a. Former ANC 4B Commissioner Mary Sanford raised her concerns that there had been no audit of ANC 4B since the mid-1990s. In response, Commissioner Hughes related her conversation with Lynard Barnum of the DC Auditor's Office, who told Commissioner Hughes that no audit of ANC 4B was scheduled for this year, adding that there was no problem with ANC 4B, given the Commission's uninterrupted receipt of the Quarterly Allotments;
   b. Resident Michael Sindram noted the lack of handicap ramps at the intersection of Georgia Avenue and Whittier Place, NW; questioned how low-income children could afford to pay the admission fees to the new Takoma Aquatic Center; and repeated his concerns about the Safeway located at Piney Branch Road and Georgia Avenue, NW, with the allegation that the store is levying approximately 5.75% on non-taxable items;
   c. Resident Andrew M. Thomas, Jr. of the Unit Block of Underwood Place, NW reported that there are still problems with water leaking on his street.
   d. Residents Karima and Jermaine Simmons of the 900 Block of Missouri Avenue, NW expressed their concerns about the trash in their neighborhood and the drug activity in their alley; and
   e. Several announcements were presented, including the March for Justice on May 5; the Hands-on-DC Clean-Up at Coolidge on May 7; the Friends of the Takoma Branch Library Book Sale on May 14; the announcement by Anita Hairston of the Office of Planning of the Ward 4 Focus Briefing of the Comprehensive Plan on June 2 at Emery Recreation Center. Furthermore, Commissioner Payton introduced Michael Tenbe, who will, this summer, open the new Internet café, Sullãno, which will occupy the newly remodeled building at the intersection of Blair Road and Cedar Street, NW.

9. Chairperson Judi Jones adjourned this Meeting of ANC 4B.

Respectfully Submitted,

Doug Payton (Douglas Neil Payton, Jr.)
SMD 4B01, Executive Secretary, ANC 4B