Testimony of Garret G. Rasmussen
Before the D.C. Zoning Commission

I am a resident of Georgetown, where I have lived since 1976. I am a user of the canal, a biker, a canoeist, a rower, and the parent of four children, all of whom love the Potomac, and one of whom rows on the St. Albans Crew. I am also an officer of the Combined Cathedral Crews Rowing Club. I am a member of the Potomac Boat Club and the Sycamore Island Club, further upstream. I love the Potomac and its environs, and I am an environmentalist.

I support the Georgetown Boat House for the following reasons:

- It will allow more high school students to become exposed to rowing and to the beauty of the Potomac River and nature. If the Georgetown Boat House is not built, space will not be available to accommodate the high school rowers, whose storage space will be lost when the Swedish Embassy starts construction.
- The Boat House has received the support of virtually every community group in Georgetown. It is hard to reach a consensus in Georgetown, and when it happens, as is the case here, it should be respected.
- The Boat House looks good and does not harm the environment or interfere with the bike path.
- It is better to have the Boat House near Key Bridge than on the site father upstream that Georgetown currently owns.
- The Geogetown Boat House is no more a misuse of public land than the Washington Canoe Club which adjoins it and is closed to the public.
- Tony Johnson and his rowers have been good citizens of the Georgetown community.

I am also authorized to report to you that the Crews of St. Albans and NCS, in which more than 50 students participate, support the Georgetown Boat House.

In sum, the Georgetown Boat House is in the public interest.

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO.02-30
EXHIBIT NO.290