



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B

November 23, 2015

Sara Bardin, Director
Office of Zoning
441 4th Street NW, Suite 200S
Washington, DC 20001

RE: Annual ANC Review of Zoning Variance for Spooky Action Theater at the
Universalist National Memorial Church

Dear Ms. Bardin:

At its regular meeting on November 10, 2015, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (“ANC 2B” or “Commission”) considered the above-referenced matter. With 8 of 9 Commissioners in attendance, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission adopted the following consent item:

Whereas in 2012, the Universalist National Memorial Church applied for a variance from the use provisions for theater performances on the basement level in the DC/R-5-B District at premises 1810 16th Street, N.W. (#18471);

Whereas in November 2012, ANC2B adopted a resolution supporting the variance with the following conditions:

- 1) Restrict to the front entrance of the Church all audience and staff coming to all public events held in the auditorium, whether sponsored by Spooky Action Theater or sponsored by the UNMC;
- 2) Restrict to the front entrance staff and performers coming to the Church for rehearsals or auditions;
- 3) Restrict to the front entrance audience, staff and performers who leave the building for smoking breaks or intermissions;
- 4) Exceptions to these restrictions are ADA access, which is best accomplished through the alley entrance, deliveries of materials and equipment, and emergency exit;
- 5) Limit attendance to productions by the theater renting space in the UNMC auditorium to 75, though other non-performance events sponsored by the theater or any event sponsored by the UNMC itself may use the full 225-person capacity of the auditorium; and
- 6) Remove the restriction on the number of performances that may be held during a one-year period.

Whereas the variance was granted with the ANC's conditions in place;

Whereas one additional condition of the special exception is that "The Church shall meet with the ANC annually to discuss any concerns and the need to implement any new mitigation measures;"

Whereas the Spooky Action Theater, which operates in the basement of the Church, has approached the ANC to discuss its annual obligation for meeting and discussion of concerns and whereas Commissioner Smith has spoken with several neighbors who do not have additional concerns about current operations, and who indicated that the above referenced conditions are being met.

Therefore be it RESOLVED that the Church has met its annual obligation to meet with the ANC and that ANC2B continues to appreciate the Church's and Theater's willingness to meet with and address concerns from neighbors.

Commissioner Noah Smith (noah.smith@dupontcircleanc.net) is the Commission's representative in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Noah Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "N".

Noah Smith
Chairman