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Approve zoning variance for the Meridian Hill Baptist Church development

Resolved, that ANC1D advises the Board of Zoning Adjustment to approve Application No. 18317, by Bozzuto Homes, Inc., on behalf of Meridian Hill Baptist Church.

Why: ANC1D finds no “substantial detriment to the public good” as a result of granting this variance.

The principal concern here has been the possibility of fire crossing the gap at the rear of this building to a planned apartment house on the opposite side of this gap. The spacing to the lot line, currently 5 feet, is to be expanded to 15 feet typical, 6 feet at the ground floor. Given the masonry, windowless structure of the ground-floor design, a stairwell for a parking garage, the possibility of a fire developing in this structure and spreading to the planned building across this enclosed alley is very low.

Passed by 4 to 0 vote, with one abstention, at the legally noticed, public meeting of ANC1D on January 17, 2012, with a quorum present. Voting “yes”: Commissioners McKay, Wilson Phelan, Scott, Terrell. Abstaining: Commissioners Romero-Castillo, Edwards.