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5-17-14  
submitted by  
Barbara Saperstone

***Alexandria City Council – May 17, 2014***

My name is Barbara/Stephen Saperstone and I am speaking for my wife/husband and myself. We own and reside at 100 ½ Duke St. The Carr Hotel project is about 50 feet from my house and I will see it through my front windows and each time I come out through my front door.

I have not spoken about this project before, because by the time our Waterford Place Homeowner Association was included in this conversation, we were informed that it was pretty much a done deal. The meetings that I attended did nothing to change that impression. At the last meeting I attended when I heard the vote of the BAR, I rethought my first impression and felt that our collective voices should be heard.

I have no objection to a boutique hotel – a small up-scale hotel of the kind represented by the Morrison. I do object to a hotel that resembles one of the Holiday Inn franchises. An additional concern of mine is the use of lower Duke St. as the “back door” to the hotel with delivery and maintenance trucks and garage entrance. A better location for this in and out traffic would be an alley from S. Union to the Strand between the Turner and Cummings properties where there are no homes. While an appropriately designed hotel may enhance the neighborhood, the use of Duke Street as the delivery point – a place I see and hear from the front of my house – definitely distracts from the view to the river and the beauty of where I live.

No matter what you decide about the design of the Carr Hotel, its construction can adversely impact the physical integrity of nearby homes. In particular, we ask the Council to require indemnification from Carr Hospitality against potential damage to our homes during the demolition and construction phases of the project. We request that Carr establish a baseline by assessing the current state of all neighboring homes so that any damage from the hotel construction can be validated.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my views today.

## SPEAKER'S FORM

DOCKET ITEM NO. 7

**PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND GIVE IT TO THE CITY CLERK  
BEFORE YOU SPEAK ON A DOCKET ITEM**

PLEASE ANNOUNCE THE INFORMATION SPECIFIED BELOW PRIOR TO SPEAKING.

1. NAME: Kenneth W. Re
2. ADDRESS: 1750 Tysons Blvd, Suite 1800, McLean VA 22102  
TELEPHONE NO. 703-712-5300 E-MAIL ADDRESS: Kwired@mcg.com
3. WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT, IF OTHER THAN YOURSELF? Applicant
4. WHAT IS YOUR POSITION ON THE ITEM?  
FOR: ☒ AGAINST: ☐ OTHER: ☐
5. NATURE OF YOUR INTEREST IN ITEM (PROPERTY OWNER, ATTORNEY, LOBBYIST, CIVIC INTEREST, ETC.):  
Attorney
6. ARE YOU RECEIVING COMPENSATION FOR THIS APPEARANCE BEFORE COUNCIL?  
YES ☒ NO ☐

This form shall be kept as a part of the permanent record in those instances where financial interest or compensation is indicated by the speaker.

A maximum of three minutes will be allowed for your presentation, except that one officer or other designated member speaking on behalf of each *bona fide* neighborhood civic association or unit owners' association desiring to be heard on a docket item shall be allowed five minutes. In order to obtain five minutes, you must identify yourself as a designated speaker, and identify the neighborhood civic association or unit owners' association you represent, at the start of your presentation. If you have a prepared statement, please leave a copy with the Clerk.

Additional time not to exceed 15 minutes may be obtained with the consent of the majority of the council present; provided notice requesting additional time with reasons stated is filed with the City Clerk in writing before 5:00 p.m. of the day preceding the meeting.

The public normally may speak on docket items only at public hearing meetings, and not at regular legislative meetings. Public hearing meetings are usually held on the Saturday following the second Tuesday in each month; regular legislative meetings on the second and fourth Tuesdays in each month. The rule with respect to when a person may speak to a docket item at a legislative meeting can be waived by a majority vote of council members present but such a waiver is not normal practice. When a speaker is recognized, the rules of procedures for speakers at public hearing meetings shall apply. If an item is docketed *for public hearing* at a regular legislative meeting, the public may speak to that item, and the rules of procedures for speakers at public hearing meetings shall apply.

In addition, the public may speak on matters which are not on the docket during the Public Discussion Period at public hearing meetings. The mayor may grant permission to a person, who is unable to participate in public discussion at a public hearing meeting for medical, religious, family emergency or other similarly substantial reasons, to speak at a regular legislative meeting. When such permission is granted, the rules of procedures for public discussion at public hearing meetings shall apply.

## Guidelines for the Public Discussion Period

(a) All speaker request forms for the public discussion period must be submitted by the time the item is called by the city clerk.

(b) No speaker will be allowed more than three minutes; except that one officer or other designated member speaking on behalf of each *bona fide* neighborhood civic association or unit owners' association desiring to be heard during the public discussion period shall be allowed five minutes. In order to obtain five minutes, you must identify yourself as a designated speaker, and identify the neighborhood civic association or unit owners' association you represent, at the start of your presentation.

(c) If more speakers are signed up than would be allotted for in 30 minutes, the mayor will organize speaker requests by subject or position, and allocated appropriate times, trying to ensure that speakers on unrelated subjects will also be allowed to speak during the 30 minute public discussion period.

(d) If speakers seeking to address council on the same subject cannot agree on a particular order or method that they would like the speakers to be called on, the speakers shall be called in the chronological order of their request forms' submission.

(e) Any speakers not called during the public discussion period will have the option to speak at the conclusion of the meeting, after all docketed items have been heard.