

BEFORE THE BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT, D. C.

Application No. 11864, of Carr Management, pursuant to Section 8207.2 of the regulations for construction of the term "similar professional person" to Management Consultant, as provided by Section 4101.35 of the regulations, at the premises 522 21st Street, N. W., in the SP and R-5-D zones, Lot 842, Square 81.

HEARING DATE: June 18, 1975

DECISION DATE: June 24, 1975

FINDINGS OF FACT:

1. Applicant proposes to permit a management consultant's office in the SP portion of the subject office building which is located in the R-5-D and SP zones.

2. Applicant requests the Board pursuant to Section 4101.35 of the Zoning Regulations for construction of the term "Similar professional person" to include management consultants so as to allow the prospective tenant International Consulting Associates, Ltd. to locate in the SP zone.

3. International Consulting Associates, Ltd., refers to the membership of its Senior Associate in the Institute of Management Consultants, Inc., a non-profit corporation organized to certify individual management consultants, as distinguishing "professional" management consultant's from "non-professionals."

4. The Institute of Management Consultants, Inc., certifies individual management consultants who meet institute standards and authorizes them to be certified management consultants (CMC). The institute also ensures that the membership adhere to its code of professional responsibility and has developed sanctions for non-professional conduct.

5. Although these are approximately 800 management consultants certified by the institute there is no requirement of membership for any management consultant.

6. There are currently no licensing requirements in the District of Columbia or most other states for management consultants even though efforts are being made to define a formal body of knowledge so as to develop requirements for registration .

7. There is no college degree available in management consulting but a graduate degree in business, finance or law is necessary to practice as a management consultant.

8. There are no specialized regulations applicable to management consultants other than those imposed by the institute or any other similar associations.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

Upon consideration of the above findings of fact and the evidence of record the Board finds pursuant to Section 4101.35 of the Zoning Regulations that the term "similar professional person" does not include management consultants so as to permit international consulting associates, Ltd., to locate offices in the SP zone. The Board finds that while architects, dentists, doctors, engineers and lawyers are all subject to licensing requirements in the District of Columbia and the other states, management consultants are not subject to control by any body except on a voluntary basis. Although, the institute of management consultants, Inc., certifies its members and enforces its Code of Professional Responsibility with sanctions, membership in the institute is strictly a discretionary matter with the individual management consultant. The Board further finds that there has not yet been defined a formal body of knowledge for management consultants which will allow requirements for registration to be developed as there have been for architects, dentists, doctors, engineers and lawyers. International Consulting Associates, Ltd., may be more qualified to be considered as a professional than another management consultant who is not a member of the institute but membership in an association on a voluntary basis is not a sufficient test to be considered as a professional.

The Board concludes additionally, that all practitioners of the particular art, not just those applying pursuant to Section 4101.35 of the regulations must be qualified as a professional in order to be included in the term "similar professional person". The Board finds that the applicant has not demonstrated that management consultants possess the qualifications to be included in the term "Similar professional person" and to so include them would not be in harmony with the general purpose and intent of the Zoning Regulations.

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ORDER: IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT THE ABOVE APPLICATION BE, DENIED.

VOTE: 3-0-0 (Mr. Scrivener not voting, and Mr. Klauber not voting
after not having heard the case.)

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT, D. C.

ATTESTED BY: *James E. Miller*
JAMES E. MILLER
Secretary to the Board

FINAL DATE OF ORDER: 17/18/75