

GOVERNMENT
OF
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

+ + + + +

ZONING COMMISSION

+ + + + +

PUBLIC HEARING

+ + + + +

-----: :
IN THE MATTER OF: :
: :
GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY- : Case No.
ATHLETIC TRAINING FACILITY- : 07-23B
MODIFICATION OF APPROVED :
PLANS :
-----: :

Thursday,
April 26, 2012

Hearing Room 220 South
441 4th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

The Public Hearing of Case No.
07-23B by the District of Columbia Zoning
Commission convened at 6:31 p.m. in the Jerrily
R. Kress Memorial Hearing Room at 441 4th Street,
N.W., Washington, D.C., 20001, Anthony J. Hood,
Chairman, presiding.

ZONING COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

ANTHONY J. HOOD, Chairman
KONRAD W. SCHLATER, Vice Chairman
MARCIE COHEN, Commissioner
MICHAEL G. TURNBULL, FAIA,
Commissioner (OAC)
PETER MAY, Commissioner (NPS)

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

OFFICE OF ZONING STAFF PRESENT:

SHARON S. SCHELLIN, Secretary

OFFICE OF PLANNING STAFF PRESENT:

JOEL LAWSON
STEPHEN MORDFIN

The transcript constitutes the minutes from the Public Hearing held on April 26, 2012.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page No.</u>
Preliminary Matters, SHARON SCHELLIN , Secretary	7
Application of Applicant, DAVID AVITABILE , LEE REED , Athletic Director, WILLIAM GRIDLEY , Architect, JOHN THOMPSON, III , BRIAN WIESE	9
Report of Office of Planning, STEPHEN MORDPHIN	63
Report of Other Government Agencies in Support	64
Report of ANC 2E, COUNCILMEMBER RON LEWIS	65
Organizations and Persons Testifying in Support	69

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21

P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

6:31 p.m.

CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay, we are ready to get started.

Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. This is a public hearing of the Zoning Commission, Thursday, April 26, 2012.

My name is Anthony Hood. Joining me are Vice Chairman Schlater, Commissioner Cohen, Commissioner May, and Commissioner Turnbull. We are also joined by the Office of Zoning Staff, Ms. Sharon Schellin.

This proceeding is being recorded by a court reporter. It's also webcast live.

Accordingly, we must ask you to refrain from any disruptive noises or actions in the hearing room.

Let me go back, also Office of Planning, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Mordphin. Are we expecting anyone else? Okay, thank you.

The subject of this evening's

1 hearing is Zoning Commission Case No. 07-23B.

2 This is a request by Georgetown University for
3 special exception relief pursuant to 2103104.1
4 of the Zoning Regulations, in order to modify
5 the previously approved athletic training
6 facility at Square 1321.

7 Notice of today's hearing was
8 published in the D.C. Register on February 17,
9 2012, and copies of that announcement are
10 available to my left on the wall near the door.

11 The hearing will be conducted with
12 the provisions of 11 DCMR 3117 as follows:
13 preliminary matters, applicant's case, report
14 of the Office of Planning, report of other
15 Government agencies, report of Advisory
16 Neighborhood Commission, in this case ANC 2E,
17 organizations and persons in support,
18 organizations and persons in opposition,
19 rebuttal and closing by the applicant.

20 The following time constraints will
21 be maintained in this meeting. The applicant,

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

1 60 minutes, if needed. I don't think we need
2 60 minutes. Organizations, five minutes, and
3 individuals three minutes. The Commission
4 intends to adhere to the time limits as strictly
5 as possible, in order to hear the case in a
6 reasonable period of time.

7 All persons appearing before the
8 Commission are to fill out two witness cards.
9 These cards are located to my left on the table
10 near the door. Upon coming forward to speak
11 to the Commission, please give both cards to
12 the reporter sitting to my right before taking
13 a seat at the table.

14 Please turn off all beepers and cell
15 phones at this time, so not to disrupt these
16 proceedings.

17 Would all individuals wishing to
18 testify please rise to take the oath.

19 Ms. Schellin, would you please
20 administer the oath?

21 SECRETARY SCHELLIN: Please raise

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 your right hand. Do you solemnly swear or
2 affirm the testimony you will give this evening
3 will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing
4 but the truth?

5 Thank you.

6 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Ms.
7 Schellin, do we have any preliminary matters?

8 SECRETARY SCHELLIN: Staff has
9 received the affidavit of maintenance from the
10 applicant. It appears to be in order, and when
11 the applicant comes to the table I believe they
12 have proffered one expert in architecture.

13 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Good
14 evening, Mr. Avitabile. We have one person we
15 want to proffer?

16 MR. AVITABILE: I do. Bill
17 Gridley, who is an expert in the field of
18 architecture. He's with the architecture firm
19 Bill Gridley. I believe we included his resume
20 in our pre-hearing submission, so it's been
21 available for your review, and I think he's

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 available for questions if you have any.

2 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay,
3 Commissioners. We have a request that we
4 proffer Mr. Gridley as an expert in
5 architecture. His resume has been provided.

6 Any objections? No objections, he
7 will be an expert witness in architecture.

8 MR. AVITABILE: Thank you.

9 CHAIRMAN HOOD: I notice you have
10 some basketball folks in the audience, but you
11 know this Commission plays basketball, too.
12 I said that the last time. You know, we are
13 pretty good, right, Mr. Turnbull?

14 COMMISSIONER TURNBULL: We can do
15 fine.

16 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Oh, absolutely,
17 we've got a good game.

18 COMMISSIONER TURNBULL: As long as
19 I'm not on the team, I think we'll be fine.

20 CHAIRMAN HOOD: All right. I was
21 just joking.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21

You may begin.

MR. AVITABILE: Great. We'll ask our team to come up and we'll be ready to go. We'll keep our presentation relatively short and sweet.

CHAIRMAN HOOD: You don't have to. I just wanted to let you know that we did read the materials, if you want to take 60 minutes that's what we are here for.

MR. AVITABILE: No. Thank you.

Good evening, Chairman Hood and Members of the Zoning Commission.

Again, for the record, I'm David Avitabile with the law firm of Goulston and Storrs. I'm thrilled to be here tonight to present Georgetown University's revised plans for its athletic training facility.

This facility is absolutely critical to the continued success of Georgetown's athletic programs, which not only benefit Georgetown's student athletes, but also

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 the University community, and, indeed, the
2 District community as a whole.

3 As a Georgetown alum and a die-hard
4 Hoya's fan, I am particularly invested in the
5 completion of this project.

6 Some of you may recall, the
7 Commission granted a campus plan amendment and
8 further processing approval to permit the
9 construction of the ATF in 2007. The building
10 was approved at that time, along with a new
11 academic building for the sciences, and
12 modifications to the University's primary
13 outdoor field.

14 Then the recession hit, and like
15 everyone else, Georgetown had to tighten its
16 belts, and were unable to secure funding for
17 the facilities at first. So, the Commission
18 granted a two-year extension of the initial
19 approval in 2009.

20 Shortly after the extension was
21 approved, the University began construction of

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 the science center, and the start of
2 construction on the science center vested the
3 Commission's approval of all three projects.

4 I'm happy to report that the science
5 center, now renamed Regents Hall, is nearly
6 complete.

7 Now that the science center is
8 nearly complete, the University is able to turn
9 its attention to the athletic training facility,
10 which will significantly upgrade Georgetown's
11 athletic facilities from an out-of-date,
12 sixty-year-old facility, first constructed in
13 1951.

14 When the University restarted its
15 work on the ATF, and reviewed the previously
16 approved plans, it determined the old facility
17 was too big and expensive, and engaged a new
18 team to produce a revised design that's been
19 scaled back to what's critical for Georgetown's
20 athletic programs.

21 As you are aware, the campus is

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 located within the boundaries of the Georgetown
2 Historic District, and all development is
3 subject to review by the Old Georgetown Board
4 and the Commission of Fine Arts.

5 The location of the proposed ATF,
6 between the low-scale McDonough Gymnasium and
7 tall residential buildings to the east, as well
8 as the uses within the building, presents some
9 unique design challenges, and we worked closely
10 with the Old Georgetown Board to resolve these
11 challenges.

12 The efforts have paid off, and
13 earlier this month we secured OGB's
14 recommendation of approval for the siting and
15 massing of the ATF. Last week, we presented
16 the concept to the CFA, which, generally,
17 concurred with OGB's recommendation on the
18 location, shape, organization of the building
19 and its relationship to surrounding buildings.

20 I have, for the record, made
21 available to you both OGB's recommendation, as

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

1 well as CFA's letter. That one was hot off the
2 press, received it a little bit earlier this
3 afternoon.

4 Although the design is still
5 evolving, we are pleased to have come this far
6 in the design review process. The current
7 proposal before you this evening is, roughly,
8 the same height and gross floor area and lot
9 coverage as the previous design. The key
10 difference is, which Bill will explain in a few
11 minutes, are that we rearranged the siting,
12 massing and orientation of the building to
13 better fit with the surrounding campus buildings
14 and uses, and we've eliminated a below-grade
15 floor, which reduces the overall size of the
16 facility by, approximately, 40,000 square feet.

17 As a result, the design of the ATF
18 has become a more dense and more efficient use
19 of this land and this part of campus.

20 We are here this evening to request
21 your approval of the modifications of the design

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 of the ATF, and we will continue to work closely
2 with OGB and CFA to further define, and redefine,
3 the facade's roof line and other design details.

4 And so, we, accordingly, request
5 flexibility to continue to modify the design
6 to accommodate their recommendations, including
7 the ability to adjust the building along the
8 lines of what you see in the CFA letter that
9 I submitted earlier.

10 With that introduction, I'd like to
11 introduce the Athletic Director at Georgetown
12 University, Lee Reed.

13 MR. REED: Good evening. It's a
14 privilege to be here tonight. I thank you for
15 the opportunity to address the Commission. We
16 are appreciative of the process that has allowed
17 to work in collaboration with OGB and CFA to
18 get to this very important step in the process.

19 We are here today to offer testimony
20 about why the athletic training facility is
21 necessary, arguably more today than ever before

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

1 in our illustrious history.

2 This is not a want or a luxury, it
3 is a necessity. This is not keeping up with
4 the Jones', they left the neighborhood a long
5 time ago. This is about delivering on the
6 promise and developing the potential within all
7 students at Georgetown University. This is
8 about investing in Georgetown for generations
9 to come.

10 I want to tell you a little bit about
11 our athletics program. As you know, we compete
12 in the Big East Conference, one of the strongest
13 athletic conferences in the entire Nation. We
14 also provide one of the most expansive athletic
15 programs in the entire country. We sponsor
16 29 sports. We have 750 student athletes, which
17 represents, approximately, 12 percent of the
18 undergraduate population at Georgetown
19 University.

20 Our operating budgets in our
21 conference, it's a very diverse conference, very

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

1 competitive conference, budgets range from \$20
2 million to \$100 million. And so, to do the work
3 that we ask our coaches and student athletes
4 to do on a daily basis, this facility becomes
5 that much more important.

6 Currently, we work in McDonough
7 Gymnasium, which was opened in 1951 for nine
8 varsity men's sports, ten staff, and 250 student
9 athletes, with six locker rooms.

10 Today, as I mentioned earlier, we
11 have 29 varsity sports, 750 student athletes,
12 130 coaches, staff, and the same six locker
13 rooms, all housed, our entire athletics program
14 housed, in McDonough.

15 We have renovated, retrofitted,
16 repurposed, restored, refurbished, remodeled,
17 revamped, and redecorated McDonough. What I'm
18 trying to say is, we have done all that we can
19 to make that and keep that historic building
20 functional for our athletic program.

21 We ask our coaches to compete,

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

1 develop and prepare young people for the 21st
2 Century in mid-20th Century work environment.

3 We have done that, and we have done it well,
4 but it's time now for us to grow and expand our
5 facility.

6 The ATF includes state-of-the-art
7 spaces for sports medicine, training rooms,
8 weight room, equipment room, team meeting rooms,
9 academic support area, student athlete lounge,
10 offices for men's and women's basketball
11 programs, practice courts for those two
12 programs, a relocated Hall of Fame, locker rooms
13 for six teams, including men's and women's
14 basketball.

15 With the repurposing, bringing this
16 facility on line, and repurposing McDonough
17 Arena, we will be able to provide full-time,
18 year-round locker rooms for all 29 of our varsity
19 sports. Currently, they share spaces, and
20 sometimes even those spaces are very inadequate.

21 The new facility will mean that we

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

1 will have infrastructure necessary to remain
2 competitive for the next generation. It will
3 enhance the athletic and academic experience
4 for our student athletes, and solve class
5 scheduling issues. It will allow us to continue
6 to attract the best and brightest young people
7 to the hilltop. It will reduce our use of Yates
8 Field House, which is very important. We will
9 have year-round locker rooms for all of our
10 programs.

11 From a construction standpoint,
12 from a process and timeline standpoint, we
13 eagerly await the outcome of this regulatory
14 process. Our community is more than ready to
15 help us meet the financial commitment necessary
16 to construct this facility as quickly as
17 possible.

18 It will be funded 100 percent
19 philanthropy. The timeline is to start as
20 quickly as we can. Our student athletes need
21 this facility. Our coaches need this facility.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 Our community is ready for this facility, and
2 we'd like to begin as quickly as possible.

3 Thank you.

4 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Thank you.

5 Let me just interrupt and simply run
6 through this. We want to have a disclosure by
7 Commissioner May.

8 COMMISSIONER MAY: Yes, I apologize
9 for not doing this at the very beginning, but
10 as usual for me with Georgetown, I need to
11 disclose the fact that I am a graduate of
12 Georgetown University many decades ago, but I
13 don't see any reason why that would interfere
14 with my ability to evaluate this case.

15 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay,
16 Commissioners. Any problems? ANC
17 Commissioner, any problems with that?

18 Okay, thank you.

19 Forgive us for interrupting.

20 By the way, did you play any sports?

21 No, I'm sorry, don't answer that.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 MR. GRIDLEY: I will go through the
2 plans with you. I know you've had a chance to
3 look at them.

4 What we have here at first is the
5 whole Georgetown campus, of course, so Canal
6 Road is at the bottom there, and the entrance
7 from Canal Road, the north boundary along there
8 you can see from the white dotted line the
9 boundary of the campus itself. And, we are
10 going to zero in on our site.

11 So, looking at our site, which is
12 immediately adjacent to McDonough, just south
13 of the utility plant on top of the eight tennis
14 courts there, it wraps around to the south of
15 McDonough, and it's bordered by the all-purpose
16 field, the residence halls, Jesuit residents
17 right there, with Park Service land over here
18 on the west side.

19 Pedestrians who come to this site
20 really come from two directions, or two streets.

21 One is North Road, and one is Library Walk.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 It's, actually, not a street, but a walk. And,
2 cars come in from Canal Road, and if they --
3 most cars would park and enter in the parking
4 garage right there, and coming to this facility
5 would exit along the north side of the residence
6 halls here at North Road and move towards the
7 building.

8 And, buses and cars do proceed into
9 the site, go past the guard gate there, buses
10 do come in. Some cars come in to access the
11 site further.

12 This is sort of a bird'seye view,
13 showing some context with perspective, so you
14 can begin to see the look of the buildings there,
15 tennis courts, the utility plant and McDonough.

16 And, I just would point out that in the front
17 here we have a significant paved area for
18 parking. I'll show you how that develops in
19 our plan in just a moment.

20 This is looking from the east side,
21 again, at a perspective that you can begin to

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

1 see the context with the Jesuit residents there,
2 McDonough right there.

3 Some of the buildings around it,
4 McDonough Gym here, the residence hall, rentals
5 hall right there, which is to be east of our
6 site, the Jesuit residence to the south, the
7 new business administration building, the new
8 science building that's under construction and
9 about to open, of course, Healy Hall over here,
10 some of the signature original buildings on the
11 campus.

12 The design that went to you in 2007,
13 which you approved, is here. We are, actually,
14 in a very similar siting to that now, and, of
15 course, it is a revised design, and what you
16 had in your original application package is the
17 design that we took to the Old Georgetown Board
18 in October. We went through an extensive process
19 working with the staff at CFA to modify that,
20 as you know, and the scheme now is right here,
21 shown in site plan, which I will zero in on for

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 you. Thank you.

2 The building itself has been pushed
3 away. The main comment we got from Old
4 Georgetown Board was, really, to be more
5 respectful of McDonough and open up the front
6 more. So, we have pushed our building back
7 against the heating and cooling plant and to
8 the east part of the site.

9 What that has done is, completely
10 open up and freed up the front of McDonough,
11 so that is now entirely free from the face of
12 our building.

13 It's also allowed us to -- we have
14 consolidated parking to the west of the site.

15 There's less parking, and what that has done
16 as well is open up an area in the very front
17 of McDonough for green space. So, there's a
18 considerable amount more green space on the site
19 now, or here, than exists currently.

20 The entrance to the building is
21 going to be between Library Walk and North Road,

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

1 opposite Reynolds Hall, and you'll come in to
2 a hallway that will connect all the way back
3 to the west and join McDonough at an existing
4 building on McDonough Gym right there.

5 There's a secondary entrance from
6 the west into that corridor, which will be,
7 basically, sort of a display space, and Hall
8 of Fame, a place for Georgetown to show its great
9 history in a variety of displays.

10 On the north side of that we stacked
11 the gyms, and that was one of the big moves we
12 made in response to the Old Georgetown Board.

13 The gyms are now stacked one above the other,
14 and on the south side of that corridor we have
15 the support space that really helps the whole
16 thing function, our locker rooms, athlete
17 support space, weight rooms, and so forth.

18 And lastly, we have a service drive
19 that comes in along the heating and cooling plant
20 and accesses the back of the building on the
21 northwest side right there.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

1 I'll quickly go through the plans.
2 Basically, on the entry level we have the
3 athletes' lobby, the entrance piece. There's
4 a weight room, a multi-purpose room, and the
5 women's basketball court is one floor below.

6 Down one floor then, we have the
7 women's basketball floor. So, this is one floor
8 below grade, with sports medicine, equipment
9 room, and the women's basketball suite, as well
10 as locker rooms for men and women, lacrosse and
11 soccer.

12 Going up one floor above grade, we
13 have the women's basketball offices and support
14 spaces for the athletic program, which includes
15 meeting rooms, study rooms and an auditorium.

16 Up to the third floor, we have the
17 men's basketball court, with the men's
18 basketball suite and weight room immediately
19 adjacent to that.

20 And then lastly, on the top floor
21 we have the men's basketball coaches offices

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

1 overlooking the gym.

2 So, the section here, as you see the
3 line through, cutting north/south, looking
4 west, probably is the most descriptive, where
5 you see the basketball court stack, the below
6 grade areas, the main floor with the entrance
7 lobby right here, and then the offices and locker
8 rooms above.

9 Here are some contextual
10 elevations, showing the building in relation
11 to its surrounding buildings. This is the main
12 entrance facade on Less Road, with the entrance
13 lobby and corridor in this location. That's
14 the heating and cooling plant. That's the
15 Jesuit residence. This is the north elevation
16 immediately adjacent to the utility plant.

17 The south view looking into the
18 weight room at the main level, Reynolds Hall,
19 the residence hall over here, and McDonough on
20 the west and left of the drawing, and on the
21 west elevation facing McDonough the green space

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 in front of McDonough there.

2 The building will be built out of
3 red brick and cast stone, or limestone, to match
4 the buildings around it. It will be designed
5 in the collegiate gothic style. We are still
6 very much in process here, working hard with
7 CFA and OGB to conclude the process.

8 The west elevation again, a little
9 closer to the north, and the view from the
10 southwest elevated looking back, you can see
11 here we are proposing to do a green roof over
12 the lower portion of the roof. I'll talk about
13 sustainability in just a second. The upper roof
14 will be used to collect rain water, and you can
15 see the open green space there, the view from
16 the ground looking towards the east, the view
17 from above looking towards the entrance, and
18 lastly, the view looking at the entrance from
19 North Road and the all-purpose playing field.

20 I mentioned the sustainability. We
21 are committed to lead silver, we are going to

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 strive to get lead gold, so we are targeting
2 lead gold with a commitment to lead silver.

3 I mentioned we have a lot of ways
4 of doing that, of course, but probably rain water
5 collection, stormwater management is one of the
6 main ways with green roofs, water collection
7 and so forth. So, we'll be moving forward on
8 that in the design as well.

9 And, that's my presentation. I'd
10 be happy to answer any questions.

11 MR. AVITABILE: Next I'd ask Coach
12 Thompson to offer some thoughts, followed by
13 Coach Wiese. These are the coaches of the men's
14 basketball and the men's soccer program.

15 MR. THOMPSON: I want to thank the
16 Commission for having us.

17 Mr. Hood, I want to say, in 2007 we
18 sat here and you challenged us to a game, and
19 you caught me off guard then. I was a little
20 nervous. I had Roy Hibbard with me. I kind
21 of anticipated today, you know, so I brought

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 Monica McNutt with me, Markel STarks and Jeff
2 Green, so we are ready this time if you want
3 to.

4 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Now, what was that,
5 five years ago? We have gotten much older since
6 then.

7 MR. THOMPSON: That's why I brought
8 more young ones with me this time.

9 This facility, this building, is
10 necessary. It's completely necessary for the
11 sustainability and improvement of Georgetown
12 athletics.

13 Mr. Reed said, you know, where we
14 currently are housed was built 60 years ago for
15 nine sports, and in that same space we now have
16 29 sports. You know, we have six locker rooms
17 for 29 sports. You walk down the hall on any
18 random afternoon day, and the training room is
19 in there, and you have all type of young men
20 and women out in the hallways, after getting
21 taped, putting on their shoes, stretching with

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

1 equipment littering the hallways, because they
2 don't have anywhere to go on a daily basis to
3 change.

4 The young men and women, after they
5 work out, have to traipse back up the hill to
6 shower, because they don't have a place to shower
7 within the facility.

8 As it relates, specifically, to
9 men's basketball, you know, we traditionally
10 and currently have been at the top of the Big
11 East, among the top teams in the Big East.
12 That's important to us. We are going to find
13 a way to maintain that. I think it's been good
14 for the City.

15 Our facilities are at the bottom,
16 not among the bottom, not near the bottom, not
17 in the middle, our facilities are at the bottom.

18 And, that absolutely directly affects our
19 ability to attract the top player student
20 athletes, and then just as important, once they
21 are there to provide an environment and a setting

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 to work with them to get better, to improve,
2 you know.

3 For example, a couple weeks ago a
4 young man sitting in the back, Markel, comes
5 to me and says, Coach, you know, I think we should
6 work out in the morning before we go to class.

7 He said we'd love to do that, let's come in
8 in the morning, get some work done.

9 I said, well, Markel, we can't,
10 because volleyball has the gym in the morning.

11 You know, we have one gym on campus that we
12 can use, and so as a basketball coach it's easy,
13 and with each passing year, you know, it's
14 becoming harder and harder to attract the top
15 student athletes when they come and look at the
16 facilities, and then go to other campuses and
17 see what they have to compare and contrast to.

18 There's only so much you can sell, tradition,
19 and history, and the great things about
20 Washington, D.C., and the great things about
21 our institution.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 But then just as important, once
2 they get there, you know, we are hindered in
3 the way in which we can help them grow, and help
4 them improve, because of the lack of the
5 facilities, and because we have to share these
6 facilities.

7 I believe, and I don't remember
8 exactly, I should have looked it up, but we were
9 here in 2007, I said, it's much like every day
10 we going to battle here, then in 2007, now in
11 2012, with a slingshot. You know, didn't I just
12 hear you say we're much older than we were then,
13 and we still got the same slingshot, and it's
14 necessary, this facility is necessary for us
15 to continue to compete at the level where we
16 are.

17 MR. WIESE: Good evening.

18 I maybe represent the other sports,
19 the other 28, 27 sports other than basketball,
20 and I think it's undeniable what the recruiting
21 advantage of this facility is going to for

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

1 everybody, certainly, for basketball, men's and
2 women's basketball, but I think, hopefully, you
3 are getting a sense of the appreciation for what
4 it's going to do for sports like us, and sports
5 like cross country field hockey, everybody.

6 At the moment, I'll give you a couple
7 situations in terms of what we deal with on an
8 annual basis with the space cap that we use at
9 the moment. We have become experts in sharing,
10 time management, being friendly with other
11 coaches, to make sure that we can compromise
12 quite a bit in what we need to.

13 Right now, with the weight room,
14 with our size team, 25 players, with the weight
15 room up in Yates Fieldhouse, we couldn't lift
16 the times we needed because of women's soccer
17 and volleyball had that time. So, we had to move
18 classes around. We had to lift on Tuesday,
19 Thursday, Friday, instead of Monday, Wednesday
20 Friday, which compromises what we are trying
21 to do from the weight room point of view. This

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 facility addresses that for everybody.

2 Video space, we can't do video.
3 Everybody wants to do video at the same time.

4 Can't do video, and the other teams want to
5 do video at the same time. This facility
6 addresses that.

7 Our academic support advisor has an
8 office on the other side of the campus. She
9 only sees students if they make an effort to
10 go up and see her. This facility would address
11 that as well, in that they can walk by her office,
12 even if they don't want to see her she can grab
13 them and say, come on in here for a second.
14 That makes a huge difference from the daily
15 interaction.

16 And, I think from a recruiting point
17 of view, when you think about the concepts of
18 what this does, and what we deal with
19 competitively, recruits get excited about this
20 kind of thing. You know, I think from a
21 competitive point of view, we are looking at

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

1 kids now who are 16-17, and they make decisions
2 on the color of the car, not what's under the
3 hood sometimes.

4 And, at the moment we spend as little
5 time in McDonough Gym as we can, when we have
6 recruits on campus. We get them right over to
7 the academic side of things, and start talking
8 about the degree they are going to get, don't
9 worry about the locker room you are not seeing
10 right now, because baseball is in it.

11 So, I think across the board there
12 are 29 sports, and all 29 hugely, hugely benefit
13 from this facility.

14 MR. AVITABILE: Thank you, Coach.

15 To briefly close, I believe the
16 record before you is complete. We are here with
17 support from the Office of Planning, from
18 Councilmember Evans, and others who have
19 submitted letters testifying to the economic
20 and social importance of maintaining the
21 competitiveness of Georgetown's athletic

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 programs .

2 In a little bit, I expect you are
3 going to also hear about the importance of the
4 ATF, from those that stand to benefit the most,
5 the students themselves.

6 We are also pleased that the
7 Advisory Neighborhood Commission has no
8 objection to the project, and I'd like to note,
9 on Monday that we presented the design to the
10 Historic Preservation and Zoning Committee of
11 the Citizens Association of Georgetown, and I
12 believe the committee chose not to take a
13 position on the application as well.

14 So, with that, we request your
15 approval of the revised design and the
16 flexibility to further modify that design as
17 we move through the OGB and CFA review process.

18 Thank you very much.

19 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Thank you all for
20 your very expeditious testimony, while you still
21 had 35 more minutes.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 I think we can -- I think we've had
2 enough, and we will ask our questions.

3 Okay, thank you all.

4 Commissioners, any questions. We've
5 go with the Georgetown alum.

6 COMMISSIONER MAY: We can forget
7 that. Okay.

8 What's going to -- what are you doing
9 about the tennis courts that are being displaced
10 by this building? Is there a need to replace
11 them somewhere else, or have they already been
12 replaced?

13 MR. REED: Obviously, we sponsor
14 men's and women's tennis, in addition to the
15 students, the community, faculty and staff, that
16 all play tennis on the tennis courts. They are
17 very important to us. They are very important
18 to us as we move forward.

19 We are in the process of trying to
20 find space on our campus to relocate as many
21 of those courts as we can.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

1 COMMISSIONER MAY: So, there's no
2 definitive plan at this moment.

3 MR. REED: No.

4 COMMISSIONER MAY: Okay. And, is
5 that a prerequisite for breaking ground for this
6 building, getting replacement courts
7 established, or locations established?

8 MR. REED: I don't think a
9 prerequisite. Certainly, it's something that,
10 with the timeline that we are working under that
11 we want to solve as quickly as we can.

12 COMMISSIONER MAY: Okay. It feels
13 a bit incomplete not knowing what might happen
14 with that, if that's an important component of
15 the campus, it affects your campus plan.

16 Was there anything in the original
17 campus plan that would --

18 MR. REED: No.

19 COMMISSIONER MAY: It wasn't
20 addressed at all?

21 MR. AVITABILE: No, I think it was

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 the same sort of question, and we presented some
2 potential locations, but it still hasn't been
3 decided.

4 COMMISSIONER MAY: Okay. I don't
5 see it as a reason not to move ahead, it just
6 feels like there's a gap here.

7 I understand the evolution of the
8 building design and the massing of it, and it
9 makes sense because of sort of the changes that
10 you've been through. I am a little curious
11 about why you have, essentially, a sort of split
12 building, with part of it is four stories above
13 ground, part of it's two stories above ground.

14 I understand the gymnasium portion of it being
15 different, but the office portions of it, I mean,
16 why isn't it just a smaller footprint and all
17 four stories?

18 MR. GRIDLEY: Well, I think it
19 really has to do with the relationships of the
20 program pieces and how they have to relate.
21 You know, it's really, the bottom floor is all

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

1 student athletes. We have to have adjacency
2 of the basketball locker suites and the coaches
3 office to each gym floor. The coaches,
4 necessarily, need to go above, really, the
5 locker rooms to make it work.

6 So, if we were to spread them out,
7 we would lose visibility from, say, coaches
8 offices, into the gym floor. We would lose
9 adjacency of locker room and cardio and weight
10 space adjacent to the floor. So, it's just a
11 very complex program, which fits together like
12 a puzzle, and that's really sort of what,
13 essentially, renders that massing.

14 COMMISSIONER MAY: Okay. Some of
15 the feedback we've already received has been
16 a disappointment about not including housing,
17 or including the opportunity for housing in some
18 fashion. I'm wondering, you know, given that
19 it's only a two-story building, was there any
20 thought given to the potential future expansion
21 of the building, going upwards, since, you know,

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

1 there are very tight constraints on the campus.

2 If the University ever wants to build more
3 housing, there just aren't a lot of sites for
4 it.

5 MR. GRIDLEY: Well, from an
6 architectural, sort of technical standpoint,
7 yes, we studied it, we looked at it. And, when
8 the footprint itself is compressed into the
9 footprint that it's been compressed into, which
10 is a result of the OGB, essentially, pushing
11 us into the corner, and I don't mean that in
12 a bad way. They were asking us to stay away
13 from the front of McDonough.

14 And so, we have really maximized the
15 density of the site on the east and the north
16 side.

17 With our 90-foot height limit, if
18 we were to put a dormitory footprint on top of
19 the two-story portion, so, essentially, a bar
20 building that would fit right into that zone,
21 basically, we get 70 to 75 beds out of it, staying

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

1 within the footprint. That's just not a viable
2 higher education community number for dormitory
3 living.

4 COMMISSIONER MAY: What is sort of
5 the key minimum number?

6 MR. GRIDLEY: Well, it varies by
7 university to university, but I would think
8 several hundred, 250.

9 COMMISSIONER MAY: Okay. You gave
10 in your presentation, or you showed the
11 presentation that below roof would be a green
12 roof, and then the bullet point says possible
13 green roof.

14 MR. GRIDLEY: Right. We are
15 committed to a green roof there now, but what's
16 really happening in the course of getting
17 through the CFA/OGB comments, and why we've
18 asked for a little bit of wiggle room in the
19 massing, is because we will be looking at how
20 those roofs are configured. And so, we are not
21 100 percent sure that in this case it will all

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 be a lower green roof.

2 Where we can put green roofs, where
3 they are visible for one, and where they are
4 higher and they are not visible we want to,
5 actually, use that to collect rain water, so
6 I green roof doesn't work for the collection
7 of rain water, which is a great use of a water
8 in a sports facility, because of all the locker
9 and showers. So, it will be one or the other.

10 COMMISSIONER MAY: Okay. I'm
11 sorry, it will be one roof or the other will
12 be green, is that what you are saying?

13 MR. GRIDLEY: In all cases our roofs
14 will be designed in a sustainable manner.

15 COMMISSIONER MAY: My real question
16 is the low roof, whether or not it will be a
17 green roof, because I think that if you are going
18 to put it anywhere --

19 MR. GRIDLEY: Yes.

20 COMMISSIONER MAY: -- I'm sorry, it
21 will be, because I cannot imagine, you know,

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 this is a southern exposure of the building,
2 a giant -- if it's not going to be a green roof
3 it's going to be a white roof, and you've got
4 those offices looking out over 100 feet of white
5 roof, southern exposure, you know, you are going
6 to have baked basketball coaches in there.

7 MR. GRIDLEY: Wherever --

8 COMMISSIONER MAY: And, I don't
9 think you want that.

10 MR. GRIDLEY: -- we are looking out
11 at the roofs, we will do green roofs, yes.

12 COMMISSIONER MAY: Okay. All
13 right. That's what I -- that's really what I
14 wanted to get to, but that's an ideal opportunity
15 for a green roof, and you really need a green
16 roof.

17 And, I have other comments on the
18 architecture. Fortunately, it's all covered
19 by CFA and OGB. I think they are on target with
20 every one of those comments. I mean, you know,
21 the version from the fall, which was more

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 expressive of a gymnasium than what you have
2 right now, I think was a step in the right
3 direction. I can see there that the CFA is
4 pushing you back in that direction, because
5 right now it really looks too much like the
6 dormitories there, that are near by. And, I
7 like the idea of seeing something that was
8 evocative of the original architecture of
9 McDonough.

10 So, I think that I'm all for you
11 having latitude to advance the design in that
12 direction, as was given.

13 Thanks.

14 MR. AVITABILE: A little bit more
15 to respond to the question of the tennis courts.

16 I think, one is that there are a number of
17 options on the campus where the tennis courts
18 can be located.

19 The other important consideration
20 is that there are, actually, a number of sports
21 that are played where the athletes do compete

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 off campus, softball, baseball, field hockey,
2 the track field, the track team. And so, that
3 would be another option if there isn't space
4 on campus, would be looking at off campus
5 locations. But again, we are still studying
6 it, we are still looking at it, and we'll see
7 what is available.

8 COMMISSIONER MAY: Okay, yes.

9 MR. AVITABILE: It's still an
10 answer of we don't know yet, but I just wanted
11 to express that there are -- there are other
12 options out there as well, other than looking
13 at the very limited footprint on the campus
14 itself.

15 COMMISSIONER MAY: Right. Yes, I
16 recall this is not the first time that the tennis
17 courts have become sites of buildings on that
18 campus. There were tennis courts where -- well,
19 they used to call it Village A, I don't know
20 what you call it now.

21 MR. AVITABILE: It's still Village

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 A.

2 COMMISSIONER MAY: It's so creative
3 a name there.

4 Anyway, and I don't know that those
5 were ever replaced anywhere else, not that I'm
6 a really big tennis fan. It just seems to me
7 that it's getting pushed out. I know it's a
8 land-intensive use, but it would be a shame to
9 lose all opportunities on campus.

10 Thanks.

11 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Commissioner
12 Cohen?

13 COMMISSIONER COHEN: Thank you,
14 Chairman.

15 Commissioner May, if you make a
16 large donation to the University it could be
17 named after you.

18 Gentlemen, this question shouldn't
19 surprise you, but are women's sports getting
20 equal access to this building as men's sports?

21 MR. REED: Yes, they are. There is

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 equal space for women's basketball, in fact,
2 pretty much identical in terms of square
3 footage.

4 In addition, the other four locker
5 rooms that we have in the building on the bottom
6 floor, they are men's and women's lacrosse, and
7 men's and women's soccer. So, six of our 29
8 sports will inherit new facilities, the other
9 facilities, the strength and conditioning area,
10 the training room, the academic areas, the
11 student lounges, the team meeting rooms, all
12 of those will benefit every one of our varsity
13 programs equally.

14 MR. AVITABILE: And, one more point
15 on that. As we move those programs to this
16 facility, it will allow for the existing
17 facilities at McDonough to be renovated and
18 upgraded yet again to accommodate some of those
19 other sports as well.

20 COMMISSIONER COHEN: This is scary,
21 because that was my next question. What are

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 you going to do with the old facility.

2 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Anybody else? Any
3 other questions?

4 Commissioner Turnbull?

5 COMMISSIONER TURNBULL: Thank you,
6 Mr. Chair.

7 I was getting back to -- there was
8 about a 40,000 square foot difference between
9 the previous plan, so what is missing? Is there
10 anything missing between what was back in 2007
11 and now?

12 MR. REED: The original plan in
13 2007, I believe, had more office space for all
14 of our sports. So, there was a plan to bring
15 more of the coaching areas over into that new
16 building.

17 What David just mentioned, our plan
18 now is to move some of our program, as much as
19 we can, over into the new facility, and then
20 go back in to McDonough and repurpose that space
21 to provide quality office space and quality

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

1 locker room space for all of our other sports.

2 So, that's a much more feasible
3 program for us, in terms of where we are today.

4 COMMISSIONER TURNBULL: Okay.
5 Just picking up on what Commissioner May had
6 said about the tennis courts. I'm just
7 wondering, and we talked about, you had gone
8 through and talked about the whole program as
9 a whole for all the different sports. And, I'm
10 just -- what ones are still suffering? I mean,
11 how many -- obviously, it would be hard to
12 convince people who want to play tennis to do
13 this, and you mentioned track, what's the long
14 range plan to try to accommodate the rest of
15 this, the rest of the sports?

16 MR. REED: It's -- maybe I can
17 answer your question this way, it's not uncommon
18 for a university in an urban environment to have
19 multiple places off campus, off-site locations,
20 where you can conduct varsity activities. So,
21 that's not really abnormal.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

1 What we've tried to do is be
2 realistic about our footprint, be respectful
3 of our community, in terms of our growth, and
4 try to put together a plan that is both
5 achievable and believable, in terms of what we
6 can do on the 104 acres on the hilltop. But,
7 we also give consideration to trying to provide
8 the sports that are off campus with as best
9 facilities as we can.

10 And so, as we've been over at Guy
11 Mason, for example, right off of Wisconsin
12 Avenue, where we play softball, we've tried to
13 upgrade -- working with the City we've tried
14 to upgrade that facility.

15 We play baseball out at Cabin John,
16 out in Maryland. We've tried to work with that
17 community to upgrade that facility, not only
18 for the benefit of our student athletes that
19 we use it for a very small amount of time,
20 calendar time, but for everybody else.

21 So, when we go in to a community and

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 share facilities, what we want to do is leave
2 behind something that's beneficial to the rest
3 of the community. And, I think we've been very
4 successful doing that.

5 But, we are really trying to be on
6 campus, optimize our efficiencies as much as
7 possible, and we understand our limitations.

8 One thing, we understand who we are,
9 and we understand our limitations. And so, we
10 have worked through those things, and I think
11 we are at a point where we can do as much as
12 we can.

13 COMMISSIONER TURNBULL: Okay. I
14 guess following on the other question that
15 Commissioner May brought up. I think -- at
16 least I'm in sync also with the comments of the
17 Old Georgetown Board and the CFA, what's your
18 timeline for -- I mean, are you committed to
19 making those changes, and what's your timeline
20 for meeting with them, and showing revised
21 plans?

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 MR. GRIDLEY: We intend to go back
2 in front of the Old Georgetown Board at their
3 June hearing, so that gives us about four weeks,
4 three to four weeks in development.

5 We've met with staff at CFA today.

6 We will continue to meet with them over the
7 next several weeks, and, hopefully, we'll get
8 it right on track with OGB, and I really think
9 we are very close. And then after that,
10 assuming that we get the approvals we need, we
11 will go back to CFA two weeks after that in June.

12 If we have to go back in July to OGB, which
13 is a possibility, then we will do that as well.

14 So, we are moving forward with it,
15 and we are trying to maintain our momentum.

16 COMMISSIONER TURNBULL: Okay. How
17 does that, from a schedule, overall schedule,
18 when you need to start construction on this
19 building? I mean, what year are you looking for
20 that this would become useable by students?

21 MR. REED: For us, obviously, the

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

1 best answer for us is, as soon as possible.
2 I think it' still, from a true timeline
3 standpoint, I think it's still realistic for
4 us to target the '15-'16 academic year, given
5 that everything would have to go perfectly for
6 us in the fundraising initiatives that we have
7 in place.

8 We will leave here tonight and fly
9 to Chicago first thing in the morning, and meet
10 with a group of alums that are interested in
11 hearing how we've done in this process. And,
12 they are eager to get started. They are eager
13 to help us begin to raise the capital that we
14 need to start construction as quickly as
15 possible. And, that's an athletics director's
16 perspective, that's maybe a coach perspective.

17 We want to move this project forward as quickly
18 as possible.

19 But, we have also been very
20 respectful of not getting ahead of ourselves
21 and making sure that we build the right project

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 for this space.

2 But, we've been very appreciative
3 in terms of working with OGB and CFA, and making
4 sure that this project is one that the committee
5 can embrace, and that it meets the needs of a
6 high caliber, Division 1 athletics program, like
7 we have at Georgetown University.

8 COMMISSIONER TURNBULL: Okay.
9 Thank you.

10 I guess the other thing, going back
11 to the water collection. What is the water
12 going to be used for?

13 MR. GRIDLEY: Well, mostly it would
14 be used for showers. It's, basically, you bring
15 the water in, you store it, and then you use
16 it for showers.

17 COMMISSIONER TURNBULL: And, treat
18 it I would assume.

19 MR. GRIDLEY: Yes, it can be
20 treated, yes, you know, we don't plan any
21 irrigation, but it could, of course, be used

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

1 for something like that as well.

2 So, what it does is, just supply the
3 water for the showers, really primarily, is the
4 main use, and it's one of the reasons often that
5 gymnasiums are really one of the very best uses
6 for water collection. Other buildings go to
7 the green roof solution, because the water
8 collection just doesn't make sense unless
9 there's a substantial use.

10 COMMISSIONER TURNBULL: Okay,
11 thank you.

12 I think that's all my questions, Mr.
13 Chair.

14 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Anybody else
15 questions?

16 Okay, Commissioner Cohen?

17 COMMISSIONER COHEN: I have,
18 actually, in the testimony it was stated that
19 this is very good for the District of Columbia,
20 and I guess, you know, sports and commitment
21 to the team. But, my other question, my

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

1 question would be, have you reached out to the
2 community with your sports program at all,
3 meaning, you know, under-served neighborhoods
4 as an example, or local high schools and middle
5 schools, and other educational facilities?

6 MR. THOMPSON: The answer to that
7 is yes. I don't know what each and every sport
8 does. I think as a team, my team goes out to
9 different places. I think individually each
10 team does different things, but I think as an
11 institution I think we are pretty visible in
12 the community for the most part.

13 It's, usually, coach by coach, team
14 by team, in terms of where we got out and what
15 we do.

16 COMMISSIONER COHEN: Thank you.
17 So, there's no fixed plan, it's just helter
18 skelter?

19 MR. THOMPSON: It's fixed, I think,
20 within each program.

21 COMMISSIONER COHEN: Within each

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 program.

2 MR. REED: We are very committed to
3 serving the community in which we reside, and
4 as Coach mentioned, what has worked best long
5 term, given the different times that student
6 athletes are available by team, by season, is
7 we let our coaches do a lot of that work. And,
8 our student athletes are going to come up here
9 and testify, I think, a little later, or comment
10 a little later, and they can certainly speak
11 to their experiences working in the community,
12 and what they did, specifically.

13 But, we do, we have an Associate
14 Athletics Director that kind of coordinates all
15 of that activity by team, and then we have a
16 group that is a student athlete leadership
17 group, our SAL group, and they do a lot of
18 community service projects in the community on
19 an annual basis.

20 So, we spend thousands and thousands
21 of hours of grassroots Hoyas. I mean, there's

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 a number of initiatives that our student
2 athletes really work through and give their time
3 to, as well as our coaches, and as well as our
4 administration.

5 MR. AVITABILE: And, one other
6 point. There should be a letter in the record
7 from Monumental Sports and Entertainment,
8 talking about the importance of facility to the
9 Verizon Center. If it hasn't reached the record
10 yet, it should shortly, and we can certainly
11 provide a copy as well. It's from Tiffany Austin,
12 who is the head of Monumental Sports.

13 Also, actually, an alum, and member
14 of the Board of Directors at Georgetown full
15 disclosure. But, he's an owner of the Verizon
16 Center, and he talks about all of the ways in
17 which Georgetown's presence down at the Verizon
18 Center provides fiscal benefit to the District,
19 and he also notes that Georgetown, over the past
20 few years, has donated over 100,000
21 complimentary tickets to various community

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

1 organizations for Georgetown men's basketball
2 games, through such programs as Kids and Cops,
3 Most Valuable Kids, Boys and Girls Clubs, and
4 various church and community groups.

5 I seem to recall myself, one of the
6 things that happens during the winter months,
7 during the Christmas break, when the students
8 are away, the local high school bands are invited
9 to come in and play as the pep band for the games,
10 and it's a lot of fun, because they bring a lot
11 of energy to it.

12 There are many different ways in
13 which Georgetown athletics touch the District
14 of Columbia, and these are just some of those
15 ways.

16 If that letter isn't in the record,
17 I can certainly provide a copy. It should --
18 it may have been submitted within the last day,
19 which is why it's not yet in the packet. We
20 can certainly make sure that it makes it in
21 there, because I think it helps tell a little

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 bit of the story of what Georgetown does for
2 the District as a whole.

3 COMMISSIONER COHEN: Yes, I think
4 that would be good for the record. Thank you.

5 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Commissioner May?

6 COMMISSIONER MAY: Yes. I just
7 have one quick thought.

8 Did you -- back to the tennis courts
9 and the green roof at the same time -- did you
10 look at all of the prospect of putting tennis
11 courts on to the roof of that lower section of
12 the building?

13 MR. GRIDLEY: We looked at it, you'd
14 never get the number that you have now.

15 COMMISSIONER MAY: Yes, that's
16 obvious, but I mean two or three?

17 MR. GRIDLEY: You might be able to
18 get two, I'm not sure.

19 MR. REED: I think when we looked
20 at it, it was two, and they weren't, necessarily
21 doubles courts. So, it was very limited in

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 terms of the number of courts we could get on
2 the roof.

3 COMMISSIONER MAY: Okay. Well,
4 I'm glad you at least looked at it. Thanks.

5 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. I just have
6 a few comments.

7 As I looked at Commissioner Lewis'
8 letter from ANC 2E, I think Commissioner May
9 touched on a lot of that. I shared some of the
10 concerns and wanted to hear the responses, and
11 I think I'm satisfied with that, but I look
12 forward to hearing from Commissioner Lewis when
13 he comes forward.

14 But, I will tell you what was
15 disheartening when I looked at this scale, I'm
16 a competitor too, and when I look at the scale
17 and see that all other universities have a
18 competitive landscape, and in Georgetown the
19 last time something was done, 1951, and I'm
20 looking at everybody else, at least 2005. I
21 think that's really -- you know, that set the

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 tone for me.

2 I understand about the
3 architecture, but something has to be done.
4 I think from a programmatic standpoint, I like
5 what I saw, and I'm not even talking about design
6 now. I like the way the coaches' offices are
7 to the courts, and I think, for me it's well
8 designed.

9 But now, I'm not, necessarily,
10 talking about the architecture. When I look
11 at these graphs and charts, we really need to
12 come up to speed. But, I mean, this is
13 disheartening, and I think from a coach's
14 standpoint, I'm not a coach, I'm not like Kevin
15 Broadus, and I'm not like Coach Thompson and
16 the other coach here, but I can tell you this,
17 that's part of the competition. And, as Coach
18 Thompson said about attracting.

19 So, when I look at these graphs, that
20 was disheartening for me, and we have done
21 nothing since '51, McDonough Gym, and I'm

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

1 looking at all your competitors. So, I guess
2 we've got to get in the 21st Century at some
3 point in time.

4 That's really all I have.

5 Chairperson Lewis, do you have any
6 cross examination?

7 Okay. Let's go straight to the
8 Office of Planning's report.

9 MR. MORDPHIN: Good evening,
10 Commissioners. I'm Stephen Mordphin, with the
11 Office of Planning.

12 The application is in conformance
13 with provisions of Section 3129 of the Zoning
14 Regulation, but the granting of a minor
15 modification to an approved further processing
16 application, and, therefore, the Office of
17 Planning recommends approval of the
18 application.

19 Thank you.

20 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Thank you very
21 much.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 Commissioners, any questions?

2 Great report, Office of Planning.

3 We appreciate it.

4 Okay, any cross examination by the
5 applicant?

6 Mr. Lewis, do you have any cross
7 examination?

8 Okay. Let's go to report of other
9 Government agencies. Do we have anything? I
10 don't remember off the top of my head.

11 Oh, Councilmember Evans who -- okay,
12 let me go through that. Naturally, we've got
13 an ANC report, and they'll be coming up shortly.

14 We do have a letter of enthusiastic support,
15 actually, from the Council members of Ward 2,
16 Councilmember Evans, who has represented this
17 community for some time now, since 1991.

18 Anything else? We also have
19 something from the Commissioner of the Big East
20 Conference, who wants to visit the facility,
21 because he writes a letter of support also.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 And then, we have some neighbors who
2 have written letters in support. I haven't seen
3 anything in opposition. I did notice the ANC
4 had some concerns, but still a support letter,
5 with the issues of what they would have like
6 to have seen. But, I think going forward with
7 this new relationship, the response that we will
8 have with the new campus plan I expect to see
9 a lot more collaboration.

10 So, I'm really excited about that,
11 actually. I am really excited, Georgetown and
12 Commissioner Lewis, about the request for an
13 extension of 60 days. I am very excited. I'm
14 looking forward to a great outcome, and I know
15 I'm digressing from this hearing, but that's
16 one thing I'm really looking forward to.

17 So, at this time, I would ask
18 Chairperson Lewis if he'd come forward and give
19 his report.

20 MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Chairman
21 Hood, and good evening, Commissioners.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 I'm really happy to be here tonight,
2 because compared to what we've been wrestling
3 with over the past so long, this is pretty
4 straightforward. And, we are in accord with
5 the University to the extent that we do not
6 object in principle to this plan.

7 I mean, this is one ten-year campus
8 plan ago. It was approved in concept, we are
9 at second stage review. And, as a matter of
10 policy, we don't try to relitigate things in
11 the old campus plan.

12 Plus, the University needs it, we
13 agree with that.

14 Our concern and reservation is that
15 it could have been so much more. This is a prime
16 spot on the University's campus, and with mixed
17 use construction being so popular these days,
18 for all the right reasons, this could have been,
19 and some day may still be, a mixed use building,
20 with student housing in part of it, and the
21 athletic training facility in part of it. Other

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 universities, I know first hand, do have mixed
2 use buildings. And, one of them has the
3 university president on the first two floors,
4 and student housing on the top two floors, and
5 they seem to co-exist very well.

6 So, we think also that OGB and the
7 Fine Arts Commission would have taken a very
8 different approach had this been presented as
9 a mixed use residential athletic facility, and
10 would have not objected to using more of the
11 site, and to building up.

12 So, at this point all I can say to
13 the University is, best wishes for it, and build
14 it strong, because some day, and before too long
15 even, we may be back to you asking you to put
16 something on top of it.

17 That concludes my remarks. If you
18 have any questions.

19 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay, thank you,
20 Chairman Lewis.

21 Commissioners, any questions?

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21

Commissioner May?

COMMISSIONER MAY: I just have one.

I mean, I read over the letter a couple of times, and the resolution is very clear, and it says that it was approved, and there was a quorum, but was it a unanimous vote?

MR. LEWIS: Yes, it was.

COMMISSIONER MAY: Okay.

MR. LEWIS: Including our student member.

COMMISSIONER MAY: Okay, because that's not -- that's not in the letter, as far as I could tell. I don't know how critical that is for our record to have that.

MR. LEWIS: Thank you. I should have put that in.

If I may say just one other thing that I meant to say, after hearing the testimony about how many students it takes to have an acceptable housing facility.

Georgetown University has a housing

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 complex now called Magis Row. It only has
2 around 65 students, and if that can work, and
3 our position has been that there are too many
4 students there, not too few, than it can work
5 somewhere else, even at those numbers.

6 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Any other
7 questions, Commissioners?

8 Okay. Do we have any cross
9 examination? Okay.

10 Chairman Lewis, thank you for coming
11 down, appreciate it.

12 MR. LEWIS: Thank you very much.

13 CHAIRMAN HOOD: I'm glad you said
14 you were glad to be here.

15 Okay. We had organizations and
16 persons testifying in support.

17 Okay. Let me see, do we have anyone
18 who is here in opposition? Okay.

19 Monica McNutt, do you want to come
20 forward and testify? Come forward. Lauren
21 Gray. Okay. I think the two coaches, you all

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 signed in, did you all want to come back? Okay.

2 Okay, can't make it out, first name
3 is Jeff -- Green, I'm sorry, Jeff Green, and
4 Markel Starks, II.

5 Is there anyone else who would like
6 to testify in support?

7 And, if you could just when you
8 identify yourself, just let us know what sport
9 you play. You might have a competitor up here
10 somewhere.

11 Okay, let's start with Monica
12 McNutt.

13 MS. McNUTT: My name is Monica
14 McNutt, and I play basketball. I was on the
15 team that went to the Sweet 16 back in 2011,
16 as the only senior and Captain, and was so
17 incredibly proud of that run.

18 Obviously, Georgetown athletics,
19 but, particularly, Georgetown basketball, holds
20 a very special place in my heart. As a
21 competitor, we used this word already, it's so

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

1 disheartening to go to these various schools
2 throughout the Conference and check out these
3 state-of-the-art expansive facilities. When
4 you compare those facilities to the meager
5 accommodations at McDonough you can't help but
6 frown. I mean, that's just the way it is.

7 Beyond that, it was even more
8 frustrating to be a member of one the 29 teams
9 that is forced to shared the small space that
10 is McDonough. Coach Thompson mentioned, you
11 walk through the hallways, we all work hard in
12 practice, and we smell like hard work after
13 practice, and that just litters the building
14 when various teams are in the hallway. It's
15 pretty awful, but you appreciate it as an
16 athlete.

17 The new building is sure to enhance
18 the experience of student athletes. The daily
19 demands of being a student athlete are already
20 incredibly daunting, so to be able to have a
21 facility that you know is built and designed

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

1 specifically for you, and to accommodate what
2 you do on a daily basis, it makes you feel so
3 much more appreciated as an athlete.

4 By creating adequate gym space,
5 training facilities, specific weight rooms, and
6 a student study space, the student athlete will
7 be able to get nearly everything that he or she
8 needs out of this one building, short of food.

9 This will, like I said, enhance
10 student athletes' experience, but it will also
11 allow Georgetown athletics to become far more
12 efficient. No more waiting for space to become
13 available, each team will be provided with the
14 adequate resources that they need in order to
15 achieve success. In time, athletics will be
16 far more productive.

17 In order to compete with the best,
18 you have to train like the best, and this
19 facility will be one of the best.

20 The way I see it, better resources
21 and facilities will help to increase performance

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 and productivity, which translates to more
2 recruits and more wins for Georgetown
3 University.

4 I know that current student athletes
5 are thrilled with this plan and incredibly
6 thankful for the investment that the University
7 is making in athletics. So, being a student
8 athlete is nothing short of a full-time job,
9 it's imperative that student athletes, viewed
10 as employees, are kept happy, so that they can
11 be the most productive.

12 I know this building will make more
13 than -- I know this building would make me more
14 than happy if I was still in uniform.

15 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Great, thank you.

16 Okay, Lauren Gray.

17 MS. GRAY: Good evening. My name
18 is Lauren Gray, and I'm a junior on the women's
19 lacrosse team at Georgetown University.

20 I want to first start off by thanking
21 you for giving me this opportunity to speak

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 before you on behalf of my fellow Georgetown
2 student athletes.

3 Four years ago this summer I was
4 faced with one of the toughest decisions of my
5 life. I had to choose, not only where I was
6 going or go to college and spend the next four
7 years, but a school where I would be able to
8 receive the best education, while pursuing my
9 goal to play Division 1 lacrosse.

10 After narrowing down my choices to
11 two schools, I sat down with my parents and
12 created a pros and cons list to help me further
13 decide.

14 I remember writing down on the top
15 of my pros list for Georgetown that it had a
16 top-notch education, a good athletic program,
17 with great people, an unbelievable location,
18 and the potential to win an NCAA national
19 championship for the first time in a
20 university's history.

21 On the con side, however, I wrote

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

1 down that it was way too close to home, which
2 was my disbelief then is now a pro. Decent
3 facilities, and as minor as this may sound,
4 the fact that I had no idea what the team's locker
5 room or weight room looked like.

6 As you know in the end, I did choose
7 to attend Georgetown University, and play
8 lacrosse for them, even though the athletic
9 facilities were not the best.

10 Looking back on my decision now, I
11 know I made the right choice, because I could
12 not see myself as happy as I am now at any other
13 school. I know I am fortunate enough to attend
14 and study at one of the top universities in the
15 country, to be a part of such a loving and
16 gracious athletic program, and to know that in
17 one year I will be graduating from Georgetown
18 University with a degree.

19 Unfortunately, however, not
20 everyone is able to see past these flaws, as
21 these are resources that are seen as a necessity

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 for being a student athlete. It is true that
2 all of us here were able to look past these when
3 committing to play at Georgetown, but now as
4 I spent these past three years on the hilltop
5 as a student athlete I cannot agree more that
6 this new facility is essential for our program.

7 On an average day, a student athlete
8 gets four to six hours towards their sport.
9 This is not just including playing and
10 practicing, but conditioning, lifting, watching
11 films, and receiving treatment as well.

12 In addition to this, we still have
13 to take some time to attend the classes just
14 as normal students do, as well as study and do
15 our homework.

16 Over my time here at Georgetown, I
17 have traveled to nine Big East schools, as well
18 as a handful of ACC, ALC, and Patriot League
19 schools as well.

20 And, do you know what each and every
21 one of these schools has that we do not? A

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 facility designated for only athletes, that
2 provides them with the resources that allow them
3 to be as successful as they can be.

4 This new facility will not only be
5 beneficial for the Georgetown athletic program,
6 but our university as a whole. Currently, our
7 weight room is located at the University's
8 recreation center known as Yates, which is a
9 small space where athletes must share and even
10 use with the rest of the student population.

11 If we were to have this new athletic
12 facility, with our own weight room, this would
13 allow for not only athletes to work out on their
14 own time, but also free up the space for the
15 rest of the Georgetown population.

16 Furthermore, by allowing these new
17 facilities to be -- this new facility to be
18 built, each individual team will finally be able
19 to have their own locker room they can call their
20 own all year round, a weight room in the same
21 location as the rest of the athletic facilities,

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 a place to study between practice, classes and
2 lifts, and a space where we can communally meet
3 and work together for the betterment of, not
4 only our athletic program, but each individual
5 athlete as well.

6 Georgetown University has already
7 made itself known as one of the top academic
8 institutions in our country. However, we still
9 have not yet reached this goal with our athletic
10 program. By allowing our school to build this
11 new facility, I truly believe that our program
12 can reach its full potential and be the best
13 that it can be.

14 Thank you.

15 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Thank you.

16 Jeff Green.

17 MR. GREEN: My name is Jeff Green.

18 I played men's basketball from '04 to '07.
19 I'm going to keep it short and sweet. I don't
20 know how much time we have.

21 Looking at, you know, the model from

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 my time being here, I can already see, you know,
2 what can happen with, you know, the sports teams
3 that we have here, by having each have, you know,
4 their own little section where they can, you
5 know, call home, you know, I think is, you know,
6 a great opportunity for them to, you know, excel
7 in their sport.

8 When I was here, McDonough was, you
9 know, just, you know, it was rush hour, you know.

10 You have, you know, all the teams coming in
11 through the training room. The gym was used
12 for volleyball, you know, not to mention, you
13 know, you got graduation, you know, ceremonies
14 that happen in there, which enabled us to, you
15 know, practice.

16 You have freshmen orientation
17 there, so there are so many things that happen,
18 you know, in one building, you know, which makes
19 it tough, you know, to try to, you know, focus
20 on your sport.

21 So, you know, just seeing this

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 model, you know, I wish I could come back and,
2 you know, be able to practice in this building,
3 but, you know, I can already see, you know, the
4 things that can happen with the different
5 sports, and how, you know, it can help, you know,
6 the different teams, and, you know, recruitment,
7 teams recruiting, just bringing, you know, new
8 freshmen in, just shed a new light on the campus,
9 and I think it will be great for, you know, the
10 students also.

11 So, you know, just hopefully it can
12 get built and, you know, help every team out.

13 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Great, thank you.

14 A. Markel Starks, II.

15 MR. STARKS: Okay. As a current
16 basketball player at the University, I mean,
17 you know, you've heard everybody's testimony,
18 we need it badly. You know, practicing in
19 McDonough every day, you know, after a while
20 you get used to it.

21 In high school, my freshmen year,

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 we had a newly-funded, new arena, basketball
2 arena, where it had all the, you know, we had
3 swimming pools, state-of-the-art weight lifting
4 facility, wrestling rooms, all types of things.
5 Then you come to Georgetown and you are
6 practicing in McDonough every day, and, I mean,
7 it's like night and day.

8 But, even with that said, there's
9 nothing about McDonough that, you know, I can
10 fully say that I dislike, it's somewhere where
11 I can get some work in. As a competitor, you
12 know, you have to work with what you have.
13 Obviously, it would be beneficial for the
14 University and for all the athletics to have
15 a place where all the sports can go and, you
16 know, have an opportunity to excel in their
17 individual sports.

18 As far as basketball, it will be
19 fantastic, you know, we will have our own
20 practice facility, you know, mainly for us.
21 We can go, you know, there's been plenty of times

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

1 where I've called Coach Thompson and asked him
2 if, you know, it might be 10:30, 11:00 at night,
3 Coach, can I get in the gym. And then, to have
4 that space to go and have that access, you know,
5 any time of the day, any time of the night, would
6 be exceptional.

7 But, you know, you heard everybody's
8 testimony. We need it, you know, and,
9 hopefully, we can get it passed.

10 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Thank you.

11 Let's see if we have any questions.
12 Any questions, Commissioners?

13 Vice Chairman Schlater.

14 VICE CHAIRMAN SCHLATER: Thank you,
15 Mr. Chairman.

16 I, actually, don't have a question,
17 but as a life-long Celtics fan I would be remiss,
18 and now welcoming Mr. Green down here tonight,
19 I wish he was up in Boston playing tonight
20 against Milwaukee, getting ready for the
21 playoffs, but look forward to seeing you back

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealgross.com

1 next year.

2 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Since we are
3 going there, I have a -- I shouldn't -- I
4 shouldn't have said -- I shouldn't ask this,
5 but I am. When I look at A. Markel Starks, are
6 you related to any Starks that used to play with
7 the Knicks or anything like that?

8 Okay. Just asking.

9 And also, for the ball players, the
10 basketball players, see if they teach you
11 history. There was a guy who played in the '70s,
12 I believe he was a center. He played for Coach
13 Thompson's dad. His name was Tom, what was his
14 last name?

15 COMMISSIONER MAY: Skates.

16 CHAIRMAN HOOD: I said for the
17 basketball players, so the Zoning Commissioner
18 -- no, just a little history.

19 I went way back, didn't I, Coach.

20 Okay. All right. I really want to
21 thank you all for your testimony, we really

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 appreciate it.

2 I should ask some lacrosse
3 questions. Anybody here play lacrosse? Okay.

4 We are at a deficit, we need to up our game
5 a little bit, but, really, we've heard your
6 testimony loud and clear, and again, for me the
7 charts really show for me tonight exactly where
8 we are with competing.

9 So, I appreciate your enthusiasm
10 when other teams come down, you still hold your
11 head up. So, continue to do that, and whatever
12 you all are doing, continue your great work,
13 even though I'm not a Celtics fan. Good luck
14 to all of you. Thank you.

15 Oh, cross examination. Any cross
16 examination?

17 Mr. Lewis, any cross?

18 Okay, thank you all. Keep up the
19 good work. You notice we didn't cut you off
20 after three minutes, because we wanted to hear
21 from you.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 Okay. Mr. Avitabile, any closing?

2 MR. AVITABILE: No.

3 CHAIRMAN HOOD: I don't think you
4 have any rebuttal, or do you.

5 MR. AVITABILE: I have no need for
6 any rebuttal, and I think they said it all.
7 I don't even need to make a closing statement,
8 because I think the students said everything
9 I would have said.

10 We just respectfully request that
11 you approve our request for minor modification,
12 or modification to the approved plans, and if
13 you are so inclined we certainly would
14 appreciate a summary order and a bench decision.

15 Thank you.

16 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay, thank you.

17 Commissioners, I think the record
18 is complete. It has overwhelming support, and
19 I think I would be in favor of moving forward
20 with a bench decision tonight.

21 I just need a motion from someone.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21

Commissioner Cohen?

COMMISSIONER COHEN: I move that we approve the request for modification of approved plans, Zoning Case No. 07-23B, Georgetown University Athletic Training Facility.

VICE CHAIRMAN SCHLATER: Mr. Chairman, I would just ask that we grant the flexibility for the applicant to modify plans, in response to the OGB and CFA, so that they don't have to come back down here, if there are changes to the plan.

CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. Commissioner Cohen, would you accept that as a friendly amendment to your motion?

COMMISSIONER COHEN: Yes, I do.

CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay. It's been moved, can I get a second?

COMMISSIONER TURNBULL: I'll second.

CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay, Mr. Turnbull seconded. It's been moved and properly seconded with a friendly amendment.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

1 Any further discussion? Are you
2 ready for the question?

3 All those in favor?

4 (Ayes.)

5 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Not hearing any
6 opposition, Ms. Schellin, would you please
7 record the vote?

8 SECRETARY SCHELLIN: Yes, staff
9 records the vote 5:0:0 to approve final action
10 in Zoning Commission Case No. 07-23B,
11 Commissioner Cohen moving, Commissioner
12 Turnbull seconding, Commissioners Hood,
13 Schlater and May in support.

14 And, if we could leave the record
15 open for one week to allow the ANC to submit
16 a letter that includes their vote, so we'll have
17 that for the record, to give it the great weight.

18 CHAIRMAN HOOD: Okay, great.

19 Ms. Schellin, do we have anything
20 else before us?

21 SECRETARY SCHELLIN: That's it.

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com

1 CHAIRMAN HOOD: I want to thank
2 everyone for your participation tonight. Young
3 folks, continue the great job that you are doing,
4 and even though I'm not a Celtics fan, I will
5 make sure I'm looking out for you.

6 Take care, and good night.

7 (Whereupon, the above-entitled
8 matter was concluded at 7:44 p.m.)

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3701

(202) 234-4433

www.nealrgross.com