

12-07-2020

PR23-1034

Testimony of Fred Hill

Nominee, Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA)

Chairman Mendelson, members of the Council, my name is Fred Hill and I am very pleased to be here today as a nominee for the Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA). I would like to personally thank Mayor Bowser for her continued faith in me and re-nominating me to the BZA. I am honored to be considered to continue to serve on a Board that is so vital to the character and development of our city. I have served on the BZA since 2015 and for the past (4) years have served as its Chair.

I have had the privilege of calling the Washington, D.C. area my home for the past 45 years and have witnessed the dramatic growth that has taken place in our city. I have lived in Cathedral Heights, Shaw and now in Penn Quarter.

I earned my degree in Economics from the University of Arizona, studied Mandarin at the University of Beijing, and ran a start-up a communications company in Beijing, China. I founded a Health Care Communications firm in 1998, and through running my own consulting company for over the past 25 years, have honed my skills in management, planning, and implementation. I am proud to say my company is in DC located within the Downtown BID.

Among my activities within the District, I have served on the Board of Directors of the DC Chapter of the Entrepreneurs Organization, served on my Condo Board in ANC 2C, and served on the Board of Leadership Greater Washington and am a member of the Federal City Council.

I was confirmed by this Council to serve on the BZA in 2015 and was re-confirmed in 2017. Since that time, I have participated in over 1,000 cases for Special Exceptions, Variances and Appeals. As the Council knows, we take public testimony from the community, ANCs, and different DC Departments, including the Office of Planning and the Department of Transportation, and then use that testimony during our deliberations.

Over the past 5 years on the BZA, I have gained meaningful experience working with applicants, the Office of Planning, the Department of Transportation, citizens presenting in support and opposition, and various ANCs.

I am keenly aware of how important the BZA is to the city and how important each case is to the applicants, community, and to maintaining the integrity of the Zoning Regulations. Applicants are entitled to fair and impartial arbiters who will both hear them out and hold them to the standard they must meet in order to grant or deny the relief requested.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the professional and technical support provided to the board, from the Office of Zoning: Sara Bardin, Clifford Moy, Tracy Rose, Keara Mehlert, Paul Young and Rob Reid from the Office of the Attorney General: Max Tondro, Mary Naglehout, Alex Cain, Dan Basset, and Jake Rice; without their support, the Board would not be able to fulfill its responsibilities to the city.

I have enjoyed my time on the BZA and believe that I have done a good job at bringing well-balanced, informed, salient points to the discussions with my fellow board members as we deliberate each case and if re-appointed will continue this good work.

Thank you Chairman Mendelson and Members of the Council for this opportunity to speak before you.

I welcome any questions you may have for me.



COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
1350 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004

Phil Mendelson
Chairman

Office: (202) 724-8032
Fax: (202) 724-8085

December 3, 2020

Mr. Fred Hill
█ F Street, NW
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Mr. Hill:

Congratulations on being nominated for reappointment to be a member of the Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) for the District of Columbia. As you know, the appointment is subject to confirmation by the Council. The Committee of the Whole has scheduled a public roundtable on your nomination for Monday, December 7, at 10:30 a.m. Due to the COVID-19 public health emergency declaration, the roundtable will be conducted virtually on the internet using Zoom video conferencing technology. Enclosed is a copy of the roundtable notice.

It is standard for the Council to submit questions to nominees. I request your response to the Committee to the following questions no later than close of business, Friday, December 5, 2020.

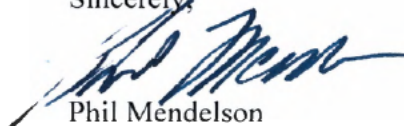
1. Please provide a copy of the Financial Disclosure Statement you filed with the Office of Campaign Finance or the Board of Ethics and Government Accountability. If you have not filed a disclosure form, please provide answers to questions no. 2-8 in lieu of that statement.
2. Please provide the name of each business entity transacting any business with the District Government in which you have a beneficial interest valued in excess of \$1,000, including publicly traded stock.
3. Please provide the name of each business entity transacting any business (including consulting) with the District Government from which you or your immediate family have received (or are receiving) income for services rendered in excess of \$200 during the past two years.
4. Please provide the name of each business entity transacting business with the District Government in which you or any member of your immediate family serves as an officer, director, partner, or agent. Also list the position(s) held, a brief description of the entity, and any other pertinent details.
5. Please provide the name of any lender and the amount of liability for each outstanding liability borrowed by you or any member of your immediate family in excess of \$1,000. Do not include loans from a federal or state insured or regulated financial institution, or from any business enterprise regularly engaged in the business of providing revolving credit or installment accounts.
6. Please list the location of all real property located in the District of Columbia in which you have an interest with a fair market value in excess of \$1000.

7. Please list all professional and occupational licenses held by you.
8. Please list any professional organizations of which you are currently a member.
9. Please list all board and commissions connected with the District Government on which you are or have been a member and include the term of service for each.
10. Please list any other boards (e.g., Board of Directors for a non-profit) on which you are currently a member.
11. Do you have any outstanding liability for taxes, fees, or other payments to the District, federal or other state or local governments, either contested or uncontested? If so, please provide documentation of attempts to pay the amount owed or to resolve the disputed claim.
12. Do you or any member of your immediate family have any interest, financial or otherwise, that may directly or indirectly pose a conflict of interest for you in performance of your duties as a member of the BZA?
13. Please describe any local political activity (i.e. the District of Columbia local elections or campaigns) that you have engaged in over the past six years, including all campaign contributions to a D.C. candidate or political committee.
14. Are you registered with any local, state, or federal government to lobby? If so, list the jurisdiction(s) in which you are registered.
15. Why have you agreed to serve another term and how do you plan to continue to help the Board fulfill its role and mission during your time on the Board?
16. Given that you are being reappointed to the Board, what challenges do you believe the Board has experienced since your time on the Board, and how do you believe these challenges should be addressed moving forward?
17. Please discuss any past and present experiences not already mentioned that you believe are relevant to support your appointment as a member of the BZA.

At the December roundtable, you will be asked to make an opening statement indicating your interest in serving as a member of the BZA. The testimony of persons interested in supporting your nomination is helpful but not necessary. Please refer to the attached roundtable notice for more information on providing testimony at the roundtable, in writing, or transcribed.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me or Julia Koster on my staff at 202-724-7130, or jkoster@dccouncil.us.

Sincerely,



Phil Mendelson
Chairman

enc.

PM/jk

12/3/2020

PR23-1034

Fred Hill continued answers to questions from Chairman Mendelson letter dated 11/30/2020

Questions/Answer:

9. Answer - Board of Zoning Adjustment – July 2015 to present
10. Answer – None
11. Answer – None
12. Answer – None
13. Answer – Muriel Bowser for Mayor – Brandon Todd for Ward 4 – Brooke Pinto for Ward 2
14. Answer – None
15. Answer – please see enclosed copy of my written testimony
16. Answer – please see enclosed copy of my written testimony



FDS Filing Details for 2019

Name: Frederick H

Date of Appointment or Employment: 6/1/2015

Final Date of Service:

Position: Board Member

Agency: Office of Zoning

Position Held with the District Government During the Prior calendar year (If Not The Same As Above)

Position:

Final Date in Position:

Agency:

Non District Employment/Business

1) Did you have any non-District employment or engagement in any outside business or other activity during the previous calendar year for which you received compensation of \$200 or more?

Position / Title	Name of Employer	Description of Work	Start Date	End Date	Income Received from Outside Business	Client Name
President	The H Group, Inc.	Federal Government Contractor	04/01/1998		\$100,001 - \$250,000	

2) Was your spouse, registered domestic partner, or dependent child(ren) employed by a private entity or did they engage in any business endeavors during the previous calendar year for which they received compensation of \$200 or more?

Position / Title	Name of Employer	Description of Work	Start Date	End Date	Client Name
Special Counselor	NVLSA	Lawyer	07/5/2015		

3) Did you serve in any unpaid position (without compensation) as an officer, director, partner, consultant, contractor, volunteer, member or in any other formal capacity of a non-government board or other outside entity during the previous calendar year?

No

4) Did your spouse, registered domestic partner, or dependent child(ren) serve in any unpaid position (without compensation) as an officer, director, partner, consultant, contractor, volunteer, member or in any other formal capacity of a non-government board or other outside entity during the previous calendar year?

Position / Title	Name of Entity	Start Date	End Date
Board Member	Access Youth	07/01/2014	

5) During the previous calendar year, did you have any agreements with a former or current employer, other than with the District of Columbia, for future payments or benefits (such as separation pay, partnership buyouts, or pension or retirement pay) or for future employment or for a leave of absence?

No

6) During the previous calendar year, did your spouse, registered domestic partner, or dependent child(ren) have any agreements with a former or current employer, other than with the District of Columbia, for future payments or benefits (such as separation pay, partnership buyouts, or pension or retirement pay) or for future employment or for a leave of absence?

No

Securities, Holdings and Investments

7) Did you have a beneficial interest in or hold any security ("security" means stocks (any class), bonds (including savings bonds and tax exempt bonds), stock options, warrants, debentures, obligations, notes (not mortgage notes), mortgages (not on one's home), investment interests in limited partnerships, REITs, and such other evidences of indebtedness and certificates of interest or participation in any profit-sharing agreement as are usually referred to as securities) at the close of the previous calendar year that exceeded in the aggregate \$1,000 or that produced income of \$200 or more?

No

8) Did your spouse, registered domestic partner, or dependent child(ren) have a beneficial interest in or hold any security ("security" means stocks (any class), bonds (including savings bonds and tax exempt bonds), stock options, warrants, debentures, obligations, notes (not mortgage notes), mortgages (not on one's home), investment interests in limited partnerships, REITs, and such other evidences of indebtedness and certificates of interest or participation in any profit-sharing agreement as are usually referred to as securities) at the close of the previous calendar year that exceeded in the aggregate \$1,000 or that produced income of \$200 or more?

No

9) Did you owe any entity or person (other than a member of your immediate family) \$1,000 or more, (excluding: mortgages on your personal residence, student loans, automobile loans, credit card accounts or other revolving credit, and other loans from a federal or state insured or regulated financial institution), during the previous calendar year?

No

10) Did your spouse, domestic partner or dependent child(ren) owe any entity or person (other than a member of the immediate family) \$1,000 or more, (excluding: mortgages on personal residences, student loans, automobile loans, credit card accounts or other revolving credit, and other loans from a federal or state insured or regulated financial institution), during the previous calendar year?

No

11) Did you have an interest in any real property located in the District of Columbia during the previous calendar year, as defined from primary personal residence, occupied by you, your spouse or your domestic partner, where your interest had a fair market value of more than \$1,000, or where the property produced income of \$200 or more?

Location of Real Property	Purchase or Acquisition Date	Date Sold or Conveyed	Value of Ownership Interest in Real Estate
825 5th Street, NW Washington DC 20002	04/07/2009		Over \$1,000,000

12) Did your spouse, domestic partner, or dependent child(ren) have an interest in any real property located in the District of Columbia during the previous calendar year, as defined from the primary personal residence, where the interest had a fair market value of \$1,000 or more or where the property produced income of \$200 or more?

No

Regulated Professions

13) Do you hold any professional or occupational licenses issued by the District of Columbia government (i.e., are you licensed to practice law in the District of Columbia, or are you licensed by the District's Department of Health, the District's Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, the District's Department of Mental Health, the District's Department of Insurance Securities and Banking, the Metropolitan Police Department, the District's Occupational and Professional Licensing Administration, etc.)?

No

14) Does your spouse, domestic partner, or dependent child(ren) hold any professional or occupational licenses issued by the District of Columbia government (i.e., are they licensed to practice law in the District of Columbia, or are they licensed by the District's Department of Health, the District's Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, the District's Department of Mental Health, the District's Department of Insurance Securities and Banking, the Metropolitan Police Department, or the District's Occupational and Professional Licensing Administration, etc.)?

Type of License Issued	Issuing Entity
Attorney	DC Bar

Gifts

15) Did you receive any gift(s) (A gift is defined as a payment, subscription, advance, forbearance, rendering, or deposit of money, services, or anything of value, unless consideration of equal or greater value is received) from any person that has or is seeking to do business with the District, conducts operations or activities that are regulated by the District, or has an interest that may be favorably affected by the performance or nonperformance of your duties in the total amount or with a total value of \$100 or more during the previous calendar year?

No

Additional Comments

Supporting Documents

I certify that I have:

- Not caused title to property to be placed in another person or entity for the purpose of avoiding the disclosure requirements on the preceding form;
- Filed and paid my income and property taxes;
- Diligently safeguarded the assets of the taxpayers and the District;
- Reported known illegal activity, including attempted bribes, to the appropriate authorities;
- Not been offered or accepted any bribes;
- Not directly or indirectly received government funds through illegal or improper means;
- Not raised or received funds in violation of federal or District law; and
- Not received or been given anything of value, including a gift, favor, service, loan/gratuity, discount, hospitality, political contribution, or promise of future employment, based on any understanding that my official actions or judgment or vote would be influenced.
- I certify that I have:
- Not caused title to property to be placed in another person or entity for the purpose of avoiding the disclosure requirements on the preceding form;
- Filed and paid my income and property taxes;
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I understand that:

- Submission of this report means that I have completed the report with applicable schedules and that the report is ready for filing with BEGA.
- Once this report is submitted, it cannot be edited. Any modifications thereafter can only be done by filing an amendment.
- I understand that:
- Submission of this report means that I have completed the report with applicable schedules and that the report is ready for filing with BEGA.
- Once this report is submitted, it cannot be edited. Any modifications thereafter can only be done by filing an amendment.

Additional Comments