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CAMBRIDGE MA.

May 10, 1993

The Honorable, The Cambridge City Council,

Our class has been studying cities and exploring ways that they are structured, developed and governed. In so doing, we have created our own city (City 206), with a functional city council that meets twice weekly.

In February, City 206 worked on the issue of the Lost Zebra Statue that was vandalized in The Father Callahan Park, about three years ago. This has been a very challenging experience for us.

We began by discussing the zebra's history at our city council meetings. We brainstormed among ourselves for ideas about appropriate placement of the statue. There were many suggestions but our citizens finally decided on two that they thought might be workable, as well as agreeable to the entire school population.

Our citizens agreed that the zebra should be placed outside of the Tobin School (in the circle), in a well lighted area. We also agreed that the zebra should become our school mascot, hoping thereby to create a greater concern for and attachment to the statue.

Next, our class presented written opinion surveys (see attached survey sample) to the school population to find out the school's position on the matter. We collected the information and graphed our results.

We discovered that many of the students were in favor of having the Lost Zebra placed in the circle in the front of the school; however, Students were not in favor of having the zebra as our school mascot.

The Lost Zebra Statue Survey Results

Listed below are the two suggestions from our City 206 citizens regarding the placement of the statue.

A. The Lost Zebra should be removed from the park and should be replaced in the front of the Tobin School within the circle. The statue should be placed in a well lighted situation to avoid being vandalized.

B. The Lost Zebra should become our school mascot, thereby allowing the statue to become a valued piece or art, as well as developing a close attachment to the students.

Listed below are the results of our Lost Zebra survey that was given to the first through seventh grade at the Tobin School.

SUGGESTION A.

In Favor: 147

Against: 111

Suggestion B.

In Favor: 103

Against: 134

After we collated our survey, we discussed the zebra issue with the Tobin Neighborhood Council, who was also studying the issue. We discovered that because of restoration fund guidelines, the Lost Zebra could not be placed at the site outside of the school but had to be returned to its original place in the park. Our citizens were disappointed in hearing this information but felt that the site they had selected was still worth pursuing.

We the citizens of City 206 hope that this information has been helpful to you as you make your decision about the placement of the Zebra Statue.

Yours sincerely,

City 206 Citizens

Andrea Nicky Lautman James Cleary
Joe F. Couchlar Jennings
Andrew Couchlar Tony
Nora Councilor Carolyn Barnes
Joey C. Mayor Peter Crane
Courtney David Bischoff, Clerk
Johanna Ricardo Wey
Molly Hanna
Claudia Tafumi
Max Brown, City Manager

Communication received from City
206 Citizens regarding the issue
of the Lost Zebra.

See Sundries 1992 # 756
for original order

See Sundries 1992 # 846
for rep. # 1

See Sundries 1992 # 911
for rep. # 2

See Agenda # 5 of 5/17/93
for Rep. # 3

In City Council,
May 17, 1993

Refer to Arts Council
Copy sent to Arts Council 5/18/93
gpc.