

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C
Adams Morgan
Minutes of March 6, 2019

I. Call to Order and Introduction of the Commissioners

A regularly scheduled meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C was held on March 6, 2019 at Mary's Center. Commissioner Guthrie called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm. About 20 members of the public attended. In attendance were Commissioners Amir Irani (1C01), Bridget Pooley (1C02), Ted Guthrie (1C03), Douglas Ely (1C04), Damiana Dendy (1C05), Michaela Wright (1C06), Japer Bowles (1C07), and Amanda Fox Perry (1C08).

II. Officers' Reports

a. Chair's Report

Commissioner Guthrie reported that the Planning, Zoning, and Transportation Committee's February meeting was cancelled due to snow and that the agenda items from that meeting would be moved to the March PZT Committee meeting.

b. Secretary's Report

i. Minutes for February 6, 2019 Meeting

Commissioner Wright moved to approve the minutes of the February 6, 2019 monthly ANC1C meeting. Commissioner Dendy seconded the motion which then passed by a vote of 8 to 0.

c. Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Pooley had no updates or business.

III. Commissioner Announcements/Comments

- Commissioner Ely announced that the agenda for the Public Services and the Environment Committee meeting on March 27 would include a discussion of Washington Gas leaks; a possible new ANC1C website and streaming of ANC1C meetings; a grant application from the Adams Morgan Youth Leadership Academy; and, an update on Walter Pierce Park.
- Commissioner Irani announced that Meeps vintage clothing store would be holding a sidewalk sale on Saturday, March 9 from 11am to 6pm. He also announced that the ABC and Public Safety Committee meeting would be on March 13 and that police officers from PSA 303 would deliver their monthly report.
- Commissioner Fox Perry announced that the Planning, Zoning, and Transportation Committee would meet on March 20 to consider the agenda from the cancelled February meeting, including discussion of BikeShare locations; parking on the 1700 block of Kalorama; plans for 2326 20th Street and for 2322 19th Street; and a proposal to name a portion of Quarry Road for Casilda Luna.
- Commissioner Dendy reported that she had signed onto a letter asking the DC Council to reprimand and investigate Councilmember Jack Evans for violations of the Council's code of conduct. Commissioners agreed to discuss later in the meeting whether ANC1C should send a similar letter.
- Commissioner Guthrie announced that the DC Office of Tax and Revenue would be holding two workshops on real property tax appeals on March 7 and March 21 to help those concerned about their property tax evaluations and how to appeal them. He said the meetings would be held at the Real Property Tax Appeals Commission at 1 Judiciary Square. Kristen Barden added that a

property tax workshop would also be held at the Mount Pleasant Library and that information is posted on the Office of Tax and Revenue website.

- Commissioner Guthrie noted that signs are up for Saturday, March 9th Rock n Roll Marathon. He said it is not clear whether cars will be towed if they are parked along the race path that morning, but that neither the race officials nor the police gave the ANC any warning about possible towing.
- Commissioner Wright announced that the National Zoo is reexamining fencing around the zoo perimeter and the National Capital Planning Commission would be live streaming a meeting on March 7 about that. She said the proposal, which includes closing a few entrances, is posted on the zoo website.
- Commissioner Pooley reported that she is working with the Mayor's Clean City office to identify small buildings of 4 to 10 units that are struggling with trash removal options. She said that the city picks up trash for buildings of fewer than 4 units, and that bigger buildings can find affordable trash pick-up options, but that buildings in between have a difficult time finding options.

IV. Public Announcements / Comments

- A representative from the Line Hotel Community Center reported on some of the gatherings that were happening at the center including a meeting for prevention of human trafficking, a DC Story Circle project, the Sitar Arts board meeting, a theater group rehearsal, Jubilee Jumpstart parent classes, and meetings of For Love of Children and AMYLA. She said upcoming gatherings include free community yoga, a knitting club, and a jam session hosted by AMYLA. She added that the second drag queen story hour would be held on March 31 and that various events and art displays would be held in conjunction with the Cherry Blossom Festival.
- Nancy Shia reported on a February 12 event honoring Casilda Luna, and on efforts to name part of Quarry Road for her. Ms. Shia said that another celebration would be held at the Gala Theater on April 6, Casilda Luna's 93rd birthday.
- Kristin Barden of the Adams Morgan BID announced that date night promotions in Adams Morgan were continuing through March.
- Two representatives from the Junior League of Washington announced that the league would be holding a Kitchen Tour on Saturday, May 4 in Kalorama and Adams Morgan. They said they are still taking nominations for homes and had fliers with more information on the back table.
- DaVon Fuller of Councilmember Nadeau's office announced that the next Brienne on Your Block meeting would be on March 14 at the Mason Dixie Biscuit Company. Mr. Fuller also said that Councilmember Nadeau requested to be on the ANC1C agenda for the April meeting. Commissioner Guthrie said that would work.
- Reuben Forman from Mayor Bowser's office announced that a new MyDPW app will allow residents to get reminders from the Department of Public Works about scheduled street cleaning. He said there is also a new Spanish version of the Department of Employment Services website. Mr. Forman announced that a new downtown day shelter is now open for homeless services at the triangle park at 13th Street and New York Avenue. Finally, he reminded everyone to check to see if they qualify for either the early learning tax credit or the earned income tax credit adding that help with DC taxes could be found on the DC Department of Insurance, Securities, and Banking website.

V. Scheduled Business

a. ABC and Public Safety Committee

i. Zenebech Restaurant settlement agreement

Commissioner Irani reported that ANC 1C and the Kalorama Citizens' Association had negotiated an amended settlement agreement with Zenebech restaurant at 2420 18th Street with respect to

their application for an entertainment endorsement. He explained that the owners wanted to have traditional Ethiopian music on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays and a small dance floor. Commissioner Irani moved for adoption of an amendment to the existing settlement agreement to allow the specified entertainment. Commissioner Guthrie seconded the motion.

A member of the public asked about the dance floor. Commissioner Irani explained that chairs would be moved to create a very small dance floor, but it would not be a permanently designated dance floor. He also noted that the agreement specifies the type of traditional Ethiopian musical instruments that would be allowed, and that there would be no advertising about dancing. He said these specific limitations also provide protection if the license is sold in the future. Commissioners then voted 8 to 0 to adopt the agreement.

b. Public Services and the Environment

i. Oyster-Adams school modernization

Commissioner Irani provided background on a resolution requesting assessment and modernization of the Adams campus of Oyster-Adams School. He reported on his observations after a tour of the school, noting that although the school covers grades four through eight, there is no functioning science classroom or lab and there are insufficient electrical outlets. He added that modernization is currently scheduled for 2024. Commissioner Irani then moved a resolution requesting that a full facility assessment be done in the current academic year and that funds be put aside this fiscal year to put the school on the path towards modernization. Passage of the resolution was recommended by the PSE Committee and so it did not require a second.

Commissioner Ely offered an amendment to change the wording of the resolution to include the Mayor in the funding request. The amendment was accepted without objection. Commissioners then voted 8 to 0 to pass the resolution as amended.

A member of the public suggested sending the resolution to ANC3C Commissioners since some Oyster-Adams students live in that district and those Commissioners may want to pass a similar resolution.

ii. Funding for improvements to the triangle park at Kalorama and Columbia Road, recently re-named after Ann Hughes Hargrove

Commissioner Ely reported that the Public Services and the Environment Committee had a discussion about possible improvements for the Ann Hughes Hargrove Park (the triangle park at Kalorama Road, Columbia Road, and 19th Street). Commissioner Ely moved that ANC1C send a letter to Mayor Bowser, the DC Council, the DC Department of General Services, and the DC Department of Parks and Recreation requesting that \$100,000 be included in the FY 2020 budget for maintenance of and improvements to the park. Commissioner Guthrie seconded the motion commenting that the park has suffered from neglect over the years.

Denis James mentioned that the Kalorama Citizens' Association is looking into filing the necessary paperwork to become a park partner.

Commissioners then passed the resolution by a vote of 8 to 0.

iii. Letter regarding conduct of Councilmember Jack Evans

Commissioner Guthrie moved that consideration of sending a letter to the DC Council regarding recent conduct by Councilmember Jack Evans be added to the agenda without the typical ten days' advance notice, on the grounds that doing so is in the interest of the community. Commissioner Irani seconded the procedural motion that then passed by a vote of 8 to 0.

Commissioner Dendy moved that ANC1C send a letter asking Chairman Mendelson and the DC Council to remove Councilmember Jack Evans as Chair of the Committee on Finance and Revenue and to investigate his use of public office to benefit his private practice. Commissioner Guthrie seconded the motion. Commissioners then passed the motion to send the letter by a vote of 8 to 0.

VI. Adjournment

Commissioner Pooley moved to adjourn at 8:08 pm. Commissioner Bowles seconded the motion which passed unanimously.