

Please note: In addition to the text and vote counts of the official actions taken by the Commission, these minutes may contain summaries of comments that were made and discussions that took place at the meeting. Such summaries are not intended to be a verbatim account of the meeting.

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C**  
**Adams Morgan**  
**Minutes of March 5, 2014**

**I. Call to Order and Introduction of Commissioners**

A regularly scheduled meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C was held on March 5, 2014 at Mary's Center. Chair Simpson called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm. Approximately 13 members of the public attended. In attendance were Commissioners Brian Hart (1C01), Martis Davis (1C02), Ted Guthrie (1C03), Elham Dehbozorgi (1C05), Billy Simpson (1C06), and Wilson Reynolds (1C07).

**II. Officers' Reports**

**a. Chair's Report**

Chair Simpson announced that the Reed-Cooke Neighborhood Association would be holding a candidate forum for Ward 1 Councilmember candidates on Thursday, March 13<sup>th</sup> at the King Emmanuel Baptist Church on Ontario Road. Fliers were in the back.

**b. Secretary's Report**

Secretary Guthrie announced that approval of the February 5, 2014 minutes would be considered at the April meeting so commissioners would have sufficient time to review them.

**c. Treasurer's Report**

**i. Release of grant to DC Arts Center**

Treasurer Dehbozorgi reported that the DC Arts Center had returned unspent grant funds because they did not receive funds from a second source and were unable to start a mural restoration project. They now have received the other funds and renewed their request for the grant funds from ANC 1C. Treasurer Dehbozorgi moved to reissue the grant for \$1000 to restore the mural. Commissioner Reynolds seconded the motion.

Commissioner Guthrie asked whether checks need to be issued immediately once a grant has been approved. Gottlieb Simon, Executive Director of the DC Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions, who was present at the meeting, said ANCs can wait to issue the check until it is needed.

The motion to re-issue the grant check to the DC Arts Center passed by a vote of 6 to 0.

**ii. Q1 Report for FY2014**

Treasurer Dehbozorgi moved to approve ANC 1C's Q1 financial report for FY 2014 and noted that the Commission had a higher balance at the end of the quarter than at the beginning of it. Commissioner Hart seconded the motion and the report was approved by a vote of 6 to 0.

**III. Commissioner Announcements/Comments**

- Commissioner Davis announced that work is progressing on drafting an Envision Adams Morgan survey. He said plans are to post it online by the end of March and to begin distributing printed copies this spring.
- Commissioner Guthrie reminded everyone to be aware of road closures for the Rock n Roll Marathon on Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Commissioner Hart noted that the ABC and Public Safety Committee will be considering nuisance violations for excessive noise at its next meeting, receiving information from Carl Nelson who works on noise abatement issues in Dupont.

- Chair Simpson read a note that had been dropped off by Lisa Duperier announcing that the Kalorama Park board meeting would be changed to Tuesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> this month due to a snow cancellation on the regular meeting night. The public was urged to attend if interested in volunteering at the park or in raising funds for it. The agenda included park maintenance and the soil erosion project.

#### **IV. Public Announcements/Comments**

- Tony Harvey announced that the Meridian Center has lost its nonprofit status for DC property tax because DC's Chief Financial Officer has determined it is chiefly a national and international group that contributes nothing to the District. Harvey noted that many Meridian Center events are free and open to the public and many exhibits are geared toward DC residents.
- A representative of the DC Firefighters Association reminded everyone to change their smoke alarm batteries when they change their clocks on March 9.

#### **V. Upcoming Meeting Agendas for March**

Chair Simpson announced that the agendas for ANC 1C committee meetings in March could be found on the reverse side of the ANC agenda. Committee chairs briefly discussed their agenda items.

Commissioner Reynolds asked about the Jubilee Housing applications listed on the agenda for the Planning, Zoning, and Transportation Committee meeting. Commissioner Guthrie explained that they are for transitional homes – one on Ontario Road for 10 women, and one on 18<sup>th</sup> Street for 10 men who are returning from jail.

Commissioner Davis, Chair of the Public Services and the Environment Committee, noted that they would be finishing work on the wording of the Envision Adams Morgan survey.

#### **VI. Scheduled Business**

##### **a. Planning, Zoning, and Transportation**

##### **i. Permanent structures in public space**

In Commissioner Rock's absence, Commissioner Reynolds offered a motion passed by the Planning, Zoning, and Transportation Committee meeting at its March meeting. He moved to authorize the Chair of the Planning, Zoning, and Transportation Committee to send a letter to the DC Public Space Committee requesting it to inspect three establishments – El Rincon, the adjacent property to the south/west, and Pollo Granjero – that appear to have added permanent structures to their buildings. Commissioner Guthrie seconded the motion. Commissioner Hart asked about the history of these structures – how they became so large and so permanent and whether it was done incrementally, gradually creeping out over the sidewalk.

Members of the public asked how it is determined that a structure is permanent. It was explained that a structure must be able to be dismantled in 24 hours in order to qualify as temporary.

The motion to send a letter to Public Space Committee to inspect the establishments passed by a vote of 6 to 0.

##### ***Motion on Permanent Structures on Public Space***

*Be it resolved that ANC 1C authorizes the chair of the PZT committee to send a letter on the Commission's behalf to the Public Space Committee requesting it to inspect certain properties that appear to have installed permanent structures in public space: El Rincon, the adjacent property to the south/west, and Pollo Granjero.*

**ii. Request for presentation on Zoning Regulations Rewrite**

Commissioner Reynolds offered a motion passed by the Planning, Zoning, and Transportation Committee for ANC 1C to conduct a special forum on DC's Zoning Regulation Review and to invite the Office of Planning to conduct a briefing at the forum. Commissioner Guthrie seconded the motion. Commissioner Reynolds noted that the Zoning Commission had extended the deadline for finishing this process and added two more public hearings – one on April 21 in Ward 8, and one on April 24 at the Zoning Commission's regular hearing room at 441 4th Street NW. Commissioner Reynolds said that representatives from the Office of Planning could come to a special forum of ANC 1C on Tuesday, March 25. Chair Simpson said details will be posted on the listserv once the meeting time and place are set.

Adams Morgan resident Matt McCarthy asked whether Councilmember Jim Graham had taken any position on the zoning review or whether it should be slowed down and said he thought residents are not aware that the regulation review is happening. Commissioner Reynolds said the Office of Planning is increasing its outreach efforts to ensure that residents are aware of the process and the proposed changes.

Commissioner Guthrie offered a friendly amendment to the motion to include an allocation of up to \$200 to rent space for the forum. Chair Simpson asked Commissioners to let the other Commissioners know ahead of time whether they will want a vote on a resolution at the special forum.

Benedicte Aubrun, of the Reed-Cooke Neighborhood Association, expressed concerns about the status of the Reed-Cooke overlay under the proposed Zoning Regulations Rewrite.

The motion to hold the special forum as amended passed by a vote of 6 to 0.

Commission Reynolds agreed to work with the Office of Planning on the date for the special forum.

***Motion on Special Forum for Office of Planning Briefing***

*Motion is made that ANC 1C convene a Special Forum on the single topic of the Zoning Regulation Review in March of 2014; that the Chair of the PZT Committee is authorized to invite the Office of Planning to this Special Forum to conduct a briefing on the Zoning Regulation Review; and that up to \$200 is allocated for renting space for the forum.*

**b. Public Services and the Environment**

**i. Young Playwrights' Theater grant request**

Chair Simpson noted that the Public Services and the Environment Committee considered a grant request from the Young Playwrights' Theater, but did not have a chance to give the community two weeks advance notice. Commissioner Davis, Chair of the PSE Committee, made a procedural motion to allow consideration of the grant request on the basis that it would not be adverse to the community to do so. Chair Simpson seconded the procedural motion which then passed by a 6 to 0 vote.

Alison Beyrle, development manager for the Young Playwrights' Theater, provided background on their program which helps students write their own plays that are then performed by professionals. Commissioner Davis explained that the group works in partnership with the Sitar Arts Center that has a theater and an after school arts program but lacks a writing program. Commissioner Davis moved to approve the Young Playwrights' Theater grant application for \$1000 for its 2014 program year. Commissioner Hart seconded the motion that was then passed by a vote of 6 to 0.

**ii. Age Friendly DC Initiative**

Commissioner Davis briefly spoke about the Age-Friendly DC walk-through of each of the city's neighborhoods to identify local assets and needs from the perspective of older residents. Gail Kohn, the program coordinator, had planned on speaking at the meeting but was unable to attend.

**VII. Adjournment**

Commissioner Davis moved to adjourn at 8:06 pm. Commissioner Hart seconded the motion which passed by a vote of 6 to 0.