

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C
Adams Morgan
Minutes of September 4, 2019

I. Call to Order and Introduction of the Commissioners

A regularly scheduled meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C was held on September 4, 2019 at Mary's Center. Commissioner Guthrie called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm. About 31 members of the public attended. In attendance were Commissioners Amir Irani (1C01), Bridget Pooley (1C02), Ted Guthrie (1C03), Damiana Dendy (1C05), Michaela Wright (1C06), Japer Bowles (1C07), and Amanda Fox Perry (1C08).

II. Officers' Reports

a. Chair's Report

i. Special Election for 1C04

Commissioner Guthrie announced that a special election would be held at the October 2 ANC 1C monthly meeting to fill the vacancy of Commissioner for Single Member District 1C04; and that two candidates, John Zottoli and Ben Husch, were running. Commissioner Guthrie moved a resolution providing for the specifics of the election including time and place of voting; eligibility of voters; and procedures for counting the votes. Commissioner Irani seconded the motion that then passed by a vote of 6 to 0.

Commissioner Guthrie also announced that on August 16, resident Tod Messer died from injuries that were inflicted on August 8 on 18th Street. He asked that anyone who may know something about the attack on Mr. Messer to contact the police.

ii. Name a new chair for the Public Services & Environment Committee

Commissioner Guthrie announced that a new Chair of the Public Services and the Environment Committee was needed since Commissioner Ely had resigned. Commissioner Pooley nominated Commissioner Bowles. Commissioner Wright seconded the nomination, then Commissioners voted 7 to 0 to name Commissioner Bowles as the new Chair of the PSE Committee.

b. Secretary's Report

Minutes for July 10, 2019 Meeting

Commissioner Wright moved to approve the minutes of the July 10, 2019 monthly ANC 1C meeting. Commissioner Pooley seconded the motion. Commissioner Irani amended the minutes to correct who called the meeting to order. Commissioners then passed the minutes as amended by a vote of 7 to 0.

c. Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Pooley presented the Q3 financial report and moved for its approval. Commissioner Bowles seconded the motion that passed by a vote of 7 to 0.

III. Commissioner Announcements/Comments

- Commissioner Fox Perry announced the agenda for the Planning, Zoning, and Transportation Committee's October meeting including consideration of a BZA special exception request for a garage apartment at 2322 19th Street NW; an HPRB application for a [roof deck](#) at 1979 Biltmore Street NW; and a public space application for a bike rack at 1731 Kalorama Road NW.
- Commissioner Wright announced that Adams Morgan Day would be held on Sunday, September 8. She said volunteers are still needed and those interested could sign up online.

- Commissioner Wright announced that the District Department of Transportation is considering making the intersection of Quarry Road and Lanier Place a 4-way stop. She said comments can be filed with Emily.delphy@dc.gov until September 27.
- Commissioner Wright also announced that the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Oversight and Reform would be holding a hearing on DC Statehood on September 19 in Room 2154 Rayburn House Office Building.
- Commissioner Irani announced that the agenda for the ABC and Public Safety Committee's September meeting would include the monthly police report, consideration of an application for alcohol sales for Streets Market on Columbia Road, and a settlement agreement with Isshin Ramen.
- Commissioner Guthrie announced that the DC government is asking residents to contact them if they have been subject to insurance fraud schemes.
- Commissioner Pooley announced that a number of tax changes go into effect on October 1, including one to make diapers tax-exempt. She said the changes can be found at: mytaxdc.wordpress.com.
- Commissioner Pooley also announced that the discussion of erosion at Kalorama Park would be moved to either the Public Services and the Environment Committee September meeting or the full ANC October meeting. She also noted that residents in her SMD requested that discussion of an uptick in crime at Kalorama Triangle be added to the ABC meeting agenda.
- Commissioner Bowles announced that Mayor Bowser was hosting a Doggie Day Swim on Saturday, September 7 at Upshur, Randall, and Francis pools.
- Commissioner Bowles also reported that the Reed-Cooke neighborhood clean-up the previous weekend had been a success. He also reported that he met Ben Husch, one of the candidates for SMD 1C04, and he seemed excited to run. Commissioner Bowles added that he is looking for to learning more about the other candidate as well.
- Commissioner Bowles noted that the PSE Committee would be discussing two bills before the DC Council that address medical marijuana and testing for marijuana and that the Committee is seeking community input. He added that the Committee would also provide time for "trash talk" with DC government representatives from the Clean City and SWEEP programs; and the Committee would hear a presentation on the [Birth to Three for All DC Act](#); and a [grant application](#) from Platform of Hope. He also announced that Emily Gasoi, the Ward 1 representative on the State Board of Education, is planning to attend the October PSE meeting and that families are welcome to bring their children to that meeting.
- Commissioner Bowles also announced that the DC Office of Planning has invited the city's ANCs to attend a September 19 briefing to learn more about the DC Comprehensive Plan, and that Commissioners will share what they learn at the briefing.
- Commissioner Dendy announced that she sent a letter to DDOT regarding making Columbia Road safer for all. She invited others to join her in signing the letter and asked those interested in discussing this matter to contact her.

IV. Public Announcements / Comments

- John Fleming announced that a new internet provider, Starry Internet, was offering service in the area and that they would be at Adams Morgan Day on Sunday.
- Kristen Barden of the Adams Morgan BID announced that Porchfest would be held on Saturday, October 5 from 2 to 6 pm and that the headquarters will be on the SunTrust Bank plaza. She also announced that the Apple Festival, including an apple pie baking contest, would be held at the Adams Market Farmers Market on Saturday, October 26 from 10:30 to 1pm. Finally, she commented that Todd Messer, who had passed away due to injuries suffered in an attack, may be known to some people as "Cowboy."

- David Meni of Councilmember Brienne Nadeau's office noted that the Council is still in recess, so there were no legislative updates, but that people can contact him with questions or concerns.
- Travoris Culpepper from Pepco gave an update on the Capital Grid Project. He provided fliers with information and noted that work on the Champlain Substation is projected to begin in 2022. He said he would return with updates before preliminary construction begins.
- Reuben Forman of Mayor Bowser's office announced that \$100,000 has been allocated for the Community Census Project to make sure everyone is counted. He stressed that population numbers are important for allocation of federal funding and encouraged everyone to participate. Mr. Forman also noted that the Mayor is looking for participation on the volunteer boards of the DC Arts and Humanities Commissions. He said information is available at the website for the Mayor's Office of Talent and Appointments at mota.dc.gov. He also announced the Statehood Hearing to be held on September 19 on Capitol Hill; the Art All Night event happening in multiple locations around DC on September 14; and, that as of October 10 the city would no longer be taxing diapers in order to help families. He encouraged people to contact him with any questions or concerns.

V. Scheduled Business

a. Planning, Zoning, and Transportation Committee

i. BZA [appeal request](#) by owners of 1831 Ontario Place, BZA Application 20077

Commissioner Fox Perry moved a resolution regarding a BZA appeal request regarding an addition at 1831 Ontario Place. Commissioner Irani seconded the motion.

Commissioner Fox Perry explained that the owners are looking for special exception relief from the Board of Zoning Adjustment for an addition to their home for which code violations were discovered after it was built. She said that the resolution expresses ANC 1C concerns about the DC Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs' interpretation of the relevant rule on the rear wall extension and asks for clarification on that. She added that the resolution also acknowledges the addition's impact on the neighbors.

The owners of the property spoke about their renovations, inspections, and permitting process. A neighbor at 1833 Ontario Place spoke about the impact the addition has on her view from the back; possible discrepancies in plans submitted to agencies; and DCRA's interpretation of the applicable rules. Other neighbors voiced support for the property owners since they had inspections and approvals.

Commissioners discussed possible outcomes for the relief request, including whether the addition would have to be torn down and restructured; whether ANC 1C should take a position on the request; and whether ANC 1C should appear at the hearing to address DCRA's role in this matter.

Commissioners then voted 7 to 0 to amend the resolution to state that ANC 1C takes no position on the application, but opposes any BZA determination that would result in removal of the addition. Commissioners then voted 7 to 0 to pass the resolution as amended.

b. ABC and Public Safety Committee

i. Settlement agreement with Sakuramen

Commissioner Irani moved for approval of a settlement agreement that had been negotiated with the restaurant Sakuramen, along with the Kalorama Citizens Association and the Reed-Cooke

Neighborhood Association. Commissioner Irani noted that there was an edit that had been agreed to by the parties clarifying that the applicant has not applied for an entertainment endorsement. Commissioner Dendy seconded the motion. Commissioners then approved the settlement agreement by a vote of 7 to 0.

ii. Settlement agreement with new owners of former Bourbon

Commissioner Irani provided background on a new establishment in the former Bourbon location that has applied for a restaurant alcohol license. The chef, Darren Norris, explained the Japanese concept for the restaurant that will offer small plates and noodles. He emphasized that it is a food focused project that will have no dance floor and no cover charge.

Commissioner Irani moved to add consideration of this settlement to the agenda without the usual 10 days' notice on the basis that doing so is in the community interest. Commissioner Bowles seconded the procedural motion that then passed by a vote of 7 to 0.

Commissioner Irani then moved for approval of the settlement agreement. Commissioner Bowles seconded the motion that passed by a vote of 7 to 0. Commissioner Irani also moved to approve a stipulated license allowing operation according to the terms of the new Settlement Agreement during the remaining protest period. Commissioner Pooley seconded the motion that passed by a vote of 7 to 0.

c. Planning, Zoning, and Transportation Committee, continued

i. Request for a new bus shelter at bus stop at Columbia Rd and Connecticut Ave

The matter of discussing a new bus shelter at Columbia Road and Connecticut Avenue was tabled until a future meeting when a representative from WMATA or DDOT can attend.

ii. Erosion plan for Kalorama Park

Discussion of an erosion plan for Kalorama Park was moved to the Public Services and the Environment Committee agenda for September.

iii. BZA application for a variance to allow three lots at 1630-34 Argonne Place NW

Commissioner Guthrie provided background on a development involving three lots on Argonne Place. He moved that ANC1C support a BZA application for a variance to allow three separate lots at 1630-34 Argonne Place NW. Commissioner Dendy seconded the motion that then passed by a vote of 7 to 0.

iv. Modify the previously passed resolution about Capital Bikeshare locations

Commissioner Guthrie provided background on the ANC's June discussion regarding a request for three proposed locations for Bikeshare stations. Commissioner Irani moved to amend a previous ANC 1C resolution to propose a Bikeshare location at 1930 Columbia Road instead of the 1901 Columbia Road proposal. Commissioner Pooley seconded the motion.

Commissioners and members of the public discussed whether bike stations have a traffic calming effect; the advantages of having bike stations near residences; the number of parking spots that would be eliminated by a bike station; concerns about noise from docking bikes; pedestrian safety; location of other nearest stations; and growing support for more stations. Commissioners then voted 5 to 2 to amend the previous resolution and propose a bike station at 1930 Columbia Road instead of 1901 Columbia Road.

d. Public Services and the Environment Committee

i. Updating the ANC 1C grant guidelines and policy statement

Discussion of updating the ANC 1C grant guidelines was tabled for a future meeting.

ii. Proposal for funds to redevelop the ANC1C website and introduce live streaming

After discussion, Commissioners decided to postpone making a decision on expenditures for redeveloping the ANC 1C website.

Commissioners discussed amending the budget to cover to buy live streaming equipment and to pay for the livestreaming service, and whether it would be necessary to get bids from various vendors before making such expenditures.

Commissioner Pooley moved to amend the ANC 1C budget for to add \$1200 to line item 4 office supplies, equipment, and printing to allow purchase of live streaming equipment. Commissioner Irani seconded the motion that passed by a vote of 7 to 0.

e. Proposal for a by-law amendment that would create an ANC 1C consent calendar

Commissioner Bowles presented a proposal to amend ANC 1C by-laws to create a consent calendar for ANC 1C meetings. He explained that most of the other ANCs use this procedure to allow more streamlined consideration of noncontroversial matters such as meeting minutes, financials, committee reports, appointments, correspondence, and resolutions honoring people. Commissioner Bowles further explained that any commissioner could move an item off the consent calendar and onto the business agenda, if he or she wanted a full discussion of the matter. Commissioners and members of the public discussed what matters would be on the consent calendar, how notice would be given, and how community input could be made on consent items.

Commissioner Bowles moved a resolution to amend the ANC 1C by-laws to create a consent calendar option. Commissioner Irani seconded the motion. According to the by-laws, a vote on such a change would have to be held at a future meeting.

VI. Adjournment

Commissioner Bowles moved to adjourn at 9:43 pm. Commissioner Pooley seconded the motion which passed unanimously.