

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C
Adams Morgan
Minutes of July 11, 2018**

I. Call to Order and Introduction of the Commissioners

A regularly scheduled meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C was held on July 11, 2018 at Mary's Center. Commissioner Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm. Over 60 members of the public attended. In attendance were Commissioners Amir Irani (1C01), Hector Huezo (1C02), Ted Guthrie (1C03), A.Tianna Scozzaro (1C04), Wilson Reynolds (1C07), and Amanda Fox Perry (1C08).

II. Officers' Reports

a. Chair's Report

Commissioner Huezo thanked the Commissioners for their hard work. He noted that petitions are now available from the D.C. Board of Elections to run for ANC. The petitions must be turned in by August 8 at 5 pm.

b. Secretary's Report

i. Minutes for June 6, 2018 Meeting

Commissioner Guthrie moved to approve the minutes of the June 6, 2018 monthly ANC 1C meeting. Commissioner Reynolds seconded the motion which then passed by a vote of 5 to 0 with one abstention. (Commissioner Huezo abstained since he was not at the June meeting).

III. Commissioner Announcements

- Commissioner Fox Perry noted that the Public Services and the Environment Committee's next meeting would be in September, and currently there is only one item on the agenda – a grant application for DC Arts Center.
- Commissioner Irani announced that the ABC and Public Safety Committee would not meet in July or August.
- Commissioner Guthrie encouraged members of the public to consider running for the unfilled Commissioner seats. He said that in addition to the current two vacancies, Commissioner Scozzaro would also be leaving so that ANC 1C04, 1C05, and 1C06 would all be open.
- Commissioner Scozzaro announced that she most likely would not be running for her single member district seat due to her increased involvement with Adams Morgan Day. She also announced that there would be an Adams Morgan Day meeting on Monday, July 16 at the Jug and Table at 6:30 pm; and a community meeting on Walter Pierce Park renovations on Saturday, July 14 at 3pm.
- Commissioner Reynolds thanked Commissioner Scozzaro for her service as a Commissioner and as ANC 1C's Treasurer.

IV. Public Announcements / Comments

- Diamond Johnson from Councilmember Nadeau's office announced that July 24 would be Ward 1 Day at the National Building Museum; August 18 is Ward 1 Pool Day at Banneker Pool; and August 22 is Ward 1 Night at the Shakespeare Theatre. She said people could contact Councilmember Nadeau's office for more information.

- Kristen Barden, of the Adams Morgan BID, reported that this season of movie nights was a success. She announced that the BID is looking to hire a bilingual safety ambassador by October 1. She also outlined some upcoming fall events including Porchfest on Saturday, October 6, and the Apple Festival on the last Saturday in October.
- Commissioner Reynolds introduced developers Jason Woodward and Sean Ruppert who presented their plans for 1706 Florida Avenue – a vacant, triangular lot between Florida Avenue and V Street. They said they have already contacted neighbors and received some feedback from the Historic Preservation Office and they would come to the Planning, Zoning, and Transportation Committee in September with another presentation.

V. Scheduled Business

a. ABC and Public Safety Committee

i. Adams Morgan Moratorium Zone

Commissioner Irani provided background on the current moratorium on alcoholic beverage licenses in Adams Morgan which is set to expire at the end of August. He moved a resolution seeking renewal of the Adams Morgan moratorium on ABC licenses, for a period of 5 years, without change in the list of new license classifications to be issued, therefore continuing to allow CR restaurants; and, extension of the moratorium circle to an 1800-foot radius from 2459 18th Street NW. He explained that this would continue the current moratorium but add an extended geographic area. Commissioner Huezo seconded the motion.

Members of the public asked about the different types of licenses; the rationale for extending the geographic zone; a comparative study of areas with and without moratoriums; and, the impact of entertainment endorsements. Members of the public and Commissioners discussed ABRA enforcement; settlement agreements; the cost of licenses; boutique cocktail bars; and the possibility of a shorter moratorium. Commissioners clarified that the moratorium can be revisited in 2 ½ years.

Commissioners passed the resolution by a roll call vote of 5 to 1, with Commissioners Fox Perry, Irani, Guthrie, Huezo, Reynolds voting aye; and Commissioner Scozzaro voting no.

ii. Imperial Settlement Agreement

Commissioner Irani moved for the adoption of a settlement agreement with the Imperial. He noted that they are good operators who also manage Jack Rose, and that the Kalorama Citizens' Association is also a party to the settlement agreement. Commissioner Guthrie seconded the motion for adoption of the agreement. Commissioner Guthrie noted that it is beneficial to have settlement agreements even with good operators to make clear that all establishments are operating under similar rules. Bill Thomas, the owner of Imperial, said that he hopes good operators will be attracted to Adams Morgan in the future and that a mentor program can be established for new operators. Commissioners then voted 6 to 0 to adopt the settlement agreement.

iii. The Grand Duchess increase in occupancy

Commissioner Irani moved a resolution in support of a request by the owners of the Grand Duchess to increase its maximum occupancy. He noted that the existing settlement agreement allows for such an increase. Commissioner Guthrie seconded the motion. The owners spoke briefly about their plans for the Grand Duchess. Commissioners then passed the resolution by a vote of 6 to 0.

b. Planning, Zoning, and Transportation Committee

i. Meridian International BZA application 19689

Commissioner Reynolds introduced representatives from the Meridian International project who described proposed changes for traffic patterns; MOUs to address neighbors' other concerns; enforcement of the MOUs; and future review by the Board of Zoning Adjustment.

Commissioner Fox Perry moved a resolution in opposition to BZA application 19689. Commissioner Irani seconded the motion. Commissioner Fox Perry outlined the major points of the resolution including ongoing concerns about traffic volume, the lack of an impact study by the Office of Planning, and BZA's lack of consideration of DC's Comprehensive Plan and Future Land Use Map.

Members of the public and Commissioners commented on the proposed plans, the MOUs and their enforcement, ongoing concerns about traffic, and what BZA is likely to approve. Commissioners thanked members of the public and Commissioner Fox Perry for their many hours of work on this issue.

Commissioners then passed the resolution by a roll call vote of 6 to 0, with Commissioners Irani, Huezco, Guthrie, Scozzaro, Reynolds, and Fox Perry all voting aye.

ii. Signage on public space for the Italian Embassy project

A representative from the Italian Embassy project presented a request for ANC 1C support for a sign for the building. He explained that the sign would be placed in public space rather than on the building itself. Commissioners and members of the public asked about the project, the sign's size and placement, and whether the street number would be on the sign.

Commissioner Reynolds moved that ANC 1C support the application to DDOT's Public Space Committee for the proposed sign at the Italian Embassy Project. The resolution came out of the Planning, Zoning, and Transportation Committee and so did not require a second. Commissioners then voted 6 to 0 to support the application.

iii. 1818 Vernon Street NW HPRB Application

An architect for proposed renovations at 1818 Vernon Street presented plans to change the landscaping and front of the building to make the entrance and two units wheelchair accessible. Their plans had been submitted to the Historic Preservation Office.

Commissioners and members of the public asked about the accessibility plans for the two units, the grade of the ramp, and removal of a retaining wall.

Commissioner Irani moved a resolution in opposition to the owner's application for approval to the HPO. Commissioner Guthrie seconded the motion. Commissioners discussed whether the proposed changes complied with historic preservation guidelines, the Americans with Disability Act, and the merits of making accommodations for wheelchairs.

Commissioner Irani then withdrew his motion and Commissioner Reynolds moved to table the matter. Commissioner Huezco seconded the motion to table which then passed by a vote of 6 to 0.

iv. Oyster Adams School

A representative for the contractor of the construction project at Adams Elementary School on 19th Street described renovations to the school's windows. He noted that the project was delayed by the discovery of lead and asbestos containing materials, and that the project needs to be finished by

August 13. He asked ANC 1C to support a permit request for longer construction hours during the week and to work on Saturdays. The representative said the work should take three weeks starting from the when the new windows arrive around July 17. He described the work as being mostly on the interior, with some scaffolding on the exterior.

A neighbor expressed concern about the use of a private alley, noise of trucks and workers parking in the back, and lights on at night. She added that past problems with the school keeping lights on a playing field at night led to an agreement that lights would be out by 8:15 pm. A neighbor also asked if the use of power tools could be limited to inside building during later hours. Commissioner Irani also requested that contact information for a manager on site be provided to the public.

Commissioner Irani then moved that ANC 1C support a request to extend work hours for replacement window installation at Oyster-Adams School from 7 am to 8:15 pm Monday through Friday and from 9 am to 8:15 pm on Saturday, from July 17 to August 13. Commissioner Scozzaro seconded the motion which Commissioners then passed by a vote of 6 to 0.

v. Changes to Bus Routes 42/43 and L1/L2

Commissioner Guthrie reported that on WMATA's website proposed changes for the L1/L2 bus routes have been removed; but there is still a proposal to replace some 42 buses with 43 long bus routes during rush hour. He said there will be opportunities to weigh in on proposals going forward, but no action was needed at this meeting.

vi. AMPBID application for Vision Zero safety funds

Commissioner Reynolds moved to add to the agenda consideration of an application by the Adams Morgan Partnership Business Improvement District for Vision Zero safety funds, without the usual 10 days' notice on the basis that failure to do so would be adverse to the community.

Commissioner Guthrie seconded the procedural motion that passed by a vote of 4 to 0. (Two Commissioners were in the hallway when this vote was taken.)

Commissioner Irani moved a resolution in support of the AMPBID application for Vision Zero funds. Commissioner Huezo seconded the motion. Kristen Barden, Executive Director of the AMPBID, explained the purpose of their application to the District Department of Transportation for Vision Zero funds to study traffic on 18th Street and side streets in order to identify problem areas and possible improvements especially with respect to pedestrian safety. She noted that the application would need to be submitted by July 27.

Commissioners and members of the public discussed the benefits of getting traffic data for the neighborhood. Commissioner Irani moved a resolution expressing ANC 1C support for AMPBID's grant application for Vision Zero funds. Commissioner Huezo seconded the motion. A friendly amendment was adopted without objection to add to the resolution references to specific goals in the Adams Morgan Vision Framework. Commissioners then passed the resolution as amended by a vote of 6 to 0.

c. Public Services and the Environment Committee

i. AMPBID grant application to DOEE

Commissioner Fox Perry moved to add to the agenda consideration of an application by the Adams Morgan Partnership Business Improvement District for Department of Energy and the Environment, without the usual 10 days' notice on the basis that failure to do so would be adverse to the

community. Commissioner Reynolds seconded the procedural motion that then passed by a vote of 6 to 0.

Commissioner Fox Perry moved a resolution in support of the AMPBID's application to DOEE for a stormwater control grant. Commissioner Scozzaro seconded the motion. Kristen Barden, executive director of AMPBID, explained that the proposed grant funds would be used to install a rain garden to collect storm water at the triangle park named for Carolyn Llorente at the intersection of Columbia/Wyoming and 19th Street, NW. She noted that the applications were due the following Monday.

Members of the public and Commissioners expressed concern that the proposal was put forth without time for sufficient consideration and input. Denis James noted that this was not discussed with the Gateway Project advisory committee. Others noted that the park has not been sufficiently maintained, and expressed concerns that the existing trees and roses in the park could be lost if a rain garden is installed.

Commissioner Reynolds moved an alternative resolution to send a letter to DOEE to protest the short deadline for the stormwater grants. Commissioner Guthrie seconded the motion that passed by a vote of 6 to 0.

ii. Rodents at the Envoy

A neighbor who lives at the Envoy reported that a number of tenants in that building have had problems with rodents, flies, and other insects. Commissioners agreed to talk with him about how to address this matter.

VI. Adjournment

Commissioner Guthrie moved to adjourn at 11:30 pm. Commissioner Huezo seconded the motion which passed unanimously.