

# ANC 1C Meeting Minutes



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## Ward 1 Councilmember Jim Graham addresses the meeting

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## Minutes of Meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C

July 7, 1999

A meeting of the Commissioners of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C (the "ANC") convened at the offices of the ANC at 7:00 p.m. on July 7, 1999.

### 1. Attendance.

Commissioners Present: Eleanor Johnson, Eric Letsinger, Carolyn Llorente, Andrew Miscuk, Peter Schott and Mark Wright.

Commissioners Absent: Richard Mason and Linda Softli

Also Present: Hon. Jim Graham, Councilman Ward 1  
Mark Petruzzi, Chair, Public Safety Committee  
Bill Falls, Commission Webmaster

Approximately 10 citizens and business owners signed the meeting attendance sheet.

**2. Notice of Meeting.** Each Commissioner and the community received notice of the meeting.

**3. Presiding Officer and Secretary.** Commissioner Miscuk presided and Commissioner Wright kept Minutes of the meeting.

**4. Call to Order and Introduction of Commissioners.** Commissioner Miscuk recognized a quorum and called the meeting to order.

**5. Deferral of Approval of Minutes of the Previous Meeting.** Due to photocopy and other errors in the draft Minutes of the June 1999 meeting, the Commission deferred approval of such Minutes until the August meeting.

**6. Treasurer's Report.** Commissioner Llorente distributed the reconciled

balance of the Commission's account. She noted a balance of \$17,867.71, reflecting receipt of the city's quarterly payment. She reported that donations by Commissioner Wright and Commissioner Mason for the ANC office sign and carpet, respectively, kept the move-in cost to \$1,000 (instead of the \$1,200 that had been budgeted). Bank statements had not arrived as of the meeting date.

Upon further discussion, and upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously:

*RESOLVED, that the Treasurer's report as presented at the meeting shall be and hereby is ratified and approved.*

**7. Police Report and Public Safety Committee Report.** The Chairperson recognized Lt. Neal of the Third District. He reported that crime was down in all categories from June 1998 to June 1999. He said 5-12 officers have been focusing on the Adams Morgan area (compared with what would typically be a couple of officers). Commissioner Miscuk complained about the police stopping and ticketing people for minor things like not wearing seat belts. Lt. Neal explained that they conduct those kinds of stops to deter and discover other activity, i.e. drugs, weapons, etc. A couple of people in the audience spoke up in support, noting that a similar strategy had been successfully used in New York. Commissioner Wright asked whether MPD evaluates the program periodically or keeps any statistics on how many weapons, etc. had been discovered. Lt. Neal indicated that the CHIPS program keeps numbers on what the sweeps produced.

Councilman Graham reported that he had met with Chief Ramsey on the need for more police. The Councilman said the Chief promised a detailed report on the deployment situation in PSA 301. Graham said we need to ask for the worksheets used by the officers on each shift. He is pleased that the number of officers has been increased.

**8. Councilman Graham's Report.** Councilmember Graham was pleased to report that the Woodley Park Metro station has been renamed to include Adams Morgan. A shuttle is scheduled to start September 18, 1999 to coincide with the opening of the new Green Line station. It will run every 15 minutes between the Adams Morgan/Woodley Park Metro and the U St./Cardozo Metro. Metro is finalizing its marketing plan for the shuttle. Commissioner Schott noted that it would be expeditious to promote the new shuttle to students on area campuses. On the issue of expanding service hours on MetroRail, the Councilman said the main obstacle was whether maintenance could be performed in a shorter time frame overnight. He reported that DPW has committed to retiming the traffic signals at 18th and Florida.

**9. Status of Pending Matters.** Mark Petruzzi reported that the ABC board is backed up on its hearing schedule, which means a probable delay in the show cause hearing on Mr. Henry's. He said noise at Mr. Henry's has abated over the past couple of weeks.

**10. Seaton Place Problems.** The resident of 1733 Seaton Place complained of problems with neighbors at 1735 Seaton. She explained that repeated requests to the Metropolitan Police Department for intervention had been unsuccessful in producing lasting changes in her neighbors' behavior. Noise at all hours, alcoholic beverage bottles strewn about, illegal occupation of public space, harassment of her sister, and suspected drug dealing were among the problems cited. She stated that MPD told her that the information was being turned over to the Vice Squad, but she had seen no serious action from the police so far.

Commissioner Johnson suggested the resident consider "facilitation" as a problem-solving strategy with her neighbors.

**11. Unanimous Consent.** Commissioner Llorente objected to plans for a new pay phone to be installed at 2473 18th St. She introduced a motion for ANC 1C to oppose a public pay phone at 2473 18th Street, NW. In the discussion that followed, Commissioner Miscuk noted that many pay phones along 18th Street no longer worked and Commissioner Johnson said many have not been maintained. In response to question from audience about whether other pay phones are available nearby for people who depend on them for phone access, Commissioner Llorente explained that a pay phone already exists steps away and that around 10 phones line 18th Street. She then asked for unanimous consent for the following resolution and, there being no objection, it was duly adopted by the Commission:

*RESOLVED, that the Commission shall inform the appropriate authorities that we oppose a public pay phone at 2473 18th Street, NW.*

*RESOLVED FURTHER, that the officers of the Commission shall be and hereby are authorized to take such actions as are necessary to carry out the purposes of the foregoing resolutions.*

**12. Committee Reports.** Commissioner Letsinger asked if everyone had seen the new city-issued trash cans, and reminded the community of the city's rat control effort. He noted that it is being waged through trash containment rather than attacking rats directly. He said it is important for people to close the lid on their can for them to be effective. He also noted that while the city distributed the cans, there was no public awareness campaign by the city to accompany that effort.

Comm. Johnson reported that the Reed-Cooke Citizens Association has been putting down mulch and promoting cleanliness. She added that anyone needing mulch can get it Saturday, July 10 at the H.D. Cooke Elementary School.

Bill Falls reported on changes and improvements to the Commission's Internet site. Rev. Jim Wilder said e-mail reminders of ANC meetings have yet to be sent, and urged the Commission to do so. Commissioner Wright promised that the e-mail reminders would be sent beginning with the August meeting.

Commissioner Schott spoke about the proliferation of embassies on 16th Street. He said at least three embassies have made changes to their properties without Commission authorization. He wants to set up a meeting with Councilmember Jim Graham and the State Department to discuss what might be done. Commissioner Llorente noted that we are not being notified of embassy-related developments appropriately. Commissioner Johnson stated that the Angolan Embassy had recently purchased the old Roosevelt building on 16th. The Commission noted that it will strive to protect the aesthetics of the area from changes like parking lots, microwave antennas, etc. Commissioner Johnson said the Angolan Embassy had agreed with her to not put up fencing or microwave antennas. Commissioner Schott reiterated the seriousness of the problem with embassies not notifying the Commission of proposed changes.

Mike Gould of the Kalorama Citizens Association addressed the Commission about the liquor license moratorium petition prepared by KCA and supported by Lanier Heights and Reed-Cooke Citizens Assns. He said the issue has strong support of residential communities. Mr. Gould said he had sent Chairperson Softli a copy of the petition several weeks ago, and wants copies distributed immediately to the other commissioners. He requested that the Commission either sign the petition or discuss the proposed moratorium again, but urged

the Commission to hold that discussion no later than the September meeting.

Finally, Commissioner Miscuk introduced Jennifer Moehlmann and noted that she has shown interest, ability and enthusiasm for Commission activities and in particular public and community services.

Upon further discussion, and upon a motion duly made and seconded it was unanimously:

*RESOLVED, that the Commission appoints Jennifer Moehlmann as Chairperson of the Commission's Community Services Committee.*

*RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Commissioners now serving as Co-Chairs of the Committee shall continue to serve in such capacities.*

**13. Other Announcements.** Commissioner Llorente reported that the owner of Kilimanjaro intended to make a presentation to the Commission at its next meeting. She explained that if he gets a positive signal from the Commission, he is more likely to have an easier time with the District government. Commissioner Johnson asked that the Commissioners receive any written material in advance to properly consider his presentation.

Commissioner Miscuk announced he would be guest bartending on Sunday evenings at various establishments, with any money he receives from tips going to local charities (e.g. Urban Rangers, Senior Safety Net, and others).

**14. Date and Place of Next Meeting and Adjournment.** There being no additional discussion, the Commission noted that the next meeting on August 4 would be held at the Third District Police Headquarters.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Wright, Acting Secretary

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