

Minutes of ANC 1C meeting of May 2, 2001

Meeting held at 3rd District Police Station with about a dozen community members present.

Establishing quorum

Chairman Miscuk called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and each one of the Commissioners present introduced themselves. In addition to Commissioner Miscuk, they were Commissioners Roth, Wright, Schott, Gibson, Klempay and Brody. This constitutes a quorum.

Post Office Hours Resolution

The Consent calendar contained one resolution, introduced by Commissioner Roth, to deal with the possible reduced hours of the Kalorama Station Post Office. The resolution as stated below, was passed unanimously.

WHEREAS, the US Postal Service has indicated its intention to shorten the hours of the Kalorama Station Post Office at 2300 18th Street, NW in the heart of Adams Morgan by opening one half hour later each day (at 9:00 am rather than 8:30 am) and closing one hour earlier on Saturdays (at 1:00 PM rather than 2:00 PM); and

WHEREAS, Kalorama Station is the primary post office serving Adams Morgan's large and diverse population, and is already extremely busy and crowded: and

WHEREAS, the performance measures used by the Postal Service to compare this station's business to neighboring post offices appear to ignore the number of customers served at a given station relative to the number of windows and staff available to serve them, and to favor business usage over resident usage: and

WHEREAS, this Commission has previously requested the Postal Service to increase the hours and services at Kalorama Station because Adams Morgan is already under-served there, and cannot accept any further reduction in the number of hours or personnel;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C calls on the US Postal Service and the Postmaster of the District of Columbia to reevaluate its plan to reduce the hours of Kalorama Station; to maintain the hours the station is currently open; to work with the community to improve those services to make the station more profitable; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent immediately to Dolores Killete, Postmaster of the District of Columbia, Rodney Paine, Station Manager for Zone 9, and to Representative Eleanor Holmes Norton

Minutes

Chairman Miscuk deferred consideration of the minutes until later in the meeting when the Secretary would be present

Report of Officers:

Chairman: Mr. Miscuk indicated that our lease would expire by the end of May and that he had a lead on a temporary location where we could store our records and hold meetings and he would have a resolution to that effect later. DC Parks and Recreation has final say on usage.

Treasurer's Report: Mr. Gibson indicated that we currently had \$21,138.67 in account and indicated that our allotment for the next quarter was being held up pending receipt of records from the office. Mr. Miscuk indicated that the auditor was given the necessary documentation.

Reports of Committees:

Public Safety: Lisa Duperier gave a report and introduced the police to give an update on crime figures. Lt. William O'Connor reported that although the figures are reported down, they may not be accurate due to a new police data reporting system. Although the last meeting had been scheduled for Apr., the chairperson did not attend, so meeting was not held. The Committee is planning to meet on the fourth Thursday of each month prior to the meeting of the Third District Citizens Advisory Committee.

Commissioner Roth reminded the participants that there would be a meeting of a special task force, convened by Jim Graham, on parking, traffic, safety and noise problems at the Hilton, and urged Commander Beach and Lieutenant Eyester of the Third District to be present.

ABC: Commissioner Brody reported that his Committee had met on Apr. 30, and he also submitted to the Commissioners a signed voluntary agreement from Stetson's. The committee heard from the licensee at proposed Hushi Bar on U St., and met with the potential new owners of the site which was Omega. At that site, will be located a large restaurant but scaled back from previous plan and have a different entrepreneur. Working on an agreement with Cassava Cafe. He also indicated that several "A" licenses were coming up, but that unless the SMD commissioner objected, the ANC would take no position.

Public Works: Commissioner Schott reported that his Committee was meeting regularly at the office on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7 PM, that they had given a report at the April community meeting and would be meeting again on May 14. Among the agenda items would be the condition of Ellington and Taft Bridges and signage issues.

Communications: Commissioner Gibson reported that his Committee meets on the second Tuesday of each month at the Diner at 7:30 AM. They are looking at ways to improve communications

Grants: Commissioner Wright reported there were no grants.

Quality of Life Committee: Commissioner Schott reported for Commissioner Johnson that the Quality of Life Committee would be meeting at the ANC Office on May 11 in the evening. The major issue would be housing dislocations.

Resolution on ANC 1C Interim Administrative Relief

Chairman Miscuk indicated he had worked out a deal with Kalorama Recreation Center to store materials at their office and while the Center was open to allow meetings and a mail drop. There was discussion on whether we definitely had to move from the current office by May 31, and how to remove materials from the office. The following resolution with amendment was approved, with one voting to oppose.

WHEREAS, ANC 1C's, current lease on office space terminates 31 May 2001;

WHEREAS, ANC 1C, needs to find a mail drop location;

WHEREAS, ANC 1C needs storage for sensitive items; the photocopier, computer, printer, fax and current records;

WHEREAS, ANC 1C needs to be able to receive phone messages and facsimiles:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that; the contingent on the approval of Parks and Recreation, ANC 1C will set up a mail drop location and sensitive storage at The Kalorama Park Recreation Center;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the officers of ANC 1C can initiate and carry out the transition as soon as approval is granted: to include finding additional storage for archived records and disposal of unneeded furniture and items, and that Commissioners will be informed to remove their materials from the office by May 22.

Redistricting presentation by Jim Graham

Councilmember Graham presented details of the redistricting plan approved by Council Committee which essentially split off the southern part of ANC 1C from Adams Morgan. He pointed out that there would be another hearing on May 10 at which we could present our views. Commissioner Roth presented a resolution, with amendments, seconded by Commissioner Klempay, and passed by a unanimous roll call vote (7-0) as follows:

WHEREAS, the Council of the District of Columbia will shortly be considering Bill 14-137, the "Ward Redistricting Amendment Act of 2001"; and

WHEREAS, Ward One's population in the 2000 Census has grown to exceed the legal maximum by approximately 4,900 persons and will therefore be reduced in size by the Council; and

WHEREAS, under the legal principles governing redistricting, Ward boundaries should respect neighborhood cohesiveness, natural geography, the principle of compactness, and, to the greatest extent possible, census tract lines;

WHEREAS, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C wishes to go on record with Councilmember Jim Graham, the Subcommittee on Labor, Voting Rights, and Redistricting, and the Council of the District of Columbia, with respect to the treatment to be accorded in redistricting to the community now comprising ANC 1C;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Advisory Commission 1C, also known as the Adams Morgan ANC, insists that the entire community of Adams Morgan as defined by the current boundaries of ANC 1C---including the neighborhoods of the southern area of Adams Morgan, Reed-Cooke, Lanier Heights, Kalorama Triangle, and Washington Heights, as well as the 18th Street and Columbia Road corridors-should remain a part of Ward One, and no census tract or part thereof in the current ANC 1C should be moved to any other Ward: and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chairperson or his designee is authorized to present these views to the Council in formal testimony on behalf of ANC 1C, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted immediately to all members of the Council

Traffic calming devices on Adams Mill Rd.

Commissioner Brody at the request of Commissioner Miscuk moved, and Commissioner Wright seconded, that there be installed cameras and laser detectors along Adams Mill Road to control the speed on that road, and also that appropriate speed limit signage be installed, and that the Committee on Public Works and Regulatory Affairs decide where these cameras should be. This was approved with no objection

Pierce Park follow-up

Commissioner Miscuk reported that many people had participated in the Pierce Park build-out and said this was the start and that a lot had to be done with the park

PN Hoffman

Commissioner Schott reported that we were seeking from PN Hoffman a clarification on the size and location of the signs they were using to promote their project. Mark Stahl of PN Hoffman gave an explanation of the section of the law that would apply and tried to clarify the size of the sign. The Public Works Committee wants to have a written explanation of what they are requesting. Mr. Stahl agreed, based on the discussion, to limit PN Hoffman's request for one sign erected on the Champlain St. lot, and not to use the party walls of the adjacent buildings on 18th St. for wall signs.

Ellington and Taft Bridges

There was a discussion of the excessive speed used by cars crossing both of these bridges and of the flooding which occurs on Ellington Bridge. Upon completion of discussion and agreement that more needs to be done in dealing with bridge, Mr. Wright introduced the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Roth which was passed with no opposition:

WHEREAS, the Taft Bridge and the Duke Ellington Bridge are gateways to Adams Morgan area neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the appearances of both bridges reflects on the image of the community and on the District of Columbia as a whole; and

WHEREAS, both bridges have burned out lights and missing/broken light globes; and

WHEREAS, inconsiderate pedestrians and motorists frequently leave litter along both bridges.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, ANC 1C requests that the Department of Public Works as soon as possible:

- 1) fix burned out lights and replace missing/broken light globes on both bridges;
- 2) realign the metal "eagle" on the west side of the Taft Bridge;
- 3) fix the sinking and broken asphalt covering wiring at the southeast end of the Taft Bridge (corner of Connecticut and Belmont);
- 4) repair/resurface the area by the Metro bus shelter on Duke Ellington Bridge (where a shallow trench remains after apparent installation of electrical wiring);
- 5) pick-up litter along both bridges more frequently;
- 6) install additional trash can at each end of Taft Bridge;
- 7) notify ANC 1C of a regular inspection and maintenance schedule for both bridges to ensure that neither pose any public safety hazards;
- 8) assign a DPW employee to serve as an ongoing liaison with ANC 1C on bridge maintenance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ANC 1C--recognizing the difficulty and importance of bridge upkeep--invite the employees of DPW (and/or its contractor) who are assigned as the cleaning crew for those bridges to the June 6th meeting so that this Commission can formally thank them for their efforts.

Minutes approved

Commissioner Klempay moved, and Commissioner Brody seconded, that the minutes of April 4, previously distributed be approved. This was adopted with no corrections and no objections.

Commissioner Schott moved, and Commissioner Klempay seconded, that the minutes of the April 16 meeting, previously distributed, be approved without change. This was approved without objection.

Hilton meeting

Lt. David Eyester addressed Commissioner Roth's questions about whether he and Commander Beach intended to attend the planned meeting regarding Hilton problems on Monday, May 7 at the office of the Department of Public Works director. At the suggestion of Commissioner Miscuk, Commissioner Roth offered a motion, which was properly seconded, urging Commander Beach to attend the meeting. The motion passed by voice vote.

Announcements

Commissioner Brody announced that the next Community meeting of the ANC would deal with vector control and was likely to occur on May 21 at a place yet determined.

Commissioner Wright announced that we will hold our June Forum on fire safety

Commissioner Schott announced that there would be a Arts Mart held on May 5 (Cinco De Mayo) at Unity Park 9 am to 4 PM. He further announced that Harvard St. was now well lit, and that he was seeking residential parking for residents of the 1700 block of Summit Place.

Commissioner Gibson announced that he will be guest bartender, for Cocktail Charities, for the benefit of Cesar Chavez School, May 3, 7 PM to 12:30 AM.

Commissioner Roth announced that in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order he was giving notice that at the next meeting of the ANC if time permits, or at the June 6 meeting he would offer an amendment to the ANC's by-laws allowing any Commissioner to speak once for up to 1 minute on the same question or matter at the same meeting, and a second time for up to 1 minute in rebuttal or response to others on that question or matter.

Adjournment

Commissioner Gibson moved, and Commissioner Brody seconded that the meeting be adjourned. With no objection vote was taken and meeting adjourned at 9:07 PM.