

## **ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 1C MINUTES OF MAY 21, 2001 MEETING**

A meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C was held on May 21, 2001 at the Kalorama Park Recreation Center. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Miscuk at 6:50 p.m.

### **1. ATTENDANCE**

The following Commissioners were present and introduced themselves: Roth, Wright, Miscuk, Schott, Johnson, Gibson, and Klempay (a quorum). Approximately 10 community members attended.

### **2. NOTICE**

Notice was duly provided to the Commissioners and the community as required by law.

### **3. AGENDA PLANNING**

Chairperson Miscuk announced that arrangements are being finalized for the use of the community room at the Third District MPD station for future ANC meetings. In addition, the ANC's lease expires on May 31, 2001, and the Chair has been playing "phone tag" with the landlord's representative to confirm our intention to vacate the premises as of that date. Chairperson Miscuk also announced that he may propose a plan to restructure the ANC's committees and committee jurisdictions because the Public Safety Committee has not met.

Vice-Chair Wright reminded the ANC and the community that the next forum meeting on Monday, June 18th will focus on fire safety.

Treasurer Gibson plans to present a response to the D.C. Auditor's report of ANC 1C's finances and operations in fiscal year 2001.

In Secretary Jovanka's absence, Chairperson Miscuk asked if other Commissioners had minutes or draft minutes of previous meetings to present. Commissioner Roth distributed a draft of minutes for the February 7, 2001 meeting for Commissioners' review and approval at the June 6, 2001 meeting. Commissioner Schott noted that he is awaiting final edits and comments on his draft of the minutes for the May 2, 2001 meeting, which will also be ready for June 6th approval.

Chairperson Miscuk recognized the various committee chairs and representatives to announce their plans:

*Public Works and Regulatory Affairs* – Per Commissioner Schott, the committee will have resolutions pertaining to pay phone applications on public space at various locations; and the placement of traffic-calming improvements on and around the Ellington Bridge (subject to consultation with the Woodley Park ANC). The next meeting of the committee will be held on

Monday, June 11, 2001 (location TBA) and will include discussion of traffic-calming plans for Adams Mill Road.

*ABC* – Commissioner Klempay will be attending the ABC Board hearing on Wednesday, May 23rd regarding the protest of Cassava Cafe’s renewal application. Commissioner Roth (for Commissioner Brody) announced that newly noticed ABC renewals would be considered at the committee’s next meeting on Tuesday, May 29th.

*Communications* – Commissioner Gibson announced that the committee was exploring the possible placement of an information kiosk in each SMD. Commissioner Wright discussed the availability of a page on the ANC’s website for each SMD and advised interested commissioners to direct their inquiries and information to ANC webmaster Bill Falls.

*Grants* – Per Commissioner Wright, a pending application from Las Americas will be considered at the June 6th meeting.

*Quality of Life* – Commissioner Johnson reported on a May 11th meeting to discuss section 8 housing issues at various Champlain and 17th St. properties. Resolutions will be presented to the ANC on June 6th on various housing bills currently pending before the DC Council. The committee will meet on the Thursday, June 14th (location TBA) regarding signage and sanitation issues in the neighborhood.

Chairperson Miscuk recognized the individual Commissioners by SMD to announce their plans for the June 6th meeting:

*IC01* – Commissioner Roth plans a resolution seeking the ANC’s approval for the placement of metal signs aimed at combatting rat infestation on existing DPW signposts (akin to “Scoop Your Pet’s Poop” signs). He also re-noticed his intention to propose a by-law amendment regarding rules for debate time, as described in the minutes of May 2, 2001.

*IC02* – Commissioner Wright plans to offer resolutions aimed at implementing the fire safety recommendations previously adopted by the ANC.

*IC03* – Commissioner Miscuk plans to offer resolutions calling for rat abatement at two properties in his SMD.

*IC05* – Commissioner Jovanka plans to announce a date for an SMD meeting at the Park Plaza Cafe (as reported by Commissioner Johnson).

*IC06* – Commissioner Johnson plans to offer resolutions regarding traffic control on Euclid and Champlain Streets.

*IC07* – Commissioner Gibson plans to present suggested Adams Morgan flyer posting guidelines for the ANC’s endorsement.

#### 4. COMMUNITY OPEN FORUM

– Mr. Tim Young, a resident of 17th St. near Euclid, complained of the sidewalks in his area being strewn with litter, especially on weekends, and sought the placement of more city trash receptacles in that area. A discussion ensued regarding DPW’s policies on the placement of trash cans in and adjacent to residential streets, and suggestions on this issue were made to Mr. Young for his consideration.

– Mr. Anthony Harvey, a reporter for the InTowner and a resident of Sheridan-Kalorama, discussed the concerns of residents on and near Connecticut Ave. with regard to fire and traffic safety. He said these residents feel as though their area is treated by the city as “no-man’s land.”

– Mr. Frank Montgomery, a resident of Wyoming Ave. near 20th St., reported that the storm drain at the intersection of Columbia Road and 20th St. is clogged and needs cleaning, and noted that the brick sidewalk in the small triangular park in front of his building needs repair. Commissioner Roth agreed to look into these problems and seek corrective action.

– Mr. Larry Myers, a resident of Wyoming Ave. near 19th St., suggested that city rat abatement personnel should post notices if poison is to be applied to surface areas to avoid accidental poisoning of pets.

– Ms. Julie Eisenberg, a resident of Lanier Heights, asked about the status of the planned Adams Mill Road stop signs and about the Council’s ward redistricting process. Commissioner Miscuk responded to the former question, and Commissioner Roth to the latter.

– Mr. Denis James, chairperson of the Kalorama Citizens Association’s ABC Committee, noted the installation of new bricks in front of the Mo’Bay Cafe (currently under renovation) and inquired whether a new tenant is grandfathered under the owner’s or prior tenant’s old public space permit, because the bricks are set closer to the curb than current regulations would permit.

– Mr. Earl Johnson, superintendent of Kalorama Park, advised the ANC that he is asking Councilmember Graham to help restore the parking spaces on Columbia Road adjacent to the Recreation Center for government employee parking from 2:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, public parking at all other times.

#### 5. NEW BUSINESS

*2nd Quarterly Report* – Treasurer Gibson distributed and explained the FY 2001 2nd quarterly report and moved that it be approved (seconded by Klempay). Following discussion, the motion was approved by voice vote.

*Continuation of Forums* – Commissioner Johnson moved to continue the ANC’s “Third Monday” open forum meetings for the remainder of the year (seconded by Wright). Following discussion, Commissioner Johnson moved to table her motion (failed for lack of a second). Chairperson Miscuk then moved to amend the motion to continue the forum meetings until June 18th and to discuss at the ANC’s June 6th meeting whether to continue holding the forums on

Monday evenings or some other evening (seconded by Klempay). The amendment was approved by voice vote, and the original motion, as amended, was approved by voice vote.

*Muriel Hackl Recognition* – Commissioner Gibson presented a resolution honoring the late Muriel Forster Jackl and her family for their contributions to the community (seconded by Johnson). Following discussion, the resolution was approved by voice vote, as follows:

*WHEREAS, from 1946 to 1996, Mrs. Muriel Forster Hackl was an honored member of the Adams Morgan community; and*

*WHEREAS, Mrs. Hackl was a co-owner of the Colortone Press; and*

*WHEREAS, her community service efforts focused extensively on the education and enrichment of neighborhood youth; and*

*WHEREAS, Mrs. Hackl opened her home to the children of the neighborhood, teaching them sewing, cooking, and other important life skills; and*

*WHEREAS, a community garden has been dedicated in her honor at Marie Reed School; and*

*WHEREAS, the Muriel Hackl Adams Morgan Youth Foundation has been founded in her honor to continue her good works;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Advisory Neighborhood Commission IC recognizes Mrs. Hackl's tremendous contribution to the Adams Morgan community; and be it*

*FURTHER RESOLVED, that Advisory Neighborhood Commission IC commends the Hackl family for their efforts to keep Mrs. Hackl's memory and record of service alive.*

*Billboard Resolution* – Commissioner Roth presented a resolution in opposition to the placement of a commercial billboard at 2007 18th Street, NW (seconded by Johnson). Commissioner Schott offered an amendment (adopted by unanimous consent) to insert at the end of the second “Whereas” clause the phrase, “and the principal of Marie Reed has written to DCRA opposing that sign”. The resolution, as amended, was then approved by voice vote, as follows:

*WHEREAS, under the guise of its so-called “special sign” regulations, the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) has issued a permit for the erection of a billboard on the north-facing exterior wall of the building housing Muscle Beach Gym at 2007 18th Street, NW; and*

*WHEREAS, such a sign will be located at an intersection that is considered a gateway to and from the Adams Morgan community, and will be readily visible from numerous residences across 18th Street, as well as from the playground of Marie H. Reed*

*Community Learning Center, which is attended by hundreds of young children, and the principal of Marie Reed has written to DCRA opposing that sign; and*

*WHEREAS, this Advisory Neighborhood Commission, by resolution and in testimony to the District of Columbia Council, has expressed the Adams Morgan community's strong opposition to the placement of any such billboards or special signs in our community; and*

*WHEREAS, the holder of the permit in question, Thaxton Management Co., has commendably announced its decision not to erect a billboard or special sign at another location in Adams Morgan for which it had received a permit from DCRA;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that ANC 1C reiterates its objection to the placement of any such signs in Adams Morgan without ANC consultation and input; and be it*

*FURTHER RESOLVED, that ANC 1C calls upon Thaxton Management Co. to withdraw its plan to erect such a sign at 2007 18th Street, NW; and be it*

*FURTHER RESOLVED, that ANC 1C calls upon DCRA to revoke all special sign regulations and permits previously issued as being illegal and incompatible with Federal law, other District of Columbia law, and the appearance of the Nation's Capital; and be it*

*FURTHER RESOLVED, that ANC 1C communicate this resolution to Thaxton Management and to DCRA Director-designate David Clark.*

*Hushi Bar* – Commissioner Roth (for Commissioner Brody) presented a proposed voluntary agreement with Hushi Bar for the ANC's approval (seconded by Klempay). Commissioner Schott noted his concern that the agreement become incorporated in the establishment's ABC license; Commissioner Roth responded with the suggestion that all such agreements should be accompanied by a standard transmittal letter from the ANC with that request. Following further discussion, the agreement was approved by voice vote.

*ANC Office* – Commissioner Johnson moved that the ANC pay the June 2001 rent for its current office, continue to use the site and pay rent until given a notice to quit by the landlord, and take the matter up again at the next ANC forum on June 18th (seconded by Schott). Following discussion, the motion was defeated by voice vote.

## 6. RESUMPTION OF OPEN FORUM

– Mr. Mike Gould, president of the Kalorama Citizens Association, noted that the KCA at its last meeting had adopted a resolution pertaining to increased property taxes and inquired whether any commissioner would bring a resolution to the next ANC meeting in support of the KCA's action. Commissioner Schott agreed that he would do so.

– Messrs. James, Gould, and Montgomery, and Commissioner Johnson, all commented on the issue of the ANC’s office space, whether it should be retained, and what alternative sites and rental arrangements might be available. Chairperson Miscuk reiterated his willingness to consider any solution accompanied by backup documentation and a firm commitment from the property owner.

#### 7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Several Commissioners announced various meetings, events, and news items in the community.

#### 8. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Wright moved to adjourn (seconded by Gibson). The motion was approved by voice vote, whereupon the meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Roth  
Commissioner, SMD 1C01