

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 1C

Adams Morgan

Minutes of November 5, 2003

A scheduled meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C was held on Wednesday, November 5, 2003 at the Third District Police Headquarters. ANC1C Chairman Alan Roth called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. Approximately 30 members of the public attended.

Attending were Commissioners Alan Roth (1C01), Nik Apostolides (1C02), Bryan Weaver (1C03), Mindy Moretti (1C04), Andrea Broaddus (1C06), Josh Gibson (1C07) and Jeff Coudriet (1C08).

ELECTION OF NEW TREASURER

Chairman Roth made the announcement that Commissioner Ken Levy (1C05) was resigning from the Commission as well as his position as treasurer. Commissioner Apostolides nominated Commissioner Coudriet to serve as the new treasurer. The nomination was seconded and approved by voice vote.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Commissioner Moretti, secretary, distributed the minutes of the Sept. 15 quarterly forum and the Oct. 1 meeting and moved their approval. The motion was seconded and approved by voice vote.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Due to Commissioner Levy's recent resignation, newly elected Treasurer Coudriet presented an abbreviated report and distributed a draft FY04 budget for action by the Commission in December. Commissioner Apostolides made a motion that ANC1C, absent a finalized budget, approve the payment of regularly recurring expenses at the same rate or level as provided in the FY03 budget, but not to exceed \$2500, until the adoption of the FY04 budget. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following resolutions were approved by unanimous consent:

***Resolution Supporting the Alley Paving Request of the 1800 Block of
the Wyoming/Kalorama Common Alleyway***

*WHEREAS, 69 property owners and/or residents abutting the alley located in Square 2553, and bordered by the 1800 blocks of Wyoming Avenue and Kalorama Road, N.W., have signed a petition to the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) in support of repaving that alley;
and*

WHEREAS, the alley in question is in terrible condition, which has resulted in damage to residents' vehicles, drainage problems, and rodent infestations; and

WHEREAS, alley repaving would alleviate these problems and concerns; and

WHEREAS, this alley is neither a historic alley nor located within a historic district, making replacement of the existing cobblestones extremely unlikely given DDOT's budget constraints and current policies; and

WHEREAS, the petitioners have therefore agreed that in order to accomplish this project it is acceptable for DDOT to remove and/or cover the existing cobblestones and to use concrete or asphalt to resurface the alley,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that ANCIC supports the petitioners' request to DDOT for the repair and resurfacing of the alley located in Square 2553, which is abutted by 1800 blocks of Wyoming Avenue and Kalorama Road, NW.

Resolution Regarding the Renaming of the 42 and 96 Bus Lines

WHEREAS, parking and traffic are perpetual concerns in Adams Morgan; and

WHEREAS, public transportation is a fast, convenient, and easy way for most neighborhood residents and visitors to opt out of these problems; and

WHEREAS, the 42 and 96 bus lines traverse Adams Morgan, from its easternmost to westernmost boundaries; and

WHEREAS, many DC-area residents, and in particular out-of-town visitors, likely do not realize that the 42 bus passes through Adams Morgan, since only its terminus, Mount Pleasant, is listed on the bus display signs and on Metro's Web site;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Advisory Neighborhood Commission IC requests the addition of Adams Morgan to the name of the 42 and 96 bus line, in particular as it appears on the display sign on the front of the bus and on Metro's Web site; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that ANC IC will contact WMATA Board Chair Jim Graham and other relevant officials to notify them of this request.

Resolution Regarding Change of Signatory on Bank of America Checking Account

WHEREAS, the individuals with current signing authority on Advisory Neighborhood Commission IC's checking account are the officers of the Commission who were elected in January 2003; and

WHEREAS, ANC IC received notice on October 29, 2003 that the Treasurer of ANC IC, Commissioner Ken Levy, had resigned from the Commission due to his move outside his Single Member District; and

WHEREAS, at its meeting on November 5, 2003, Commissioner Jeff Coudriet has been elected the new Treasurer of ANC IC;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Ken Levy's name be removed as a signatory on ANC IC's checking account; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that Commissioner Jeff Coudriet's name be added as a signatory on ANC IC's checking account.

Resolution Authorizing Change of Name on ANC Security Fund

WHEREAS, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C received notice on October 29, 2003 that its Treasurer, Commissioner Ken Levy, had resigned from the Commission due to his move outside his Single Member District; and

WHEREAS, at it's meeting on November 5, 2003, Commissioner Jeff Coudriet has been elected the new Treasurer of ANC 1C;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that ANC 1C authorizes Commissioner Coudriet, as its newly elected Treasurer, to execute the agreement with the District of Columbia Government providing for ANC 1C's participation in the ANC Security Fund and to provide such other information and take such other steps as may be required by law to carry out the transition of the Treasurer's responsibilities from Mr. Levy to Commissioner Coudriet.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Commissioner Roth opened the floor to members of the community. John Andrade spoke of an effort to establish a skate park in the neighborhood; Mario Cristaldo discussed an effort to gain voting rights for legal immigrants in local elections; and Fernando Rivero encouraged everyone to become a member of the Third District Citizens Advisory Council.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ABC and Public Safety

Lt. Gottert provided a statistical crime update for the neighborhood.

Commissioner Weaver announced that Det. Swinson of the Third District had recently been named Officer of the Year for the Metropolitan Police Department.

Commissioner Weaver introduced a voluntary agreement with the ANC, the Kalorama Citizens Association and JJA, Inc. t/a Asylum, located at 2471 18th St., NW. The voluntary agreement was seconded, discussed, and approved by roll call:

YEA: Roth, Apostolides, Weaver, Moretti, Broaddus, Gibson, Coudriet

NAY: None

The Commission also approved support for a stipulated license by unanimous consent that would include the voluntary agreement so Asylum may open before the protest period ends.

Commissioner Weaver gave an update on the status of Timerhi International.

Planning Zoning and Transportation

Commissioner Broaddus reminded everyone that the PZT Committee meets the third Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Third District Police Headquarters.

Commissioner Broaddus introduced a resolution supporting a BZA variance for Jubilee Housing.

Resolution Regarding BZA Application No. 17076 of Jubilee Housing and Good Shepherd Ministries
WHEREAS, Jubilee Housing, Inc. and Good Shepherd Ministries have filed applications with the District of Columbia Board of Zoning Adjustment (“BZA”) requesting variance relief from the off-street parking requirements and special exception relief for the use of the existing, renovated and new space that will be used by Good Shepherd Ministries;

WHEREAS, Good Shepherd Ministries provides needed and beneficial programs to the residents of Jubilee Housing, as well as members of the Adams Morgan neighborhood;

WHEREAS, Good Shepherd’s use of the existing facilities has not caused any adverse impact on the neighborhood, nor on the availability of on-street parking spaces in the neighborhood and the proposed renovation and expansion of Good Shepherd’s facilities is not expected to cause any adverse impacts on the neighborhood in the future;

WHEREAS, ANC 1C believes that the variance and special exception applications fully satisfy all of the standards for relief as required by the Zoning Regulations;

NOW THEREFORE, ANC 1C enthusiastically supports BZA Application No. 17076.

The resolution was seconded, discussed and approved by roll call vote:

YEA: Roth, Apostolides, Weaver, Moretti, Broaddus, Gibson, Coudriet

NAY: None

Commissioner Broaddus noted that the PZT Committee and ANC were asked to provide the three main transportation priorities for Adams Morgan and moved that the three priorities be parking, transit, and pedestrian safety. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote after various Commissioners suggested further details. Commissioner Broaddus also informed the Commission that DDOT will be doing a traffic study of Adams Morgan.

Public Services

Commissioner Apostolides reminded everyone that the next Public Services Committee meeting will be Nov. 24 at 7:30 p.m. at the Kalorama Recreation Center.

Commissioner Apostolides introduced a resolution supporting historic preservation plans for 1908 Belmont Road.

Resolution Supporting Plans for Historic Preservation at 1908 Belmont Road

WHEREAS, the DC Historic Preservation Review Board has informed ANC 1C of its intention to consider an application for conceptual design review on behalf of the owner of 1908 Belmont Road NW at the Board’s November 2003 meeting, and

WHEREAS, the plans submitted by the owner provide a net gain of historic elements to the home’s front facade and yard that were altered previously,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ANC 1C recommends approval of the conceptual design plans for the front of 1908 Belmont Road to the DC Historic Preservation Review Board, but also urges the

applicant and Board staff to work cooperatively to enhance the landscaping of the front yard to the extent it would be economically and aesthetically feasible and historically appropriate.

The resolution was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Moretti offered a resolution concerning the proposed new ABC regulations. The resolution was seconded and discussed. Commissioner Coudriet offered an amendment to insert the following language into proposed D.C. Code section 25-601(b): "...unless the Board finds good cause, based on the facts and circumstance of the case, to reject the ANC's voluntary agreement or allow the other protestant's (s') protest to continue." (See attached for approved legislative recommendations). The amendment was seconded, discussed and approved by roll call vote:

YEA: Roth, Apostolides, Weaver, Moretti, Broaddus, Coudriet
NAY: Gibson

Resolution Regarding Proposed Changes in ABC Statute and Regulations

WHEREAS, certain Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) protest procedures under current law often result in unnecessary or unfair delays, costs, and expenditures of time by the ABC Board, ABRA staff, applicants, and protestants, and

WHEREAS, such procedures often have the practical effect of undercutting the role of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions as the elected representatives of their communities and of denying ANC views the "great weight" to which they are entitled by law,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Advisory Neighborhood Commission IC respectfully urges the Council of the District of Columbia, during its upcoming review of proposed new ABC regulations and legislation, to enact the recommended statutory changes to Title 25 of the D.C. Code attached to this resolution, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chairperson of ANC IC and/or the members of the ABC and Public Safety Committee, on behalf of ANC IC, are hereby authorized to present testimony to the Council in support of these proposals.

The resolution, as amended, was discussed and approved by roll call vote:

YEA: Roth, Apostolides, Weaver, Moretti, Broaddus, Gibson, Coudriet
NAY: None

Commissioner Weaver introduced a resolution in support of restoring funding for the SED Centers in Adams Morgan:

Resolution in Support of Renewal of Subsidy for Spanish Education Development (SED) Center

Whereas, The Spanish Education Development (SED) Center has been operating the first bilingual day care and the first nationally accredited bilingual preschool program in Adams Morgan since 1971;

Whereas, most of the children served by the SED Center's Preschool come to the program speaking only Spanish. SED's children are between the ages of 2 ½ to 4 years old, they receive professional day care and

bilingual preschool instruction from 7:00 am to 6:00 PM, Monday through Friday--- all year long. They also participate in the USDA ChildCare Food Program, which provides them with three nutritional meals a day. The instruction given to these children enables them not only to acquire English language proficiency, but also other essential cognitive and social skills that help them to succeed educationally when they enter the public school system;

Whereas, the SED Center also focuses on the entire family. While preschool children attend SED, their parents are provided with training in parenting skills, English classes, and prep courses in navigating the murky waters of the District of Columbia's Public School system once they matriculate from SED;

Whereas, the recent budget freeze imposed by the D.C. Department of Human Services Child Care Division will soon have a long standing negative impact on all D.C. government-supported preschool programs, including the thirty-year old preschool/day care program of the SED Center;

Whereas, this budget freeze endangers the viability of the SED Center's preschool/day care program. On a monthly basis, SED's preschool historically receives \$45,000 to \$55,000 for full day care service for seventy-five children. Since the budget freeze went into effect, SED now receives \$18,000 for preschool/day care services. Unless this budget freeze is lifted, SED will be forced to begin terminating teaching and support staff, and possibly close its preschool program. As reflected in the size of its waiting list, (180 students) closing this program will deny Adams Morgan, a much-needed service for low-income working parents;

Whereas, as stipulated by the terms of the DHS subsidy, the parents served by the SED Center Preschool program are predominantly low-income Hispanics, often holding multiple jobs just to make ends meet. They simply cannot afford to pay the full, actual costs of providing full-day, yearlong preschool and day care, which averages \$6,500 to \$8,000 per child per year. The only option left for these parents is to either leave their children with often unqualified babysitters and in the worst of cases, to leave their jobs and depend on public assistance;

Whereas, The District of Columbia's budget freeze for preschool/day care, seems particularly odd when juxtaposed against this country's current supposed commitment of "NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND". If the day care freeze is not lifted immediately, the nation's capital ironically will be leaving three quarters of their low-income children completely behind and without a viable option. With all of the recent acts of violence and gang activity in our community, it is shortsighted in the extreme to shortchange these children on the front end of their development. It is dangerous and costly to simply to depend in making investments in these children later, after they experience academic failure and fall prey to the frustration and criminal activity --- that all too often has haunted our community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C asks, by way of this resolution, the D.C. Department of Human Services Child Care Division and the Council of the District of Columbia, to lift the subsidy freeze on head-start, preschool, and day care programs. Failing to do so may result in an irreversible negative effect on our city's neediest children;

FUTHERMORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the Chairperson of ANC 1C shall send a copy of this resolution to Councilmember Sandy Allen, Councilmember Jim Graham, Delegate Eleanor Homes Norton, and such other District officials as he deems appropriate.

The resolution was seconded and approved by roll call vote:

YEA: Roth, Apostolides, Weaver, Moretti, Broaddus, Gibson, Coudriet
NAY: None

Manuel Lujan and Peter Lujan from Habana Village gave a presentation on requested zoning variances for the establishment. Because there was still time before the petition would come

before the BZA, the Lujans agreed to meet with the PZT Committee and come before the ANC at its December meeting.

Commissioner Broaddus offered a resolution to support renaming Rabaut Park. The resolution was seconded and discussed. Because of the many questions concerning the resolution, Commissioner Broaddus moved to table the resolution until the December ANC meeting, which was seconded and approved.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Moretti moved for adjournment. The motion was seconded and approved by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 10:35 p.m.