

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 1C

Adams Morgan

April 6, 2005

A regularly scheduled meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C was held on Wednesday, April 6, 2005 at the Third District Police Headquarters. Chairman Alan Roth called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Approximately 25 members of the public attended the meeting.

In attendance were: Alan Roth (1C01), John Canty (1C02), Bryan Weaver (1C03), Mindy Moretti (1C04), Andy Miscuk (1C05), Graham King (1C06), Josh Gibson (1C07), and Lynn Taylor (1C08).

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Commissioner Roth announced that the ANC had been searching for new meeting space and believed that it had found one. Commissioner Miscuk made a motion to make Mary's Center [2355 Ontario Rd., NW] the new meeting location as soon as possible and to offer the Center a \$100 per month stipend to pay for staff overtime costs to keep the building open. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Commissioner Moretti, secretary, move the approval of the March 2, 2005 minutes. The motion was seconded and discussed. Commissioner Miscuk had a question about the minutes that could not be answered at the meeting. The minutes were approved pending possible amendment to add apparently missing language to an approved resolution.

Commissioner Taylor moved the approval of the March 15, 2005 forum minutes. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Commissioner Miscuk, treasurer, moved the approval of the second quarter financial report. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following items were approved by unanimous consent:

*Resolution Supporting the Re-bricking/Repaving of the Alley Between
Calvert St., NW and Adams Mill Rd., NW*

Whereas, property owners and/or residents abutting the alley that runs parallel to Calvert St., NW with entrances on Adams Mill Rd., NW and Calvert St., NW, are signing a petition to the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) in support of re-bricking the alley; and

Whereas, the alley in question is in terrible condition, which has resulted in damage to residents' vehicles, massive drainage problems at the Adams Mill entrance, and rodent infestations; and

Whereas, alley re-bricking would alleviate these problems and concerns; and

Whereas, this alley is located adjacent to a historic district and within an area undergoing consideration for historic designation, making replacement of the existing brick preferable.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that ANCIC supports the petitioners' request to DDOT for the repair and re-bricking of the alley that runs parallel to Calvert St., NW with entrances on Adams Mill Rd., NW and Calvert St., NW; and

Be It Further Resolved, that the petitioners have agreed that if re-bricking the alley is completely out of the question due to costs and scope of the project — and the ANC has been provided with proof of this inability, that it is acceptable for DDOT to remove and/or cover the existing brick and to use concrete or asphalt to resurface the alley;

Further Resolved, that ANC IC encourages DDOT to undertake this project with the greatest possible speed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Denis James, executive vice president of the Kalorama Citizens Assoc. commented that the ABC Board heard reconsideration of the KCA protest against Crush and that the Board granted reconsideration of the noise clauses.
- Jeff Smith gave an update on his first 100 days as the District 1 school board member. He noted he has formed a District 1 Advisory Council and that the school board is moving away from building new buildings and is instead focusing on renovating older buildings.
- James Coleman gave an update on the ongoing preliminary discussions about redeveloping the Marie Reed site. He noted that he would be at the April 21 KCA meeting to discuss it and if anyone had questions, they could email him at contact@oneadamsmorgan.com.

COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Commissioner King encouraged those in the room and on the commission to say hi to kids in the neighborhood.
- Commissioner Gibson announced the opening of a Mexican art exhibit at the Sitar Center on Friday, April 8, 2005.
- Commissioner Moretti announced the clean up days for Kalorama Park (4/23) and for Walter C. Pierce Community Park (4.30) and encouraged everyone to attend.

GUEST SPEAKER

Patrick Canavan, interim director of the D.C. Dept. of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) spoke to the commission about his plans for the city agency. Mr. Canavan acknowledged that DCRA had not been responsive in the past and that customer service would be on the first things he focused on. He is creating a special unit to go after illegal construction projects and the civil infractions have been increased for illegal construction. He noted that he is a proponent of the 95/5 legislation and that a homeowner's center will be available in May to help residents with any DCRA permitting. He also said that soon, most businesses would be able to renew their licenses online.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ABC & Public Safety

Sgt. Aceto provided a crime update for the PSA. He noted that crime is up by 6 percent in the neighborhood, but that robberies are down. The increase in crime stems mostly from theft-from-auto. He said that several arrests had been made recently that should close quite a few cases in the neighborhood. He also announced that in light of recent citywide events, MPD has many new policies about reporting incidents at ABC establishments.

Commissioner Weaver gave an update on several ABC issues including:

- *El Rincon* — the voluntary agreement was accepted with out any Board changes,
- *Tom Tom* — issues surround the stabbing at the establishment were set aside by the ABC Board for alleged lack of MPD information or cooperation.
- *T.S. Muttly's* — owner Scott Sledge was present at the meeting to discuss his application to convert from a D/R to a C/R. Commissioner Weaver made a motion to approve a the conversion and to support a stipulated license for the establishment while the matter is pending before the Board. The motion was seconded and approved by voice vote, and
- The next meeting of the ABC & Public Safety Committee will be April 13 at 7 p.m. at the Kalorama Rec. Center.

Public Services Committee

Commissioner Miscuk made a motion to support the application for a summer garden for Astor on Columbia Rd., NW as long as the garden goes no further than the property line and no more than 8 feet from the existing façade. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote.

Commissioner Miscuk discussed the committee's ongoing plans to organize a youth summit in the neighborhood.

The next Public Services Committee meeting will be Monday, April 25 at 7:30 p.m. at the Kalorama Rec. Center.

Planning, Zoning and Transportation

Commissioner Gibson gave an update on the ongoing discussions with Harris Teeter and noted that the MOU would most likely be before the ANC for a vote at the May meeting.

Commissioner Gibson also gave an update on the status of the expansion plans at the Dorchester and said the process hearings on the construction will not be until September.

The next meeting of the PZT Committee will be April 20, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. at the Third District Headquarters.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Commissioner Miscuk made a motion to approve a grant for CHIME in the amount of \$1000. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Weaver offered a resolution demanding a response the D.C. Dept. of Parks and Recreation on a laundry list of issues at Walter Pierce, Kalorama and Marie Reed. The motion was seconded and discussed. Commissioner Roth moved to amend the resolution to include concerns brought forwarded by James Coleman, president of the Friends of Marie Reed. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote. The resolution, as amended was discussed and approved by roll call vote:

YEA: Roth, Canty, Weaver, Miscuk, King, Gibson, Taylor
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: Moretti

Resolution Requesting Cooperation and Accountability from the D.C. Department of Parks and Recreation

Whereas the D.C. Department of Parks and Recreation (DCDPR) is responsible for the maintenance of a number of District-owned properties in Adams Morgan including: Walter C. Pierce Community Park (Pierce), Kalorama Park (Kalorama), the playing field and tennis courts at Marie Reed Learning Center and a handful of pocket parks, and

Whereas, these DCDPR-controlled properties fall within the boundaries of ANCIC, and

Whereas, for years, community and civic associations have diligently worked to maintain these green spaces with little or no help from DCDPR, and

Whereas, a variety of recent “improvement” projects by DCDPR and its subcontractors have been poorly executed and woefully maintained once completed, and

Whereas, DCDPR is about to develop a comprehensive five-year master plan, and

Whereas, a number of outstanding issues must be addressed long before the completion of a master plan, and

Whereas, DCDPR has failed to properly communicate with the community through appropriate signage, public meetings or timely responses to phone calls or emails, and

Whereas concerns have been expressed by community organizations, the ANC, permitted leagues, and members of the community in general about DCDPRs lack of commitment to maintaining the parks in Adams Morgan for the community.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that ANCIC demands the following from DCDPR before embarking on any sort of master plan:

- 1. Concrete maintenance plan for the field at Walter Pierce Park.*
- 2. Signage explaining the rules of field usage at Walter Pierce Park*
- 3. Timeline for completion and repair of recently contracted projects at Kalorama Park including:
 - a) Open drainage ditches with standing water adjacent to playground**

- b) *Drainage problems on the newly installed sidewalk in front of the rec. center*
- c) *Replacement of grass on hill at 19th & Kalorama destroyed by contractors*
- d) *Replacement of grass at top of park where contractors had located a mulch pile*
- 4. *Timeline for repair of drainage issues associated with the construction of the field at Walter Pierce Park, and*
- 5. *Timeline and completion date for the renovations to the tennis courts.*
- 6. *Timeline and completion date for previously discussed work at Marie Reed.*

Be It Further Resolved, that ANCIC requests a meeting with DCDPR staff including Neil Stanley and Drew Becher in Councilmember Jim Graham's office with someone from the Committee on Education, Libraries and Recreation in attendance as well.

Commissioner Roth turned the gavel over to Commissioner King, vice chair. Commissioner Roth offered a resolution in support of 24-hour residential parking and enforcement in Adams Morgan. The resolution was seconded, discussed and approved by a roll call vote:

YEA: Roth, Canty, Weaver, Moretti, Miscuk, King, Gibson, Taylor
 NAY: None

Resolution Regarding Reform of Residential Parking Permit Program

WHEREAS, the Residential Parking Permit (RPP) program has not been significantly changed since it was first implemented approximately 20 years ago, and

WHEREAS, during the last 20 years, changes in patterns and effects of commuting and automobile ownership have rendered the existing RPP system obsolete and largely useless to most Adams Morgan residents and to many residents in other neighborhoods of the District, and

WHEREAS, reform of the RPP system is desperately needed,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C calls upon the District of Columbia Council and the District Departments of Transportation and Public Works to cooperate in enacting new legislation and regulations to accomplish the following goals:

- 1) Creation of smaller, neighborhood-based parking zones, rather than Ward-wide zones, adhering to boundaries familiar to neighborhood residents, such as ANC or PSA boundaries, and not to Office of Planning clusters, which are arbitrary and unfamiliar to the vast majority of District residents.*
- 2) Designation of all RPP parking as a 24-hour, 7-day-a-week system.*
- 3) Expansion from 2 hours to 3 hours of the time during which non-RPP vehicles may park in RPP spaces, to accommodate residents with dinner guests, contractors, and other visitors, as well as patrons of local restaurants, and to encourage and support shopping at other local retail businesses.*
- 4) Expansion of DPW's RPP parking enforcement to 24 hours, 7 days a week, with the additional revenue dedicated to pay for the needed additional enforcement personnel.*
- 5) Allocation of DPW parking enforcement personnel among the new zones on the basis of density of RPP-registered vehicles; and be it*

FURTHER RESOLVED, that ANC 1C authorizes the Commission Chairperson to testify in support of these proposals on behalf of the ANC at the June 8, 2005 hearing of the Council's Committee on Public Works and the Environment.

Commissioner Weaver made a motion to protest the substantial change and conversion of license from a C/R to a C/T for Pharaoh's. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote.

Commissioner Weaver made a motion that ANC 1C amend its voluntary agreement with Felix to allow the establishment to open at 11 a.m. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote.

Commissioner Weaver made a motion that ANC1C amend its voluntary agreement with Bossa with regard to Trash/Recycling and Noise/Music/Dance. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote.

Commissioner Miscuk made a motion that ANC1C support legislation authorizing the MPD Chief to close ABC establishments when situations warrant. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote.

Commissioner Miscuk made a motion that we add clarification to the grant guidelines that for purposes of determining the nonprofits supported, the "neighborhood" refer to the boundaries of ANC1C. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote.

Commissioner Weaver made a motion that in its protest of Pharaoh's that ANC1C does support the extension of hours on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The motion was seconded and discussed. Commissioner Miscuk made a motion to withdraw the motion on the table. The motion was seconded discussed and approved by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Moretti made a motion for adjournment at 10 p.m. The motion was seconded and approved.