

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 1C

Adams Morgan

Minutes of March 21, 2006

A quarterly public forum meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C was held on Tuesday, March 21, 2006 at Marie Reed Community Learning Center. Chairperson Alan Roth called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm. Approximately 75 members of the public attended the meeting.

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

Chairperson Roth introduced the topic of the forum – “The Future of Adams Morgan’s Public Schools: Adams, H.D. Cooke, and Marie Reed” – and the speakers for the evening.

Principals Dayo Akinsheye of Marie Reed Community Learning Center and Rosalyn Rice of H.D. Cooke Elementary School discussed their respective schools, including the programs being offered and contemplated, the strengths and challenges facing the schools, and the physical conditions of their respective school facilities. (Dr. Pedro Cartageña, principal of Adams Elementary School, had previously accepted ANC 1C’s invitation to speak but was unable to attend due to a meeting called by DCPS officials.)

Lucien Coleman of DCPS discussed the process by which the Superintendent planned to make decisions on the forthcoming Facilities Management Plan, the various difficulties that have plagued the planned Cooke School renovation, and other issues relating to school maintenance and construction issues. Recy Dunn of DCPS discussed the school system’s interest in pursuing public/private partnerships, including for Marie Reed.

Nancy Huvendick, DC Program Director of the 21st Century School Fund, provided her observations and insights concerning the comments of the previous speakers, the situation faced by Adams Morgan’s public schools, and the process being used by DCPS to close and/or consolidate schools.

The floor was then opened for a 10-minute question and answer session aimed at eliciting from the panelists and the ANC additional factual information that may not have been clear from the presentations. This was followed by a 50-minute open discussion session in which members of the public were recognized to offer their views, comments, etc.

Upon motion made and duly seconded at 9:15 pm, the public forum meeting was adjourned.