

# **ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 1C**

## **Adams Morgan**

### **Minutes of May 3, 2006**

A regularly scheduled meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C was held on Wednesday, May 3, 2006 at Mary's Center. Chairman Alan Roth called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. Approximately 15 members of the public attended the meeting.

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

### **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Commissioner Moretti, secretary moved the approval of the minutes from the April 5, 2006 regular meeting. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Commissioner Canty, treasurer, announced that the ANC has a current balance of \$81,695.87 and that there was only one financial transaction in April.

Commissioner Canty made a motion that ANC1C accept the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarterly Report for FY06. The motion was seconded. Commissioner Canty received unanimous consent to be permitted to rectify a \$1.50 discrepancy without bringing the report back to the ANC for additional approval. Subject to that correction, the report was discussed and approved by voice vote.

### **COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Commissioner Miscuk announced that he, along with several other ANC commissioners, would be guest bartending for charity on Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at Chloe with all tips going to the Good Shepherd Teen Learning Center.
- Commissioner Roth announced the following; a) Mary's Center will be hosting their annual Mother's Day Brunch at Lauriol Plaza from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on May 13<sup>th</sup>; b) the Office of Planning will be holding a Ward One meeting about the Comprehensive Plan at the Reeves Center at 6 p.m. on May 22<sup>nd</sup>; c) Children's Hospital will hold a mayoral candidates forum on May 11<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on the topic of children's health; and d) the D.C. Public Charter School Board will hold hearings on May 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. and May 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. to consider applications for new charter schools.
- Commissioner Reynolds announced that he's been working DDOT to get the eastern 18<sup>th</sup> St. alley repaved and that work was scheduled to begin on May 8.
- Commissioner Taylor announced that the alley between 17<sup>th</sup> and Florida has been given priority status for reconstruction because of the recent cave in of the sewer system that runs beneath the alley.

## **PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT/COMMENTS**

- Bill Falls announced the Office of Planning schedule on the Comprehensive Plan will be posted on the ANC web site with appropriate links.
- Lisa Duperier announced that the Fund for Kalorama will hold its annual fundraising lunch on May 13<sup>th</sup> at Perry's from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and tickets are \$25. Ms. Duperier also announced that Adams Morgan MainStreet had completed the installation of bike racks throughout the neighborhood. In addition to that, AMMainStreet will hold a British beer tasting at the District Line on June 20.
- Luzette King had questions about the timeline for the decision about the Dorchester PUD application.
- Chuck Brazie with the AMBPA had questions about vector control during the reconstruction of the alley eastern alley behind 18<sup>th</sup> St.

## **MPD REPORT**

Sgt. Aceto provided the Commission with an update on crime in PSA 303 and noted that for the month of April there were 20 stolen autos and 30 theft from autos reported which is about double from this time last year. He noted that there had been a recent spike on Lanier Place and Adams Mill Rd, but that seemed to have died down in recent days. He said MPD has been able to make several arrests in recent weeks and is working with CSOSA when the theft from auto suspects are released back into the neighborhood. He noted that although crime is up 3 percent, that's largely from the stolen autos and theft from auto and that violent crime is going down.

## **GUEST SPEAKER**

Anita Amero with Howard University's Center for Urban Progress on Lead-Safe Programs gave a briefing on the variety of programs the center offers to residents of the District of Columbia including testing homes for lead paint. She provided the Commissioner with flyers in English and in Spanish and asked that they post them throughout their SMDs.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **ABC & Public Safety**

Commissioner Weaver made a motion that ANC1C file a protest against the request for additional music and a D.J. at T.S. Muttly's based on adverse effect on peace, order and quiet and because the change may conflict with an existing voluntary agreement. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote.

Commissioner Weaver announced the next meeting of the ABC & Public Safety Committee will be on Wednesday, May 10 at 7 p.m. at Kalorama Recreation Center.

### **Public Services**

Commissioner King offered a resolution regarding treatment of the former Italian Embassy for historic preservation purposes. The resolution was seconded, discussed and approved by roll call vote:

YEA: Roth, Weaver, Moretti, Miscuk, King, Reynolds, Taylor  
NAY: None

***Second Resolution Regarding Treatment of  
Former Italian Embassy Site for Historic Preservation Purposes***

*BE IT RESOLVED THAT, in addition to the Resolution approved by Advisory Neighborhood Commission IC on March 1, 2006 by a roll call vote of 8-0, ANC IC further asserts the following position before the Mayor's Agent on the historic preservation issues surrounding the former Italian Embassy site located at 2700 16<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, 1651 Fuller Street, NW, and 2601 Mozart Place, NW:*

- 1. On November 17, 2004, the developers and their architect appeared before the ANC's Planning, Zoning, and Transportation (PZT) Committee and gave an extensive presentation showing the existing Italian Embassy grounds and building (exterior and interior) and their plans for a new development on the site. This meeting was well-attended by members of the Adams Morgan community, and particularly by residents of the Reed-Cooke section of Adams Morgan. Questions specifically concerning the developers' and architect's plans for preservation of the historically and architecturally significant elements of the existing building and grounds were posed at the meeting, to which the developers and architect satisfactorily responded. The only objections and questions raised by some members of the public at the meeting pertained to the effect of the project on residential parking in the adjacent areas.*
- 2. The developers' proposed treatment of the existing building and grounds was viewed by the Commissioners present at the November 17, 2004 PZT meeting as historically and architecturally sensitive and appropriate. Commissioners and members of the public who were present commended the architect for his approach to melding together the old and new. During the ensuing 14 months, neither ANC IC, nor any ANC IC Commissioner, nor any other member of the Adams Morgan community, took any action to seek a landmark designation for the property, nor to seek any other intervention from the Historic Preservation Office (HPO) or from the Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB).*
- 3. ANC IC believes the developers' agreement with the D.C. Preservation League (DCPL) fulfills their oral preservation commitments made to the PZT Committee. ANC IC believes that the proposed project, as modified by the developers' agreement with DCPL, provides for an interesting and unique adaptive re-use of the property in a manner that is historically and architecturally appropriate to and compatible with the existing building and grounds.*
- 4. ANC IC is disturbed by the emphasis of the HPO and HPRB on preserving the Embassy courtyard, which the general public will likely never see or enjoy, while showing little regard for or interest in the architecturally pleasing design and scale of the Embassy annex, which would remain visible to the community and general public from Fuller Street, NW if preserved.*
- 5. ANC IC reiterates its opposition to the HPO staff recommendation and HPRB decision to push more mass, density, and height onto the portion of the site zoned R-5-B. ANC IC believes it is inappropriate for the HPRB to suggest that the owners/developers seek a zoning variance from the Board of Zoning Adjustment for that purpose, because this would have a detrimental effect on the occupants of the much smaller scale buildings near that portion of the site.*

Commissioner Miscuk announced that work on the placement of the advertisement for ANC meetings in *Street Sense* is still pending and that Commissioner King is working on the ad.

Commissioner King announced that the next meeting of the Public Services Committee will be on May 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at Kalorama Rec. Center.

### **Planning, Zoning and Transportation**

Commissioner Taylor commented that there was no meeting of the PZT Committee in April due to scheduling conflicts and a lack of business. She announced that the next meeting will be Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. at the Third District Police Headquarters and the two topics of conversation will be a curb cut request for the Lot 33 project and zoning variances for the First Church of Christ Science development project.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Commissioner Moretti offered a resolution to support the Friends of Walter Pierce Park and the decision to divide the multi-purpose playing field into two smaller fields. The resolution was seconded and discussed. Commissioner Taylor and Commissioner Roth each offered two minor amendments that were approved by unanimous consent. Commissioner Moretti made a motion to postpone further discussion and a vote on the resolution until the ANC's next scheduled meeting on June 7th. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote.

Commissioner Taylor made a motion a motion to protest the entertainment endorsement and expansion of hours sought by Dahlak based on adverse effect on peace, order and quiet in the neighborhood, and to request that the entertainment endorsement be bundled in with the establishment's existing application for renewal. The motion was seconded, discussed, and approved by voice vote.

The Commission discussed possible topics for the June 20<sup>th</sup> quarterly forum and tentatively agreed that the topic would be the field at Walter Pierce Park and other Adams Morgan Park issues. Commissioner Moretti agreed to take the lead on organizing the event.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Miscuk made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded and approved by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 9: 20 p.m.