

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 1C

Adams Morgan

Minutes of December 6, 2006

A regularly scheduled meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C was held on Wednesday, December 6, 2006 at Mary's Center. Chairman Alan Roth called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. Approximately 30 members of the public attended the meeting.

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

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Commissioner Roth, chair took a moment to thank the colleagues he's worked with during the past six years on the ANC and especially the past four as Chairman.

VICE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Commissioner Miscuk, vice chair, made a motion to cancel the December quarterly forum. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote.

Commissioner Miscuk made a motion that ANC1C pay for the reimbursement of \$300 for any incoming or returning commissioner wishing to attend the Lorman Seminar on Landlord/Tenant Law to be held on December 7. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Commissioner Moretti, secretary moved the approval of minutes from the November 1, 2006 regular meeting. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote.

TREASURER'S REPORT

In the absence of Commissioner Canty, treasurer, Commissioner Moretti provided the treasurer's report. Commissioner Moretti announced that the ANC has a bank balance of \$77,887.56.

Commissioner Moretti announced that the ANC had received a letter from the auditor approving the release of ANC1C's fourth quarter allotment for FY06.

Commissioner Moretti made a motion that ANC1C approve the payment in December 2006 of recurring budgeted items for the month of January 2007. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Josh Gibson, executive director of the Business Improvement District announced plans for a "Passport to Fashion" weekend in Adams Morgan aimed at drawing attention to the neighborhood's retail businesses. He also announced that he has

resigned from the BID and that Anne-Marie Bairstow will be the new BID executive director.

- Ms. Gwen Fitzpatrick had questions about noise abatement in the neighborhood.
- Lisa Duperier with Adams Morgan MainStreet announced that the next bimonthly wine tasting would be held at Spoiled Rotten with wines being provided by DeVinos. She also announced a First Tuesday initiative designed to bring people to the neighborhood for shopping and dining on the first Tuesday of each month.
- Chuck Brazie with the Adams Morgan Business and Professional Association took a moment to thank the outgoing commissioners.

COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Commissioner Miscuk announced that he had received a letter from Street Sense detailing their desire to publish twice a month in the future and that more information could be found at www.streetsense.org.

GUEST SPEAKER

Laurence Daniels with the Office of People's Counsel discussed the proposed utility Consumer Bill of Rights. One more public hearing is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 9 at 10 a.m. at the Highland's Library in Southwest. He said that individuals may file comments on the proposed Bill of Rights up until January 5, 2007 with the D.C. Public Service Commission. He said that residents with questions should feel free to call the Office of People's Counsel at 202/727-3071.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. ABC & Public Safety

Commissioner Weaver, chair of the committee, said there was no report from the committee this month and that the next meeting would be held December 13 at 7 p.m. at the Kalorama Rec. Center.

B. MPD Report

Sgt. Aceto was in attendance at the meeting and provided an update on crime issues in the neighborhood. He said that most crimes were down compared to this time last year except theft from auto (TFA) and assault with a deadly weapon (ADW) which went from 5 in 2005 to 8 in 2006. He noted that there had been three arrests in the ADW cases.

He said that in the month of November there were 32 theft from autos and that computers/laptops no longer seem to be the victims but more iPod's and satellite radios.

He said there had been some "good, substantial" arrests recently for a variety of crimes in the neighborhood but they weren't sure if they could connect any of those arrested with theft from auto.

C. Planning, Zoning and Transportation

Commissioner Taylor, chair of the committee, noted that there was no committee meeting in November due to a lack of business.

Commissioner Reynolds made a motion that ANC1C write a letter to the director of the Department of Transportation (DDOT) to reconsider their approval of the curb cut for the Lot 33 project. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by roll call vote:

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

Commissioner Taylor said that because there is no pending business before the committee that it would not meet in December.

D. Public Services

Commissioner Miscuk made a motion that ANC1C support a grant for \$2,000 to We Are Family to support their holiday activities. The motion was seconded and discussed. Commissioner Miscuk made a motion to amend his original motion to limit the expenditures by We Are Family to clothing, house wares, toiletries and personal care items. The amendment was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote. Commissioner Miscuk made a motion that ANC1C waive all pertinent grant guidelines in order to consider this grant. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by roll call vote:

YEA: Roth, Miscuk, Reynolds, and Taylor
NAY: Moretti
ABSTAIN: Weaver

The original motion, as amended was approved by voice vote.

Commissioner Miscuk made a motion that ANC1C support the National Marathon's route through Adams Morgan on March 24, 2007 from 18th and U Streets to 16th and Columbia from approximately 8:45 a.m. to 12 p.m. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote.

Commissioner Miscuk made a motion that ANC1C support the Office of People's Counsel's recommendations for the Consumer Bill of Rights. The motion failed to receive a second. Commissioner Moretti made a motion that this matter be held over until the January 3, 2007 meeting. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Commissioner Moretti offered a resolution concerning the renovation/redevelopment of the building at 2423 18th Street, NW. The resolution was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote.

*Resolution to Support the Design for 2423 18th St., NW
Before the Historic Preservation Review Board*

Whereas, there is no one single architectural style in the new " Washington Heights " historic district, or on the 2300 and 2400 blocks of 18th Street NW in Adams Morgan,

Whereas, since the local community was the entity that requested the creation of the new “Washington Heights” historic district, it should be the local community that determines what architectural styles should be permitted in the new “Washington Heights” historic district,

Whereas, the owners of the building at 2423 18th Street NW are proposing to retain the original character of the existing brick facade facing 18th Street NW ,

Whereas, the existing side south-facing exterior wall, proposed to be removed, was not historically exposed to view since it was originally an interior party wall, and is therefore should not be subject to protection for historic preservation,

Whereas, adding new windows to the side south-facing exterior wall is desirable for the building to agree with the appearance of the immediate neighboring buildings, and since the existing side south-facing exterior wall is not structurally capable of remaining if new windows openings were added; the proposed removal and reconstruction of the side south-facing exterior wall is an appropriate decision,

Whereas, the proposed exterior decorative iron railings are dated from before the period of the 1950’s

Whereas, the proposed exterior decorative iron railings are similar in design to existing railings on more than one building in the immediate neighborhood,

Whereas, the proposed exterior decorative iron railings could be removed in the future if so desired by a future building owner, with substantial work to the exterior of the proposed building,

Therefore Be It Resolved That ANC IC recommends that the design of the building at 2423 18th Street NW, as submitted to the ANC on December 6, 2006, should be approved by the Historic Preservation Board.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Weaver made a motion that ANC1C hire and retain Douglas L. Parker, Esq. of the law firm Mooney & Green to represent ANC1C before the ABC Board for the month of December and January for business concerning the pending tavern conversion protest hearings to the extent previously authorized. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by roll call vote:

YEA: Roth, Weaver, Moretti, Reynolds, and Taylor

NAY: Miscuk

Commissioner Weaver made a motion to protest the D/R application for O’Tasty based on adverse effects on peace, order, quiet and trash in the neighborhood and that ANC1C will withdraw the protest if the trash situation is resolved with regard to the dumpster. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote.

Commissioner Weaver made a motion to protest the entertainment endorsement for the Angry Inch based on adverse effects on peace, order and quiet in the neighborhood. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote.

Commissioner Reynolds offered a resolution requesting that DDOT take two shared-car spaces on 18th Street and convert them to two residential handicapped spaces. The resolution was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote.

Resolution to Move Two Car-sharing Spaces at the 2200 Block of 18th Street, NW to be Designated as Disabled RPP Spaces

Whereas two parking spaces are currently designated as car-sharing spaces on the 2200 block of 18th St., and

Whereas car-sharing spaces are established on the 2100 block of 18th St. and the 2300 block of 18th St., and

Whereas no disabled parking exists on the 2200 block of 18th St., the 2100 block of 18th St., the 2300 block of 18th St., or the 2400 block of 18th St., and

Whereas the 2200 block of 18th St., serves the needs of the Marie Reed Community Learning Center located on this block, where disabled and handicapped family of students lack any parking.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that ANCIC does support and request that the D.C. Department of Transportation designated these two spaces on the east side of the 2200 block of 18th St. as permanent, Disabled Residential Permit Parking (RPP) spaces by February 1, 2007, and to relocate the two current car-sharing spaces to continue to serve the community at a location that does not interfere with established commercial and residential parking.

Commissioner Moretti offered a resolution to support the efforts to bring a Trader Joe's supermarket to 14th and W Streets, NW. The resolution was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote.

Resolution to Support a Trader Joe's at 14th and W Streets, NW

Whereas the Adams Morgan Advisory Neighborhood Commission IC (ANCIC) represents more than 16,000 diverse residents in Ward One, and

Whereas Ward One is the most densely populated ward in the city, yet has the fewest number of registered vehicles per capita than any other ward, and

Whereas in the past four years more than seven (7) million square feet of commercial and residential spaces has come under construction in Ward One, and

Whereas Ward One continues to lack a sufficient variety of affordable grocery shopping options, and

Whereas Trader Joe's bills itself as a "neighborhood" grocery store and has a commitment to provide high quality products at honest everyday low prices, and

Whereas Trader Joe's locations in other cities—namely New York City—lack onsite parking, and

Whereas the proposed location at 14th & W Sts., NW (in the Union Row development project) has underground parking and is located near multiple Metrobus routes and the Green Line of the Metro.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that ANCIC supports the efforts of the Mid-City Business Association and others to encourage Trader Joe's to locate in the new development at 14th and W Sts., NW, and

Be It Further Resolved that ANCIC encourages Trader Joe's to "think outside the box" and locate a store at 14th and W Sts., NW

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Moretti made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m.