

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C**  
**Adams Morgan**  
**Minutes of February 5, 2020**

**I. Call to Order and Introduction of the Commissioners**

A regularly scheduled meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C was held on February 5, 2020 at Mary's Center. Commissioner Guthrie called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. About 35 members of the public attended. In attendance were Commissioners Amir Irani (1C01), Ted Guthrie (1C03), John Zottoli (1C04), Michaela Wright (1C06), and Japer Bowles (1C07).

**II. Officers' Reports**

**a. Chair's Report**

Commissioner Irani had nothing to report.

**b. Secretary's Report**

Commissioner Wright nothing to report.

**c. Treasurer's Report**

Commissioner Bowles announced that he will begin posting a monthly financial report in order to comply with a new requirement for all ANCs. He also moved that the matter of stating the location of the ANC 1C checkbook be added to the agenda without the usual 10 days' notice on the basis that it is in the community interest. Commissioner Irani seconded the procedural motion that passed by a vote of 5 to 0. Commissioner Bowles then moved that the location of the ANC 1C checkbook be changed to 2624 Ontario Road, Apartment 202, Washington, DC. Commissioner Irani seconded the motion that passed by a vote of 5 to 0.

**III. Commissioner Announcements/Comments**

- Commissioner Bowles announced that the Public Services and the Environment Committee would try to focus on one topic per month. He said the February 26 meeting would take place at Sarah's Circle with a focus on senior services. He said invitations were being extended to Jubilee Seniors Club, VIDA, the neighborhood associations, and the DC Department of Aging and Community Living. Commissioner Bowles also reported that the PSE Committee voted to recommend passage of a resolution urging involvement in the 2020 Census. He noted that the Committee would also be looking for ways to partner with other groups in this effort.
- Commissioner Wright alerted everyone to fraudulent behavior related to the Census, such as telling people there are fees, or that you have to be a citizen to be counted. She urged people to tell their Commissioners if they see fraudulent action or the spreading of misinformation.
- Commissioner Irani said there was currently nothing on the Planning, Zoning, and Transportation agenda for February, but a matter on Belmont Street may be added.
- Commissioner Guthrie reported that the police report was currently the only item on the agenda for the February 12 ABC and Public Safety Committee meeting.
- Commissioner Zottoli stressed the importance of the Census and how government services and funds are tied to population numbers. He said that letters and postcards related to the Census will start arriving in mid-March that will direct people to go to the Census website.

**IV. Public Announcements / Comments**

- A representative from DC Historically Black Colleges and Universities announced that the HBCU Alliance would be hosting a 5k race and health fair on July 11 at Freedom Plaza. He also announced that DC Breeze, an Ultimate Disc team, is hosting the 2020 American Ultimate Disc

League All-Star Games. He provided his phone number (202-810-3134) for those who want more information about ultimate programs in DC.

- A member of the public asked that a note be put on the Kalorama entrance of Mary's Center to let people know to come to the Ontario door for this meeting.
- Kristen Barden announced that the Adams Morgan BID would be holding a Valentine's Day decorating contest for local businesses with an online poll for the public to vote. She also said that date nights have started with 5 different packages at Adams Morgan establishments during February and March. She also announced that the Spring Porchfest would be held on May 2, featuring mostly acoustic music and fewer porches. Finally, she announced that the theme for movie nights, starting in May, would be honoring the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of women's suffrage.
- Marty Mellet invited the public to a Jubilee Housing tour on February 7 at 8:30 am and on the February 19 at 4 pm. He also said the youth in their programs would have a performance for Black History Month at a date to be announced.
- Nick Roland of the Reed-Cooke Neighborhood Association announced that their next meeting would be held on February 27 at the Marie Reed Center and they will be discussing the Census.
- Matt Wexler announced that they have filed a BZA application regarding parking for phase two of the Admo Heights development and he asked that the matter be added to the February PZT Committee agenda. He noted that demand has been less than expected for parking at that building. Commissioner Irani clarified that they were proposing a second structure at that location.
- Denis James of the Kalorama Citizens Association announced that their next meeting would be on February 20<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm at the Goodwill Baptist Church. He noted that Councilmember Brienne Nadeau planned to attend and that everyone is welcome.
- Allie Bobak from Councilmember Nadeau's office announced that the Council is currently conducting oversight hearings and that the public may submit testimony. She also announced a Black History event on Friday, February 7 at the Wilson Building.
- Reuben Forman of Mayor Bowser's office announced that this would be his last meeting and introduced Anthony Moore who would be taking his place. Mr. Moore provided updates on a Housing Equity Forum to take place on February 8 at Howard Theater, and a Budget Engagement forum on February 20 at UDC. He also announced that the private security camera incentive program is continuing.
- Denis James asked about elections for the two vacancies – 1C02 and 1C08. Commissioner Irani answered that no candidates had yet picked up petitions to run for those seats.

## **V. Scheduled Business**

### **a. Consent Agenda**

Commissioner Irani moved for adoption of the minutes from the January 2020 ANC meeting. Commissioners voted 5 to 0 to approve the minutes.

### **b. ABC and Public Safety Committee**

#### **1. Settlement Agreement with Roofers Union**

Commissioner Guthrie moved to add to the agenda consideration of a settlement agreement with Roofers Union without the usual 10 days' notice on the basis that doing so is in the community interest. Commissioner Irani seconded the procedural motion that then passed by a vote of 5 to 0.

Commissioner Guthrie described Roofers Union as a good operator, but explained that it is good practice to have a settlement agreement in place that would apply to any future owners. He then moved for approval of the settlement agreement. Commissioner Bowles seconded the motion. Commissioner Irani clarified the occupancy numbers. Commissioners then approved the settlement agreement by a vote of 5 to 0.

**c. Planning, Zoning, and Transportation Committee**

**1. Request for a solar installation at 1838 Wyoming Ave, NW**

A representative from Edge Energy Sunpower company presented diagrams of a proposed solar installation at 1838 Wyoming Avenue. Commissioners discussed whether neighbors had been sufficiently consulted and whether Commissioners had received the plans as they requested. Commissioner Guthrie moved to table the matter until the following month. Commissioner Wright seconded the motion that then passed by a vote of 4 to 1.

**2. HPRB submission for renovation plans at 1918 Belmont Road, NW**

The owners of 1918 Belmont Road presented plans for an addition to the rear of their building. They were seeking support for their proposal which is under consideration by the Historic Preservation Review Board.

Commissioners asked about materials that would be used on the addition. Members of the public asked about the owners' concept; the number of units that would result and whether additional parking spaces were required; and, commented on whether the appearance would be too contemporary and out of character with the neighborhood. Neighbors also commented that they had short notice in which to react to the proposal and asked whether the matter could at least be delayed. Other neighbors spoke in support of the proposal and raised issues of density and affordable housing. The owner and architect agreed to look at whether they could reduce the amount of glass in the plans.

Commissioner Irani asked the applicants if they would consider delaying their HPRB hearing in order to allow further discussion with neighbors. After discussion, the owners agreed to the extension as long as it was used for constructive dialogue about related to their HPRB application. Commissioner Irani moved to table the matter. Commissioner Guthrie seconded the motion that passed by a vote of 3 to 2.

**3. Resolution regarding Zoning Commission Case 19-21**

Commissioner Irani provided background information on a resolution in opposition to proposed amendments by the Office of Planning that could weaken protections achieved by the Lanier Heights rezoning. Commissioner Irani moved to add this matter to the agenda without the usual 10 days' notice on the basis that not doing so would be adverse to the community. Commissioner Guthrie seconded the procedural motion that then passed by a vote of 5 to 0.

Larry Hargrove and former ANC 1C Commissioner Alan Gambrell explained the provisions of the resolution and how the change would open the door for more special exceptions to the zoning regulations.

Commissioners discussed the complexity of the issue; the lack of time to properly consider it; the Office of Planning's timeline; whether affected neighbors have had a chance to have their voices heard; and, whether other ANCs would be weighing in. Denis James noted that KCA would be considering supporting the proposed resolution. Members of the public asked about current regulations for green roofs.

Commissioner Wright moved to table the resolution. Commissioner Irani seconded the motion that passed by a vote of 3 to 0 to 2 (two Commissioners abstaining).

#### **4. ANC 1C comments on the Comprehensive Plan**

Commissioner Irani explained that ANC 1C's resolution on the DC Comp Plan would include an addendum comprising comments from the community, the Kalorama Citizens Association, and the Reed-Cooke Neighborhood Association. Commissioner Wright summarized ANC 1C's draft comments and its organizing themes. She said the comments reflect principles that ANC 1C had agreed on in the past such as those in the Adams Morgan Vision Framework. She said the focus is on areas of agreement with the Comp Plan, with some additional concerns expressed about the process.

Commissioner Irani offered a friendly amendment to add references to specific statutes. The amendment was adopted without objection.

Commissioner Bowles expressed concern about the tone of the section addressing the Comp Plan process. Commissioner Bowles also suggested adding a section to strengthen support for the LGBTQ+ Community specifically through inclusion in the housing and community service sections of the Com Plan. That section was added without objection.

Commissioners discussed how to treat the addendum of comments from KCA, RCNA, and from members of the public. A member of the public who is also an attorney for the homeless suggested adding specific levels when referring to income and affordable housing. This suggestion was adopted as a friendly amendment without objection.

Commissioner Irani moved for adoption of the comments as amended. Commissioner Guthrie seconded the motion that passed by a vote of 5 to 0.

#### **d. Public Services and the Environment Committee**

##### **1. Resolution in support of 2020 DC Census**

Commissioner Bowles moved to add to the agenda consideration of a resolution on the Census without the usual 10 days' notice on the basis that doing so is in the community interest.

Commissioner Irani seconded the procedural motion that then passed by a vote of 5 to 0.

Commissioner Zottoli moved a resolution in support of raising awareness of the importance of participation in the Census 2020. Commissioner Irani seconded the motion that passed by a vote of 5 to 0.

##### **2. Change location of PSE meeting in February**

Commissioner Irani moved to add to the agenda consideration of moving the location of the February meeting of the PSE Committee without the usual 10 days' notice on the basis that doing so is in the community interest. Commissioner Zottoli seconded the procedural motion that then passed by a vote of 5 to 0.

Commissioner Irani moved that the February 26 meeting of the PSE Committee take place at Sarah's Circle. Commissioner Bowles seconded the motion that then passed by a vote of 5 to 0.

#### **VI. Adjournment**

Commissioner Zottoli moved to adjourn at 11:08 pm. Commissioner Wright seconded the motion which passed unanimously.