

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C  
Adams Morgan  
Minutes of November 7, 2018**

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

A regularly scheduled meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C was held on November 7, 2018 at Mary's Center. Commissioner Huezo called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. About 30 members of the public attended. In attendance were Commissioners Amir Irani (1C01), Hector Huezo (1C02), Ted Guthrie (1C03), and A. Tianna Scozzaro (1C04).

**II. Officers' Reports**

**a. Chair's Report**

Commissioner Huezo congratulated the newly-elected Commissioners for ANC 1C and introduced those who were present: Japer Bowles, Michaela Wright, and Damiana Dendy. He thanked them for serving and said it is exciting to see young people, women, and people of color getting involved in representing Adams Morgan. He also said he has already reached out to and offered help to Bridget Pooley who is taking his seat next year.

**b. Secretary's Report**

**i. Minutes for October 3, 2018 Meeting**

Commissioner Guthrie moved to approve the minutes of the October 3, 2018 monthly ANC 1C meeting. Commissioner Irani seconded the motion which then passed by a vote of 4 to 0.

**c. Treasurer's Report**

**i. Quarterly Reports**

Commissioner Scozzaro provided background on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarter financial reports and moved for their adoption. Commissioner Huezo seconded the motion that then passed by a vote of 4 to 0.

**III. Commissioner Announcements**

- Commissioner Irani announced that there would be no November meeting of the ABC and Public Safety Committee as there were no agenda items.
- Commissioner Irani reported that there is a petition being circulated to rename the street in front of the Saudi Arabian Embassy Jamal Khashoggi Way. He said the petition can be signed online at [Change.org](http://Change.org).
- Commissioner Irani also announced that a public hearing of the DC Department of Housing and Community Development would be held on November 15 at 6:30 pm. He noted that the department director would be present and urged members of the public to attend if they wished to be heard on funding cuts to community-based organizations that help low-income residents with housing. Commissioner Irani added that there would be a resolution on this issue later in the meeting.
- Commissioner Guthrie said there was currently nothing on the agenda for the Planning, Zoning, and Transportation Committee for November, so there would be no meeting. He said he would post a notice if something comes in and a meeting is scheduled. He added that in any case it would not be held on Wednesday the 21<sup>st</sup>, the day before Thanksgiving.

- Commissioner Scozzaro announced that there would be a public meeting on renovations of Walter Pierce Park on Monday, November 19 at the Marie Reed Elementary School.
- Commissioner Scozzaro also reported that while Adams Morgan Day was a success this year, some vendors did not get as much traffic as they had hoped due to the rain, so a holiday market will be held on December 8 and 9 from 12 to 5 pm at the BB&T plaza.
- Commissioner Huezo thanked Kristen Barden and the Adams Morgan BID for the successful Apple Festival on October 27<sup>th</sup>.

#### **IV. Public Announcements / Comments**

- A representative from the DC Department of Public Works provided maps for the leaf collection schedule in Ward 1 which began on November 5. She said there is also an online leaf app where residents can enter their address to see when pick up is scheduled.
- Kristen Barden, of the Adams Morgan Partnership BID, thanked all who made pies and participated in the Adams Morgan Apple Fest which raised about \$1800 for Higher Achievement. She also announced that Small Business Saturday is November 24, the Saturday after Thanksgiving, and that DC Council Chair Phil Mendelson will be in Adams Morgan for the event.
- Amanda Bonam from Councilmember Nadeau's office announced that the annual Thanksgiving luncheon for seniors would be held on Monday, November 19 at 1000 U Street. Ms. Bonam also announced that she would be leaving for New Orleans at end of month. She thanked everyone for being a pleasure to work with. Commissioners thanked her for her service.
- Crawford Sherman from the Line Hotel announced that the hotel had been received a Community Impact award from the DC Chamber of Commerce in part due to providing meeting space for local organizations in the hotel community center. He also announced that the hotel would have a special rate for Ward 1 residents and their families from November 18 through 30. Mr. Sherman also said the hotel has continued its commitment to hire employees locally and currently has 121 Ward 1 employees. He also reported that the hotel has generated \$2.4 million in tax dollars and the goal is to generate over \$3 million.
- Japer Bowles, the Commissioner-elect for ANC 1C07 said he is looking forward to serving next year and encouraged neighbors to contact him with questions.
- Reuben Forman, the Ward 1 Liaison from the Mayor's Office, reminded everyone of the Walter Pierce Park meeting on November 19. He also reported that the link for the DC Health Exchange for affordable health care is now open through DC Health Link. Finally, he reported that the DC Office of Aging has an Age-Friendly 2023 Strategic Plan to make the city more accessible for senior citizens by the year 2023, and that DC has already been recognized by the World Health Organization for senior citizen accessibility.

#### **V. Scheduled Business**

##### **a. Planning, Zoning, and Transportation Committee**

##### **i. Request for RPP on Kalorama Road**

Commissioner Guthrie noted that in light of a proposed Jubilee Housing project on Kalorama Road, it might ease possible parking issues if the parking along that block is changed from metered parking to residential permit parking. He moved a resolution requesting the District Department of Transportation to make the parking for Kalorama Road between 17th Street and Ontario Road part of the Residential Permit Parking Program, eliminating metered parking for that block. Commissioner Irani seconded the motion that then passed by a vote of 4 to 0.

Commissioner Guthrie noted that the Commission will consider a resolution on the Jubilee project at the December 5 ANC meeting.

## **ii. AI Fresco HPRB application**

The new architects for the proposed AI Fresco restaurant at 2009 18th Street NW presented their scaled back plans for the project. They noted some changes were made in response to comments from the Historic Preservation Office staff.

Members of the public and Commissioners asked about the amount of green space; the alley; parking; the line between private property and public property; wall heights; types of material proposed for the façade, walls, windows, and trellis; relocating the clothing donation bins that are currently on that lot; feedback from the HPO staff; and estimates on the start of construction. Some neighbors expressed support, saying the project would be an improvement over the empty lot.

Commissioner Guthrie moved that the Commission send a letter to the Historic Preservation Review Board advising that ANC 1C has no objection to the conceptual proposal for 2009 18<sup>th</sup> Street, NW. Commissioner Huezo seconded the motion. Commissioner Irani offered an amendment changing the wording to express support for the proposal (as opposed to no objection). Commissioner Huezo seconded the motion to amend the resolution. Commissioners voted 4 to 0 to adopt the amendment; then voted 4 to 0 to pass the resolution as amended.

## **iii. Argonne Place appeals**

Commissioner Guthrie provided background and status on a proposed development project for three row houses at 1630, 1632, and 1634 Argonne Place NW in an area that has been downzoned. He explained that there are errors in the permits filed with the DC Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs for those projects. Commissioner Guthrie then moved a resolution authorizing ANC 1C to file a Board of Zoning Adjustment appeal of the three permits. Commissioner Irani seconded the motion. Commissioner Guthrie noted that it may not be necessary to actually file the appeal if the identified errors are corrected before the deadline for filing the appeal.

Alan Gambrell, a former ANC 1C Commissioner and resident of Argonne Place, acknowledged the residents of Argonne Place for giving feedback to the DCRA on the importance of complying with zoning regulations; acknowledged DCRA for its responsiveness in having an onsite meeting and a debriefing on actions steps; and, stressed that it is in everyone's interest to see that regulations are followed.

The attorney for the developer said that they are in the process of correcting some of the errors in the permits and said he will send revised plans.

Commissioners discussed the conditions and process for filing the appeal and then voted 4 to 0 to pass the resolution authorizing a Board of Zoning Adjustment appeal for construction at 1630-1634 Argonne Place and authorizing Alan Gambrell to act on behalf of ANC1C regarding this matter.

## **iv. Housing counseling funds**

Commissioner Irani provided background on DC budget cuts in funding for community-based organizations which offer services such as housing counseling. He noted that taking a housing counseling class is a requirement for participation in the city's affordable housing programs. Commissioner Irani moved for adoption of a resolution requesting the full restoration of funding for 2019 to the District Department of Housing and Community Development's "Neighborhood-Based Activities" program. Commissioner Scozzaro seconded the motion.

Martin Mellet from Jubilee Housing explained that the funds were from a Community Development Block Grant and that the agencies were given almost no notice that the funds were being pulled.

Commissioners then passed the resolution by a vote of 4 to 0.

**VI. Adjournment**

Commissioner Huezo moved to adjourn at 8:43 pm. Commissioner Guthrie seconded the motion which passed unanimously.