

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C
Adams Morgan
Minutes of September 1, 2021

I. Call to Order and Introduction of the Commissioners

A meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C was held electronically on September 1, 2021. Commissioner Irani called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm. In attendance were Commissioners Amir Irani (1C01), Peter Wood (1C03), Zack Gold (1C05), Benjamin Hart Butz (1C06), and Fiona Clem (1C08). Members of the public joined electronically.

II. Officers' Reports

A. Chair's Report

Commissioner Irani announced that the seat for ANC 1C07 is vacant. He said a few people have expressed interest in running, but if anyone else is interested they can find information on the DC Board of Elections website.

Commissioner Irani also commented on the current crisis in Afghanistan noting that his great grandmother was Afghan and that his parents emigrated here in the 70's. He said that Lapis restaurant on Columbia Road is collecting items for Afghan refugees and that information is available on their Instagram page or by contacting the owners at fatima@thepopalgrou.com.

B. Secretary's Report

Commissioner Clem had no updates.

C. Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Faulkner was not present.

III. Commissioner Announcements/Committee Meeting Agendas

- Commissioner Clem reported that the HAWK signal at 16th Street and Kalorama Road is now working. She noted that school has begun and that the neighborhood speed limit is 20 mph. She also announced that she has safety signs if anyone would like to post them.
- Commissioner Clem also announced that WMATA is changing the route for the 42 line that will end at the Kennedy Center instead of Metro Center starting September 5.
- Commissioner Butz said he hoped everyone had a good summer.
- Commissioner Gold congratulated those responsible for the new signs in Reed Cooke. He also reported that the 16th Street work is near completion but there will still be some lane closures, detours, and limited pedestrian access in the final phase.
- Commissioner Gold also announced that comments closed on August 31 on DDOT's notice of intent for contraflow bike lanes on Lanier Place and Argonne Place NW; and that a notice of intent has been posted for contraflow bike lanes on the 1900 – 2100 blocks of 17th Street.
- Commissioner Gold reported that at its July meeting the Planning, Zoning, and Transportation Committee considered a request for support of a traffic assessment and heard a DDOT update. He

announced that the agenda and access information for the September 29 meeting of the PZT Committee are posted on the website.

- Commissioner Wood announced that grants considered by the Public Services and the Environment Committee at its July meeting would be considered by the full Commission this evening, noting that the flexibility in ANC grants due to the pandemic is still in effect. He announced that the next PSE meeting would be on Wednesday, September 22 and that details are on the website.
- Commissioner Wood noted that he and others can assist with StayDC applications.
- Commissioner Wood also reported that during his bike trip across Iowa he saw stands handing out DC statehood t-shirts.
- Commissioner Irani announced that the agenda for the September 8 meeting of the ABC and Public Safety Committee would include the police report and consideration of two new ABC licenses: Entice Lounge at 1725 Columbia Road, and Glory at 2406 18th Street. He said meeting access details are posted on the ANC1C website.

IV. The Office of the Tenant Advocate (OTA) presentation on renters' rights

Nicole McEntee of the DC Office of the Tenant Advocate provided information on services provided by OTA, including free legal representation. She said that with the end of the public health emergency, evictions can now be filed. She urged affected tenants to apply for assistance with [StayDC](#) and ask their landlords for payment plans. Ms. McEntee reported that renters will be able to check the status of their units on a rent control database that is being created by OTA. She also announced that a renters rights training would be held on September 16 and that tutorials and other information such as the Tenant Bill of Rights can be found on the [OTA website](#). She provided the tenant hotline number: 202-719-6560 and her email address: Nicole.McEntee@dc.gov.

Commissioners and members of the public asked about the moratorium on rent increases; how to refer constituents seeking help; whether those on the eviction list will receive information from OTA; and the deadline for paying rent to avoid eviction.

V. DPR update on programs and services

Chris Dyer from the DC Department of Parks and Recreation presented information on DPR's in-person and virtual programs. He said information requesting permits for events at DPR facilities can be found at dpr.dc.gov/permits or by calling 202-673-7647 and that [input](#) on programs can still be submitted at the [Ready2Play](#) website. Mr. Dyer announced that hours for community access to the Walter Pierce athletic field have been increased. He also reviewed rules for pets in parks and prohibited activities at DPR parks. He provided his contact information: 202-702-9453, christopher.dyer@dc.gov and encouraged those sending repair requests to include pictures.

Commissioners and members of the public asked about upkeep at the triangle park at 1800 Harvard Street; best ways to contact DPR with questions; when to expect renovations for Hargrove Park that have already been budgeted; and when various aquatic centers will re-open.

VI. Public announcements

- Kristen Barden of the Adams Morgan BID gave updates on Adams Morgan Day, a book festival at the Truist Bank plaza, and Drag Queen Story Time at Unity Park – all taking place on Sunday, September 12. She reported that they are looking for more porches for Porchfest on October 2; and they need contestants for the pie baking contest for the Apple Festival on October 30. She added short animations will be projected on business windows on October 30 and 31.
- Allie Bobak from Councilmember Nadeau’s office posted a [summary of the FY22 budget](#) and highlighted a modest tax increase on DC’s wealthiest residents; increased pay for childcare workers; funding to end homelessness; an increase in the earned income tax credit; funding for repairs to Unity Park; affordable housing; and pedestrian plaza treatments on 18th Street in Adams Morgan. She provided her contact information: abobak@dccouncil.us, 202-531-5186.
- Andrew Nguyen gave an update on the upcoming [Adams Morgan Day](#) on September 12. He said there would be no street closings, but there would be activities and music on the plazas and that information was available on their website, Twitter, and Facebook.
- Alan Roth took issue with an op ed by an ANC1C Commissioner and its characterizations of residents who filed a protest against a new bar in their neighborhood.

VII. Consent Agenda

Commissioner Irani moved for adoption of the consent agenda which consisted of [minutes](#) from the July 2021 ANC meeting. Commissioners passed the consent agenda by a vote of 5 to 0.

VIII. Regular Agenda

A. Planning, Zoning, and Transportation Committee

1. Resolution for safety enhancements at 16th Street, U Street, and New Hampshire Avenue NW

Commissioner Irani reported that the Planning, Zoning, and Transportation Committee voted to recommend passage of a [resolution](#) in support of safety enhancements to the intersection of 16th Street, U Street, and New Hampshire Avenue NW. Commissioner Gold explained that the intersection which overlaps 3 ANC districts has two slip lanes that cause conflict with pedestrians. He said that the resolution would support ANC 1B’s request for a Traffic Safety Assessment at the intersection (Service Request # 21-00269818). The resolution also urges DDOT to conduct a comprehensive traffic safety assessment of this intersection and supports ANC 2B’s request for a public meeting with all stakeholders to discuss improvements at the intersection. Commissioners passed the resolution by a vote of 5 to 0.

2. Resolution in favor of safer road infrastructure on 17th Street NW

Commissioner Irani moved to consider a [resolution](#) in favor of safer road infrastructure on 17th Street NW. Commissioner Gold seconded the motion and explained that this resolution would support expansion of the bike network in DC. He said that because 17th Street is classified as a Minor Arterial, its bike lane should be fully protected. The resolution requests that DDOT follow its own policy for appropriate bicycle facilities according to street classification, but if the 1900-2100 blocks of 17th Street NW do not meet the standards for a Minor Arterial, then DDOT should lower the speed limit to 20 MPH and install automated traffic enforcement devices. The resolution states conditional ANC 1C support for the DDOT Notice of Intent 21-195-PSD if this section of 17th Street NW is reclassified and/or the posted speed limit is lowered to no more than 20 MPH; and states ANC1C support for the extension of the

Bicycle Network through the installation of protected facilities on Florida Avenue to connect 17th Street facilities to north/south bike facilities in ANC 1C.

Commissioners and members of the public discussed speed limits along 17th Street; the change being proposed by DDOT; accessing the link for the Notice of Intent; how streets are classified; and what happens to bike lanes at Florida Avenue. Commissioners then passed the resolution by a vote of 5 to 0.

B. Public Services and the Environment Committee

1. Jubilee Jumpstart grant application

Commissioner Irani reported that the Public Services and the Environment Committee recommended approving a grant [application](#) by Jubilee Jumpstart for \$4000. Commissioner Wood said the grant would service the pre-K population in Adams Morgan and that it meets the requirements of what ANC grants can cover. Dee Dee Parker Wright with Jubilee Jumpstart said they provide early childhood services in English and Spanish and the grant funds would be used for translation services. Commissioners discussed timing the grant to align with the ANC's allotment then approved it by a vote of 5 to 0.

2. Adams Morgan Community Alliance grant application

Commissioner Irani reported that the PSE Committee recommended approval of an [application](#) by Adams Morgan Community Alliance for a grant of \$4000. Andrew Nguyen of the alliance said the grant would be used to complete a mural at the entrance to the Marie Reed field to celebrate the multicultural character of Adams Morgan. Mr. Nguyen and artist Frida Larios described plans for completing the mural in the weeks surrounding Adams Morgan Day and said the grant would fund the rental of a mechanical lift, a plaque in both English and Spanish, painting supplies, and a small stipend for the artists. Commissioners discussed timing and the amount of the grant, then voted 5 to 0 to approve it.

3. Contract renewal for meeting and A/V services for ANC 1C

Commissioner Irani provided background on services provided by Gordon Chaffin for ANC1C meetings including streaming of in-person meetings before the pandemic and virtual participation during the pandemic. He said a redlined version of the service [contract](#) was available to compare proposed changes.

Commissioners discussed Mr. Chaffin's availability 30 minutes before ANC meetings; the description of his role; changing the URL; the cost per month; and different prices for virtual and hybrid meetings. Commissioner Irani moved to table consideration of contract. Commissioner Butz seconded the motion. Commissioners discussed whether the contract would need to be renewed by a certain date, then voted 2 to 0 to 3 to table consideration of the contract, with Commissioners Irani and Butz voting aye to table; and Commissioners Wood, Gold, and Clem abstaining.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:12 pm.