

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 1C

Adams Morgan

Minutes of February 4, 2004

A scheduled meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C was held on Wednesday February 4, 2004 at the Third District Police Headquarters. ANC1C Chairman Alan Roth called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. Approximately 15 members of the public attended the meeting.

Attending were Commissioners Alan Roth (1C01), Nik Apostolides (1C02), Bryan Weaver (1C03), Mindy Moretti (1C04), Andrea Broaddus (1C06), Josh Gibson (1C07) and Jeff Coudriet (1C08).

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Commissioner Moretti, secretary, moved the approval of the Minutes for the Dec. 15, 2003 quarterly forum and the Jan. 3, 2004 regular meeting. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Commissioner Coudriet, treasurer, noted that ANC1C had a bank balance of \$65,272.62. Commissioner Coudriet moved the approval of the Quarterly Report from the first quarter of FY04. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote. Commissioner Coudriet also made a motion to pay the ANC Security Fund of \$25. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following resolution was approved by unanimous consent:

Resolution Regarding the Top Transportation Priorities of the Adams Morgan ANC

A resolution to assist residents, businesses, and transportation planners understand the Adams Morgan ANC's top transportation priorities.

WHEREAS the District of Columbia Department of Transportation (DDOT) has requested that the ANC report the top three transportation priorities for the community to the Ward 1 Transportation Policy Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Adams Morgan ANC has heard from residents and businesses about transportation issues through ANC public forums, meetings of the ANC's Planning, Zoning, and Transportation Committee, and discussions on large community email listservs; and

WHEREAS, the top three transportation issues of concern have been identified as Parking, Pedestrian Safety, and Public Transportation; and

WHEREAS the issue of Parking specifically includes the goals of overhauling the residential parking permit system and improving enforcement, developing strategies to increase parking availability for customers at shops and restaurants, such as managed valet parking, adjusting the timing pricing of parking meters to reflect demand, and providing peak-time shuttle buses to

existing but underutilized parking lots, reviewing minimum parking requirements for businesses and new residences, and improving parking for bicycles; and

WHEREAS the issue of Pedestrian Safety specifically includes the goals of improving the design and condition of Adams Morgan's sidewalks, particularly in the Main Street district, such that they are ADA compliant and capable of serving peak-time pedestrian traffic, improving pedestrian safety at crossing areas, particularly by improving the design and signage of the most dangerous intersections, 18th & Columbia and 18th & Florida & U St., and improving streetscapes in the Main Street district such as by adding tree-surrounds; and

WHEREAS the issue of Public Transportation specifically includes the goals of increasing the frequency of public transportation service, cooperating in efforts to develop new services such as light rail on 18th St., improving performance by addressing traffic flow issues such as the location of bus stops and valet stands, and by encouraging the development of taxi stands to reduce peak-time vehicle traffic, promoting public transportation as an important option for visiting and living in Adams Morgan and encouraging local businesses to do so, encouraging the growth of car sharing services and Smart Commute mortgages, and by requesting that WMATA re-name local transit routes to include "Adams Morgan"; and

WHEREAS these are also top issues of concern to other community organizations which have sought the assistance of the ANC, such as the Adams Morgan Main Street Group, the Adams Morgan Business and Professional Association, the Latino Economic Development Corporation, and Lt. Fulton of the Metropolitan Police Department;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Adams Morgan ANC will focus its efforts in the area of transportation on improving Parking, Pedestrian Safety, and Public Transportation, and requests the assistance of DDOT and other relevant city agencies in achieving these goals.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Commissioner Roth opened the floor to members of the community. Bill Falls, ANC1C's webmaster, reminded everyone about the existence of the Commission's Web site at www.anc1c.org. Lisa Duperier gave an Adams Morgan Main Street update and noted the group's new Web site at www.ammainstreet.org.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ABC & Public Safety

Commissioner Weaver gave an update on the ongoing negotiations with Timerhi, Inc. and noted that the protest hearing will be on May 12 at 10 a.m.

Commissioner Weaver also gave an update on Spaghetti Garden and noted that while there had been some movement toward a voluntary agreement, there were still questions about the certificate of occupancy numbers.

Lt. Gottert provided a crime update for the neighborhood and commented that while crime was down overall, there had been a slight increase in robberies.

Commissioner Weaver announced that the next Committee meeting would be on Wednesday February 11 at 7:30 p.m. at the Kalorama Rec. Center.

Public Services

Commissioner Apostolides noted that the Committee usually meets the last Monday of each month, however they had to meet the first Monday in February and will have to do the same in March. The Web site will provide the correct meeting information.

Commissioner Apostolides offered a resolution authorizing up to \$1,000 for a pedestrian and bicycle safety traffic study and drawings for the intersection of 18th Street and Columbia Road, NW. The resolution was seconded and discussed. Commissioner Broaddus offered an amendment to include “bicycle and” in the first Resolved clause, and to correct the number of sketches to be provided. The amendment was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote. Commissioner Gibson then offered an amendment adding language concerning the turn lane from westbound Columbia Rd. The amendment was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote.

The resolution, as amended, was then discussed and approved by roll call vote:

YEA: Roth, Apostolides, Weaver, Moretti, Broaddus, Gibson, Coudriet

NAY: None

Resolution Authorizing up to \$1000 for a Traffic/Pedestrian Study and Drawings of the Intersection of 18th Street and Columbia Road, NW

WHEREAS, the DC Department of Transportation has drafted plans to redesign the intersection of 18th Street and Columbia Road NW, but DDOT has not responded to community concerns in a reasonable timeframe, and

WHEREAS, ANC IC is in need of a professional, independent assessment of the pedestrian and bike design options for this intersection which will maximize safety enhancements, and

WHEREAS, ANC IC would use such expert services to study the appropriate number of travel lanes through the intersection; providing bike lanes through the intersection to connect Calvert Street to Columbia Road; increasing the parking availability through the intersection; moving curb lines to decrease pedestrian crossing distances; removing the turn lane from westbound Columbia Road onto northbound 18th Street; and providing for WMATA bus traffic through the intersection,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, Advisory Neighborhood Commission IC authorizes up to \$1,000 be paid to hire a traffic engineer to advise the Commission on pedestrian and bicycle safety design options for the intersection of 18th Street and Columbia Road NW, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the expenditure of funds will be for three computer generated sketches of possible alternatives (curb and striping) to the existing DDOT recommendation, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, this resolution is contingent upon ANC IC's efforts to obtain, to the extent possible, appropriate legal guidance from DC agencies on the use of funds for this purpose.

Commissioner Apostolides offered a resolution in support of a \$600 grant for the Young Playwrights Theatre. The resolution was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote:

Resolution Supporting \$600 in Grant Funding for the Young Playwrights' Theater

WHEREAS, the Young Playwrights' Theater has submitted a \$1,000 grant application to support its YouthInk Festival at the Kennedy Center in March 2004, and

WHEREAS, the Young Playwrights' Theater teaches Adams Morgan children at Bell Multicultural and other DC public schools how to write plays, using playwriting to foster literacy, dialogue, and conflict resolution, and

WHEREAS, the YouthInk Festival at the Kennedy Center provides children from our community with the exciting and affirming opportunity to see their plays and those of their peers read on stage in one of the nation's premier performing arts venues,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C approves \$600 in grant funding for the Young Playwrights' Theater for bus costs to transport children from Bell Multicultural and Cardoza high schools to the YouthInk Festival at the Kennedy Center in March 2004.

Commissioner Apostolides offered a resolution in support of a \$1,000 grant for CHIME to help support the organization's musical programs for children in the neighborhood. The resolution was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote:

Resolution Supporting \$1000 Grant Application for Community Help in Music Education (CHIME)

WHEREAS, Community Help in Music Education (CHIME) has submitted a grant application to ANC 1C for \$1,000 to support its programs, and

WHEREAS, CHIME's activities provide a valuable resource for children in our community to experience the positive, constructive, uplifting, and transforming power of music and the arts, and

WHEREAS, CHIME's programs give young people in Adams Morgan a creative alternative to the destructive influences that prey upon these same children in our neighborhood,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C approves \$1,000 in grant funding for Community Help in Music Education towards: a) the costs of video production and editing of its programs for broadcast in DC Public Libraries and on DC Public Access TV and other venues; and b) software, materials, and other tangible goods necessary for infrastructure development of its Web site and database.

Planning Zoning and Transportation

Commissioner Broaddus announced that the next meeting of the PZT Committee was scheduled for February 18 at 8 p.m. at the Third District Police Headquarters and noted that there were a number of possible agenda items including a 3-way stop at 17th and Florida, pedheads at the intersection of 17th and U and a possible stoplight at 16th and Belmont.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Commissioner Broaddus moved to postpone the discussion about the proposed renaming of Rabaut Park. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Kenneth Howard with the State Office of Education provided a brief presentation about the variety of programs available to help college-aged children in the District of Columbia get enough money to attend college.

Commissioner Gibson made a motion to approve the BZA Application #17128 for 1908 Belmont Road. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote.

Commissioner Weaver moved for the adoption of a voluntary agreement between ANC1C and East Meets West Café. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote.

Neil Richardson and Anita Walsh gave a presentation about putting motivational signs on construction cranes located throughout the city.

Commissioner Weaver offered a resolution in support of funding for a professional surveyor in the case of BZA Appeal No. 17109—1819 Belmont Road. The resolution was seconded, discussed and approved by roll call vote:

YEA: Roth, Apostolides, Weaver, Moretti, Broaddus, Coudriet
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: Gibson

Resolution Approving Funding for Professional Surveyor in BZA Appeal No. 17109 — 1819 Belmont Rd., NW

WHEREAS, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C has filed a report with the Board of Zoning Adjustment in support of the Kalorama Citizens Association's appeal in BZA Case No. 17109, regarding alleged height and other zoning violations at 1819 Belmont Road, NW, and intends to appear as a party at the BZA's February 17, 2004 hearing on the appeal; and

WHEREAS, one major issue in the appeal is whether the height of the building, measured from the midpoint of the curb in front of the building to the highest point on the roof, exceeds the legal maximum of 70 feet; and

WHEREAS, the owner/developer of the property has relied on a survey claiming that the height is only 69 feet, 6 inches, meaning that the height might in fact exceed the legal maximum if the owner/developer's survey is incorrect by a factor of less than one percent; and

WHEREAS, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C believe it is necessary and appropriate to retain the services of a professional engineer, in advance of the BZA hearing, to conduct an independent survey of the building's height for possible use as evidence in the appeal,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 1C hereby approves the expenditure of up to \$1,000 for the purpose of hiring the engineering firm of Patton Harris Rust Associates to conduct the survey described above and provide ANC 1C with a certified report of its findings.

Commissioner Gibson made a motion that the topic of the March 15, 2004 quarterly forum should be the liquor license moratorium, which is scheduled to expire in July. The motion was seconded, discussed and approved by voice vote.

Commissioner Roth handed the gavel to Commissioner Gibson, vice chair, and offered a resolution approving new ANC1C bylaws. The resolution was seconded and discussed. Commissioner Gibson offered an amendment to the bylaws to change the language to allow the current Chair to run for re-election as Chair of the Commission. The amendment was seconded, discussed and approved by roll call vote:

YEA: Apostolides, Weaver, Moretti, Gibson and Coudriet
NAY: None
Abstain: Roth

The resolution, and the bylaws as amended, were then discussed and approved by a roll call vote:

YEA: Roth, Apostolides, Weaver, Moretti, Gibson, Coudriet
NAY: None

Resolution Adopting Revision of Bylaws

WHEREAS, section 14(d) of the Advisory Neighborhood Commission Act of 1975, as amended (D.C. Code § 1-309.11(d) (2002)) [“the Act”] requires each Advisory Neighborhood Commission to establish by-laws governing its operation and internal structure, including certain required provisions; and

WHEREAS, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C’s current by-laws adopted on or about February 1, 1989, no longer comply entirely with the requirements of the Act as it has been amended from time to time since 1989; and

WHEREAS, the 1989 by-laws also contain provisions that are unnecessary, redundant, outdated, confusing, cumbersome, or otherwise improvident; and

WHEREAS, a complete revision of ANC 1C’s by-laws is necessary to bring our by-laws into full compliance with current statutory requirements, as well as to clarify certain existing provisions and procedures and to conform to certain ANC 1C operating procedures and principles that have evolved over the years;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT due public notice having been given at its January 7, 2004 meeting of the intention to propose a complete revision of its by-laws at its February 4, 2004 meeting, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C hereby approves the attached revision of its by-laws, which revision shall become effective immediately upon the adoption of this resolution.

[The new bylaws are posted on the Commission’s Web site and can be accessed by clicking on “bylaws” at www.anc1c.org/about.htm.]

COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Gibson encouraged everyone to attend the fundraiser for the Sitar Center on Feb. 9 in Bethesda.

Commissioner Weaver called upon the other Commissioners to phone Councilmember Jim Graham's office and complain about ABC Inspector Lloyd Logan being moved from Ward One.

ADJOURNMENT

Whereupon, a motion to adjourn was made, seconded and approved by voice vote at approximately 9:40 p.m.