



MINUTES Advisory Neighborhood Commission Public Meeting: Tuesday, November 15, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4D took place on Tuesday, November 15, 2016.

COMMISSIONERS ROLL CALL: Present: 4D01-Nancy Roth; 4D03-Lisa Colbert; 4D04-David Sheon; 4D05-Krystal Branton; 4D06-Bill Quirk. Absent: 4D02-Renee Bowser. A quorum was present for all votes.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: **Comm. Sheon asked to alter the agenda to allow Anthony Washington to speak at the beginning of the meeting. Chair Colbert moved to accept the agenda as amended. Comm. Sheon seconded. Motion unanimously approved by acclamation.**

MINUTES: **October minutes were presented. Chair Colbert moved to accept minutes with a small edit. Comm. Branton seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT: **Comm. Branton read aloud the October Treasurer's Report. End of October closed with \$17,664.94, after expenditures of \$233.65 during September plus \$2.00 bank charge. Comm. Sheon asked if the "August" denoted on report was a mistake and Comm. Branton agreed it should say "September". Chair Colbert moved to accept with edit. Comm. Quirk seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Comm. Branton read aloud the Treasurer's Quarterly Report for July-September 2016. Balance from the second quarter: \$10,573.90. DC government allocation of \$10,459.54 entered the Treasury during the quarter just ended. Expenditures: \$3,146.85; expenses were in communications, office supplies and equipment, services, bank charges, plus \$1,125.57 in other expenditures for ANC 4D Fun Day in September. \$17,800.59 was left after expenditures. **Comm. Branton moved, Roth seconded to accept the report.** Attendee asked what "other" meant: services and products for event. **Motion unanimously passed.**

GUEST SPEAKERS

Lieutenant Anthony Washington of Metropolitan Police Dept. explained the Public Service Area system would undergo an administrative alignment into a "sector concept" but everything would stay the same for the residents: meetings on same schedule, lieutenants in charge would be the same. **Comm. Sheon asked if there was anything being done about the "uptick" in auto theft,** in which there was no sign of forced entry. Lt. Washington said crime has decreased overall but theft from autos was increasing due to device that can detect the frequency of a fob but the thief would need to be close to the fob to detect it. Captain Juanita Mitchell, who is new to the Fourth District, introduced herself.

OLD BUSINESS

Comm. Sheon noted the new laws on vacant housing would be effective on Jan 1. As soon as a home has been designated vacant by Dept. of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA), the property owner has the responsibility to prove that building is no longer vacant, by showing three months of utility bills, or bill of sale, or new construction permit. Council vote in favor was unanimous. An attendee asked if public could see which houses have been inspected. **Comm. Sheon said not yet. Comm. Roth asked**

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about whether the building permit exemption would still be valid. Comm. Sheon replied that instead of being renewable for three years, a permit would only be renewable for one year for residences, and two years for commercial structures.

Cherokee Jerome reported the apartments that were being rehabbed at 9th and Gallatin were now abandoned, with gate left open for intruders. **Comm. Sheon acknowledged construction activity had stopped and after the first of the year he'd report the building as vacant, which will put them on the vacant building list, with higher taxes until they can prove that sufficient work is underway.**

Comm. Roth asked about damaged buildings such as those that had sustained fire. **Comm. Sheon said legislation allows DCRA to designate blight instead of only the mayor.** Blighted buildings are taxed at 10 times the normal tax rate to motivate owners to return building to use.

Chair Colbert reminded attendees of a music and litter pickup parade starting on 700 block of Kennedy St. on Sat. Nov. 19. The parade would be on sidewalk with music, and those with strollers, bikes, and dogs were welcome. **Chair Colbert asked for five volunteers to help.**

NEW BUSINESS

Comm. Sheon noted that law on closing stores where there have been incidents of violence is not equal for the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board (ABRA) and DCRA in closing a facility. ABRA can shut down a bar or liquor store where violence has occurred, but DCRA cannot close down another licensed business for the same reason. **Comm. Sheon said he would like to see more alignment between the agencies.**

Comm. Sheon requested \$50 grant for setting up ratttraps on blocks where neighbors would like to get rid of rats. In his block, "We found that rat traps work but they are not pleasant." He added he would show other blocks how to use the traps if there are 3 residents on block willing to do the work for one week. **Comm. Quirk seconded motion to approve request.** Cherokee said they had used liquid peppermint to keep rodents away.

Chair Colbert said the litter cleanup event would include live music to accompany cleanup of litter. Sat. Nov. 19 10 am-noon.

Comm. Roth introduced a resolution calling the DC Dept. of Transportation and Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority to move a bus stop at southeast corner of Georgia Ave. and Kennedy St. half a block north due to overcrowding at the present location that has drawn concern from residents about pedestrian safety on the corner. Police mentioned that individuals loitering on the corner have been camouflaging themselves among the passengers awaiting the northbound bus. Also the narrow sidewalk does not allow for a shelter. The proposed site has room for a shelter and would disperse the crowded conditions on that corner. Residents expressed their concerns about the crowding and unsafe conditions at the corner. One resident was worried about move but withdrew her comment after seeing the short distance to the proposed site. Several attendees signed the back of the resolution. Comm. Roth moved to send the resolution to DDOT. Comm. Quirk and Comm. Sheon seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Comm. Roth introduced Kimberly Manning, representing DDOT's Kennedy St. upgrade project, which Manning reported was proceeding ahead of schedule.

Mr. Robert Tansey announced he and Leon Andrews were planning to start a community association for the area, which has lacked one for a long time. Mr. Aaron Polkey asked what were the boundaries. Mr. Tansey answered it would overlay on ANC borders and would have nominal dues. Resident asked if it would be overlap with CM White's Brightwood Park Citizens Assn. Mr. Tansey said it would incorporate the same area but since taking office CM White was unable to keep chairing it and key members had moved away, leaving the area in need of a replacement.

Comm. Sheon said after a family lost home to fire at 5002 Illinois Ave. he put out a call to his community and collected over \$2,000. Comm. Quirk said a house at 616 Emerson had been designated for families that have lost homes to fire. Comm. Sheon said would look into it.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Chair Colbert: ANC is giving out Thanksgiving dinners to those in need.

Chair Colbert: ANC would hold holiday party and coat drive on Dec. 11 at Swampoodle Restaurant at 14th and Colorado, 4:30-7:30. Coats to be donated in sizes from 6-16, for 10 kids at Truesdell and 10 at Barnard. Coats to be distributed on Dec. 16.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, Chair Colbert adjourned the meeting at 8:44 pm.