



## **PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES – FINAL APPROVED ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 4D Tuesday, October 17, 2017**

The monthly public meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4D took place on Tuesday, Oct. 17, 2017. Chair Lisa Colbert called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm.

**Office of the Advisory Neighborhood Commission Executive Director Gottlieb Simon informed residents of the 4D04 election details.**

**COMMISSIONERS ROLL CALL:** Present: 4D01-Nancy Roth; 4D02-Renee Bowser; 4D03-Lisa Colbert; 4D05-Krystal Branton; 4D06-Amy Hemingway. 4D04-Vacant. Quorum was present for all votes.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** **Comm. Branton offered two updates:** Reggie May from DPW will present instead of Celeste Duffie and add Sam Collins to Community Comments; Comm. Colbert moved the election resolution to the end of the agenda; Comm. Roth put Patrick McDonough on the agenda for Community Comments; Comm. Bowser put in Commissioner Announcements information about alternative energy scandals. **Comm. Hemingway moved to approve the agenda as edited. Comm. Branton seconded. The commission unanimously approved the agenda as edited.**

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Comm. Roth offered an update on short-term rentals (Airbnb etc.).** There is not additional news on the short-term rentals bill. On hold until December or January.

**Comm. Bowser offered an update on transitional housing for the homeless located at 5505 5th Street, NW.** The proposed Good Neighbor Agreement is available in the back. Please share any comments with Comm. Bowser. There is no deadline available, however, please submit your comments as soon as possible in the next several days.

**Comm. Hemingway shared an update from Ted Van Houten, DDOT Transportation Planner, to offer the current state of play on the Sherman Circle single-lane trial.** They were as follows:

- All public comments received will be posted on [the NOI page](#). DDOT is currently in the process of doing that now. DDOT will let us know when those are uploaded.
- After the NOI comment period closes, DDOT will review data analysis and all comments received. After that, they will be able to plan next steps with the community. When they meet with the community, they will share data analysis and a summary of comments.
- They are working on a fact sheet. Comm. Hemingway said she will share it.
- DDOT is currently considering improvements at Sherman Circle that would be implemented using signage, markings, and flexposts. Any additional measures, such as a flashing light / walk button, may be considered after installation of signage and markings is complete.

Submit comments through Fri., Oct. 27 to (Note: this was subsequently extended to Nov. 10):

Washington Latin Public Charter School  
5200 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20011

[Theodore.vanhouten@dc.gov](mailto:Theodore.vanhouten@dc.gov); Ted Van Houten, 202.671.4580, DDOT, 55 M Street, SE, Suite 400, Washington DC 20003.

**Comm. Branton announced a Water Forum hosted at Washington Latin PCS, Tues., Oct. 24, 6:30-8:30pm.**

Comm. Branton provided background on the event and noted the flyer in the back. The forum will cover water bills and flooding and drainage issues. She urged residents to bring water bills for review with DC Water.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Comm. Roth introduced a resolution regarding Lucky Corner Store ABRA License request.** They request to sell liquor 6:30am to midnight 7 days per week. She is preparing to let ABRA know we are protesting it because of its impact on the community. She will put together a package to support our protest. She will aim to arrive at a Voluntary Settlement Agreement (See document). Comm. Roth requested to be point of contact for this effort.

Comm. Bowser recommended that Comm. Roth outline every single item we intend to protest.

**Comm. Roth moved that ANC 4D support Comm. Roth in the Lucky Corner Store protest and name her as the contact with ABRA. Comm. Hemingway seconded. The commission unanimously approved.**

**Comm. Colbert moved the budget discussion to after community comments.**

**COMMUNITY COMMENTS:**

Jasmin Benab, Mayor's Office – general updates

- Launched mychilddc.org – child care options and resources
- Launched DPCS 5-year strategic plan – learn more at dcps.dc.gov
- Launched historical investment \$138 million in affordable housing; several properties in Ward 4
- Last week launched Alleypalloza 6.0 in Ward 4 – 8 alleys per ward reconstructed or repaved in next 8 weeks across DC
- In August Mayor Bowser attended the PAC meeting where we she learned more about a host of concerns like rats, public safety, etc. thus, every Tuesday, MOCRs are doing multi-agency blitzes – sweeps to abate alley/streets, identify trash/illegal dumping – so each area can have a clean slate. They are engaging residents to let them know when they've been through their area.

Resident and Commissioner questions:

- How are the alleys chosen? Prioritized by condition and community feedback
- Have they selected the alleys for Ward 4 already? Yes.
- If residents are interested in this, could residents get together and request that their alley be expected. Send to your commissioners or direct to Jasmin.

**Chair Colbert paused Community Comments to allow the guest speaker to address residents.**

**GUEST SPEAKER:**

**Chair Colbert introduced guest speaker Councilmember Brandon Todd.**

Washington Latin Public Charter School  
5200 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20011

CM Todd thanked 4D Commissioners for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual 4D Fun Day. He also honored former Commissioner David Sheon for his contributions to the community.

Council returned from recess on September 19.

- Universal Free School Lunch for all Amendment Act of 2017 – free lunch for all DC public and charter school students. Currently, we serve free breakfast but everyone should have free lunch. Twenty-five percent of the population would benefit that doesn't currently benefit. He is waiting for a fiscal impact statement. Hearing on Nov. 16 at 11am.
- Legislation for a Sales Tax Holiday – the city stopped this in 2009. We're booming and we should do it again.
- Legislation to create the Office on Night Life – To ensure that night life continues to integrate into all 8 wards in a mutually beneficial way. Hearing on Nov. 8.
- Legislation to repeal the Ward 4 moratorium – only ward in city with moratorium on class B licenses (beer and wine only). Full-service grocery stores need to sell beer and wine in order to invest in our area. Hearing was early in September and will come to full Council soon.
- Legislation to create of a Health Literacy Council – First vote on it today. Bill would enpanel 12 subject matter experts to help residents be more health literate – from pre-K to seniors.
- Legislation to create of an office on African American Affairs – it was established by Mayoral Order but doesn't get the funding and attention it needs. First vote was today. The final vote on bill will be Nov. 7.
- Ward 4 did so well in the city's \$14 billion budget.
  - West Education Campus – accelerated modernization funding.
  - Calvin Coolidge – maintained funding for complete modernization. This helps all the feeder schools.
  - Safe at Home – helps Ward 4 seniors age in place. Grant up to \$6,000 to spend in your home – small but impactful investments in seniors' homes. Especially helpful in Ward 4 – he represents the second most seniors in the city. Over 215 Ward 4 residents had taken advantage of Safe at Home. Call Dolly Turner, who handles senior constituent services, for more information.
  - Additional \$6M for infrastructure improvements and investments.
  - Funding for a new Express Bus Line down 14<sup>th</sup> Street.
  - Kennedy Street Streetscape - \$10 million. Will be completed in December.
  - Secured 200k for Upper 14<sup>th</sup> Street and Kennedy Street Main Street corridors.
  - Blair Road – DDOT is going to be completely repaved from Piney Branch to Kansas Ave.
  - Walter Reed – “bell of the ball” for economic growth in DC. 66 ½ acres for senior affordable housing (80 units) breaking ground in November. Just opened the DC International Public Charter School – first tenants there.
  - Hebrew Home – 10<sup>th</sup> and Spring Road NW – mixed, 88 units for senior affordable housing.

- Replacing 75,000 street lights that we own and operate. His committee has oversight. Office of Public-Private Partnerships put out an RFP for vendors to do this work.
- MPD – 18% decrease in overall criminal activity in Ward 4. YTD 8% overall criminal activity decrease. Homicides down by 11%. Sexual down abuse by 33%. Robberies down by 28%. Violent crime down by 26%. ADW down by 23%.
- Third Annual State of the Ward Senior Address, Thurs., Oct. 26 10am-2pm at Riggs LaSalle Rec Center.
- Small Biz Summit on Nov 15 with DC Chamber of Commerce.
- First Annual Ward 4 Brewery Crawl and Happy Hour at 3 Stars and Hellbender, Nov 13.
- Annual Holiday Party, Saturday, Dec. 16, Lafayette Elementary School – there is a coat collection.

### **Resident questions:**

Gwendolyn Harper –

- Truesdell school is not handicap accessible
  - He will convene walk through with DCPS and DGS to address ADA compliance
- How much funding for the African American Office?
  - N/A
- How much affordable housing for those besides seniors, for instance for singles and families, at Walter Reed?
  - 35% of total units are for affordable housing. Just under 500 in total. (some for sale, some for rent)
  - How to determine what's affordable? 0-80% of the annual median income – can share breakdown later

David Sheon – encourages residents to speak up on issues and concerns. Council is listening to your ideas and solutions.

Resident – concerns re: New Hampshire and 1<sup>st</sup> Street. There is no loitering law but there are squatters morning, noon and night. But there is no consistent police presence.

- CM Todd will pass along drug activity concern to PSA Lt. and Commander. He has done a walk through in that area, and brought agencies out to talk with residents.

Resident – Illinois Ave and Gallatin. Dark, lighting isn't good. Don't feel safe. Especially around the right side going down Illinois Ave. Getting park upgraded like Sherman Avenue park. There is also a tree issue. Rats are ridiculous. As a senior citizen that works, you don't qualify for anything. Could you do webinars, because working people cannot attend events.

- CM Todd will work with DDOT on lighting upgrades. He will look into tree issue.

CM Todd discussed 4 reasons for increase in rats:

- 1000 people moving into the city every month
- New food establishments = trash
- Extreme mild winters = less rats are dying
- New construction exacerbates the rats issue

The Department of Health kicked off a new rat abatement progress. Get your neighbors to join forces on this – petition to get all your neighbors abated.

Resident – unlicensed vendors selling food. One is across from Truesdell school. She has called the police. They don't deal with it. Illinois Ave. park also has couches, chairs.

- CM Todd works on illegal dumping himself via 311. Will stay on top of it with DPW.

Resident – Gallatin and Georgia area needs more lights near fire department given prostitution. Trash cans on park across the street – people that dump there don't live in the neighborhood. At Hamilton and Illinois, people are not stopping and when it rains cars slide right through. Wasp nest in 5200 block of Illinois Ave and it's hanging by a thread

- CM Todd noted that Malcolm can help.

Sam Collins – Question regarding TOPA – Tenant Opportunity to Purchase Act – there is a hearing coming up. He wants people and Council to know that TOPA does benefit residents. He urged CM Todd to consider residents not just developers. Council is looking to cut the process from 120 to 60 days – makes it hard for people to get through the process, but easier for developers.

### **COMMUNITY COMMENTS (CONTINUED)**

Lt. Raul Figueras, PSA 403/Sector II day work shift manager – offered public safety updates and tips for protection your personal property during the holiday season. [Raul.Figueras@dc.gov](mailto:Raul.Figueras@dc.gov).

### **GUEST SPEAKER**

Reggie May from DPW shared information about recycling, snow program and how to avoid a ticket. Beginning Jan. 18 you can no longer put electronics out in trash = they need to get to [inaudible] or Fort Totten Howard Davis – Ward 4 inspector – is available to assist as needed.

Comm. Hemingway asked about a trash collection issue. Collectors are not completely emptying trash cans.

- He will convey that issue.

Comm. Bowser – is there a new policy with regard to putting trash receptacles in neighborhoods?

- The rule is we don't place receptacles in residential communities, but do in commercial corridors because they attract household trash.

Resident – rat situation – can we do something different than the plastic trash cans?

- Will take request back to director.

Comm. Branton – will there be snow removal enforcement this year?

- Plan for seniors 65+ -- third year for program. Last year, issued almost 2,000 exemptions to people. If you qualified last year you don't have to re-apply this year. Will issue citations to homes where there are no exemptions – 24 hours after snow event. Apply online or call 311.

Comm. Branton – How does exemption process work for trash?

- This goes through the Solid Waste Collections Division. Call and fill out application. If you qualify via age or physical infirmity, you get a sticker for your container then collectors know to come and get the trash.

## COMMUNITY COMMENTS

- Brightwood Petworth Community Association, launch party and skills fair. See flyers.
- Looking to trade TOPA rights to non-profit developer. Asks for public support and CM Todd's support to ensure TOPA is maintained as is.
  - o CM Todd: Legislation would not affect TOPA as it relates to non-single-family homes.
- Sam Collins, Man Cave – asks folks to sign up to learn more.
- Kim Manning – Kennedy Street completion date of Dec 22.

## BUDGET

Comm. Colbert revisited the FY18 spending plan and would like to make total disbursements \$15,145 and the available balance would be \$16,896.83.

Comm. Hemingway would like to increase the communications budget by \$3,000 to reach more people via offline measures. Comm. Bowser concurred.

**Comm. Colbert motioned to accept the FY18 spending budget plan as presented with edits. Comm. Roth seconded. The commission unanimously approved the spending plan budget.**

## APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 2017 MINUTES

**Comm. Bowser moved to approve the September 2017 minutes with one minor edit. Comm. Hemingway seconded the motion. The commission unanimously approved the edited September minutes.**

## TREASURER'S REPORT

**Comm. Bowser introduced the following monthly Treasurer's Report.** She also noted that all details are on the back table.

- October 2017
  - o Beginning: \$17,811.79
  - o Ending balance: \$14,937.87

**Comm. Bowser moved that the October monthly report be approved as presented. Comm. Branton seconded. The commission unanimously approved.**

## COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Comm. Colbert reaffirmed what Comm. Hemingway previously shared about the cost of the 4D Postcard and encouraged people to heed the "Call to Action – Let us know how to reach you."

Comm. Colbert gave a recap of 4D Community Fun Day. Event cost \$500. She acknowledged our sponsors: Move and Groove Market, Mayor's Office for moon bounce, Oohs and Ahhs, Helping Hands Community Services, Popeye's, Brightwood Church and Plymouth Church, Howard University Services and Volunteers, Truesdell School and their wonderful custodian.

Comm. Hemingway announced the Halloween Parade for Kids & Nature Walk for All on Sun., Oct. 29, 2017, 4-6pm in Sherman Circle.

Comm. Colbert announced the 3-Course Lunch & Sparkle Dancing for Seniors 60+ at Hattie Holmes, Sat., Nov. 17, 11am-3:30pm.

Comm. Colbert announced the ANC 4D Community Holiday Party & Coat/Hat/Scarf/Gloves Drive at Castello's, Fri., Dec. 1, 6-9pm.

Comm. Bowser alerted people to the scams related to alternative energy sources. She proposed we have the Office of the People's Council speak to us about this.

**Comm. Colbert presented a resolution regarding the election for 4D04, which Jamie Barden won.**

**Councilmember Todd swore in Jamie Barden as ANC 4D04 Commissioner.**

**Comm. Colbert adjourned the meeting at 8:40PM.**