

**ANC 3E Meeting
Minutes of June 14, 2001**

Chairperson Jill Diskan called the meeting to order at 7:40pm. Commissioners Chris McNamara, Leslie Quynn, Frank Gordon and Tad DiBiase were present.

Announcements

The Friendship-Tenleytown Citizens Association next meeting will be held on June 19 at 7:00pm at the Tenley Library. DPW Director Leslie Hotaling will be speaking on sanitary services, parking services and transportation issues at the meeting.

ANC Business

The commission voted unanimously to adopt the minutes of the May 2001 meeting and approve the Treasurer's April and May 2001 report.

Actions

- Unanimously adopted the minutes of the May 2001 meeting.
- Unanimously approved the Treasurer's May 20001 Report.
- Unanimously approved the following \$1000 grants to:

Friends of Tait Park – to maintain green space, do plantings, and build berm along Western Avenue to deaden noise from traffic.

Chevy Chase Playground Committee for maintenance and to upgrade the Playground.

Friendship Park (a.k.a. Turtle Park) for seed money to build a "Sprayground".

Chevy Chase Plaza Children's Center for a hand's-on summer program.

Friends of Fort Bayard Park for a newsletter, mailing, and startup to improve the park and build a playground.

Wisconsin Avenue Beautification Project for landscaping maintenance.

Tenleytown Historical Society for a photo survey of AU Park, Tenleytown, and Friendship Heights.

- Unanimously approved the concept of the development of Tenley Park as presented by Jim Gibson Associates.
- Voted 4-1 not to support the application for historic designation of the Burrows House at 4520 River Road.

Open Forum

Steve Posniak reported that as of Monday, June 25, 2001 the Montgomery Mall Federal Triangle Express line (N7) would be modified as requested by the community.

Commissioner Quynn attended the Zoning Committee Meeting at American University on Monday, June 11, 2001. The Zoning Committee came to no formal decision on the Plan as a whole but the following issues were addressed:

- 1) On-campus housing population will be reduced by 600 students.
- 2) The University will adopt a parking program.
- 3) The AU student code of conduct will also apply to off-campus students.

The Zoning Commission deferred their decision on the new Art Center and the Tenley Campus until July.

The new Office of Student External Affairs met on Tuesday, June 12, 2001. Commissioner Quynn and Commissioner McNamara were present. AU students proposed meeting with community leaders monthly to discuss student/community issues. Both Commissioner Quynn and Commissioner McNamara applauded the students for their initiative in calling the meeting.

Commissioner Diskan reported that the ABC protest hearing on the Round Table Restaurant was held on Thursday, June 14, 2001. The hearing was continued until August 8.

2nd District Police Report

There was no report from the 2nd District Police

Presentation of Spring 2001 ANC 3E Grant Awards

- Friends of Tait Park – to maintain green space, do plantings, and build berm along Western Avenue to deaden noise from traffic.

Commissioner DiBiase noted that he was satisfied that the proposed plans for Tait Park were to the benefit of the wider community, particularly because the berm was designed to make it safer for children who played there and to reduce the traffic noise in the park.

Commissioner Gordon questioned whether a small piece of land could ever provide enough public benefit to warrant an ANC grant and if the ANC grant guidelines were sufficient.

Commission chair Diskan stated the Commissioners would review the ANC 3E grant to resolve the following issues:

- 1) If grants have been awarded for a project which has not been completed, should the ANC award additional grants?
- 2) Should the ANC allow the use of unused grant money for a new project?

Commissioner McNamara moved that the award be granted to Tait Park. Commissioner DiBiase seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

- Chevy Chase Playground Committee for maintenance and to upgrade the Playground.

Commission chair Diskan moved that the award be granted to Chevy Chase Playground. Chris McNamara seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

- Friendship Park (a.k.a. Turtle Park) for seed money to build a “Sprayground”.

Commissioner DiBiase moved that the grant be awarded to Friendship Park. Commissioner McNamara seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

- Chevy Chase Plaza Children’s Center for a hand’s-on summer program.

Commission Chair Diskan moved that the award be granted to Chevy Chase Plaza Children’s Center. Commissioner DiBiase seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

- Friends of Fort Bayard Park for a newsletter, mailing, and startup to improve the park and build a playground.

Commissioner DiBiase recused himself as a member of the Board of Directors of Fort Bayard Park.

Commissioner Chris McNamara moved that the award be granted to Fort Bayard Park. Commissioner Frank Gordon seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

- Wisconsin Avenue Beautification Project for landscaping maintenance.

Commissioner DiBiase moved that the award be granted to Wisconsin Avenue Beautification Project. Commissioner McNamara seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

- Tenleytown Historical Society for a photo survey of AU Park, Tenleytown, and Friendship Heights.

Jean Pablo, representing Tenleytown Historical Society, was unable to attend the May ANC 3E meeting. She presented THS’s grant request for \$1000 to do a photo survey of Tenleytown, AU Park and Friendship Heights.

Commissioner DiBiase noted that questions concerning the designation of both historic areas and individual buildings in the District of Columbia could be answered by contacting by the Historic Preservation Review Board web site at: www.DCpreservation.org

Commissioner Gordon noted that an individual property must have a significant historic fabric in order to be designated as “historic”. He also noted that specific criteria must be met before an area is designated as “historic” and that an area cannot be designated as “historic” if it is made up of only a few widely scattered historic buildings.

Judy Hubbard Saul urged to approval of the Tenleytown Historical Society project.

Commissioner McNamara requested the projected costs of the proposed survey.

Pablo estimated the cost at approximately \$15,000 for photographic processing and materials. The additional funds were being sought through grants and fund raising.

In response to a request from Commissioner McNamara Pablo stated that the project to document the gravestones in the Elderbrook Cemetery had been delayed because ownership of some of the titles are being transferred.

Commissioner DiBiase moved that the grant be awarded to Tenleytown Historical Society. Commissioner Quynn seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Presentation of revised proposal for Albermarle and Nebraska.

GTM Architects, Inc. presented a revised proposal for three duplexes to be built on the site at Albermarle and Nebraska Avenue, NW. Jim Gibson Associates is negotiating to purchase the site from Holladay Corporation, but wants neighborhood support before proceeding. The new plan addresses most neighborhood and National Park Service concerns.

Commissioner DiBiase moved that the Tenley Park Plan be approved in concept as presented. The motion was seconded and it was approved unanimously.

Discussion of proposed changes to “no turn on right” regulations at various intersections in ANC 3E:

The discussion of “no turn on red was deferred until the July meeting. The proposed changes will be posted on the ANC 3E web site.

Consideration and vote on Request for Historic Designation for the Burrows House at 4520 River Road, NW:

Jean Pablo, representing the Tenley Historical Society, which has submitted a request to the DC Preservation Office, presented the case for historic designation for the Burrows House. She noted that it is an example of a Queen Anne country house and one of ten original houses built in the 1890’s in AU Park.

Robert Comstock, representing the owners of the estate, spoke in opposition to the historic designation request. He stated that the building was structurally unsound and generally deteriorating and that it would cost between \$700,000 - \$800,000 to repair.

Brian O'Hara, a local contractor interested in purchasing the property, concurred with Mr. Comstock's estimated costs to repair the house. Mr. O'Hara proposed building two houses on the land. Tax records indicate the property had been sub-divided in 1983.

Three residents spoke out against the historic designation request.

Commissioner McNamara moved not to support the historic designation of the Burrows House. Commissioner Gordon seconded the motion. The motion was passed 4-1, with Commissioner DiBiase dissenting.

With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:10pm.