

**ANC3E Meeting
Minutes of April 11, 2002**

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. Commissioners Jill Diskan, Tad DiBiase, Leslie Quynn, Frank Gordon and Chris McNamara were present.

Announcements:

Mr. Posiak announced that DCWASA has scheduled a public hearing on rate changes and increase in billing frequency from quarterly to monthly for April 25th, 2002 at 6:30 p.m. at the Washington Convention Center. Proposed changes are posted on WASA's web site: www.dcwasa.com.

He also announced that Chris Zimmerman, and Richard White, of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, were featured on the DC Politics Hour on Monday, April 8, 2002.

Bruce Lowrey announced that his newsletter would cover developments in the Tenleytown area. Interested residents could contact him at lowrey.bruce@hq.navy.mil

Commissioner DiBiase announced that the DC Metropolitan Police Department will be holding a Career Expo on April 27, 2002.

Chairperson Diskan announced that the Anacostia Waterfront Parks Summit will be held on Saturday, April 13, 2002. The summit runs from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. and is to be held at the Savoy Elementary School, 2400 Shannon Place, SE. She also announced "Lets Free DC" is meeting at April 15, 2002 on Farragut Square at 5:00 p.m. and that ANC 3E 2002 Spring grant application forms were available from the ANC 3E web site at www.anc3e.org. Presentation for grants should be made at the May 9 meeting and awards will given at the June 14 meeting.

ANC Business/Actions:

The minutes of the March 14, 2002 meeting were unanimously approved.

The Treasurer's March 2002 report was unanimously approved.

The following checks were issued and approved at the (April 11, 2002) meeting:

Check # 1067 for \$50.00 to Barbara Edmonston

Check # 1068 for \$32.92 to Verizon

Check # 1069 for \$142.70 to Kwik Kopy

Check # 1070 for \$228.00 to Superb Internet

Check # 1071 for \$210.00 to Polly King

Check # 1072 for \$40.00 to Scolaworks

Check # 1073 for \$53.00 to ANC Security Fund

Check # 1074 for \$52.12 to Kinko's

Open Forum:

Ms Brooks asked if anyone knew the Administrator of the Friends of Friendship Playground. Commissioner Quynn said she would forward the information to Ms. Brooks.

A resident questioned the proposed traffic lights on Chesapeake and Nebraska. He suggested also installing a yellow flashing light to encourage drivers to slow down, rather than speed through the intersection.

Mr. Posniak mentioned an article about the Tenleytown Firehouse in the April 3, 2002 Northwest Current. The Mayor's agent must make a decision about the building by April 30, 2002. The proposed plan is to gut the interior of the building, preserving three exterior walls while adding a two story building behind the old one. Mr. Posniak referenced a petition containing over 12,000 signatures supporting a new firehouse which had been presented to the Mayor's agent.

A resident asked if Matisse, located at 4934 Wisconsin Avenue, NW was violating its license by holding outside events. Commissioner DiBiase responded that the owners of the restaurant had agreed not to hold any further outside events at the restaurant.

Another resident inquired if the owners of the parking lot at the rear of 4934 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, were still abiding by the terms of their special exception permit. The Commission agreed to look into the situation.

A resident asked for an update on the Washington Clinic site. Commissioner Diskan advised that Stonebridge Associates have filed their proposal for the site with the Office of Planning. Proposals had not yet been filed with the Board of Zoning.

Presentation by the 2nd District Police:

Lt. Carter of the 2nd District Police gave the crime and traffic update for the neighborhood.

He distributed "Watch Your Car" brochures, a national vehicle protection program funded by the US Department of Justice, the Office of Justice Programs, and the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The program is designed to deter auto theft and assist in the apprehension of auto thieves and is provided as a public service, free of charge, to owners registered in the District of Columbia. Interested residents can fill out the application form in the brochure or sign up on line at www.mpdc.dc.gov or by calling 1-877-DC2-STOP.

He also encouraged residents to register their bicycles with the police.

The police are requesting the public to avoid downtown Washington between April 19 and April 23 as there is a serious concern about suicide bombers due the demonstrations scheduled over those five days.

Discussion of, and possible vote on, ANC 3/4G's resolution requesting a study of crosstown traffic, Anne Renshaw, ANC 3/4G

Anne Renshaw presented a draft resolution requesting a study of cross-town traffic and asked that ANC 3E support ANC 3/4G in their request that the District of Columbia undertake a comprehensive study of Military Road/ Missouri Avenue. She explained that the resolution was necessary because of the growing weekday traffic volume, and in particular the increasing volume of heavy duty trucks which will be aggravated when the Friendship Heights construction begins in 2003. Residents in the area are subject to the danger of vehicular accidents, noise and air pollution, and houses are in danger of structural damage caused by overweight trucks and commercial vehicles.

The resolution asks that the District of Columbia undertake (within the calendar year 2002) a comprehensive study of Military Road/ Missouri Avenue cross-town traffic, to restrict dirt hauling trucks and other large construction vehicles from Military Road/Missouri Avenue, to lower the truck weight restriction for commercial vehicles and to disburse tour buses to other routes.

The commission agreed to review the draft resolution.

Discussion of DDOT's proposal to provide parking space for Cathedral tour buses at the WMATA Bus Garage on 44th Street, NW

Larry Brown and Terri Adams represented DDOT and discussed the recent proposal to provide six parking spaces for Cathedral tour buses at the WMATA Bus Garage on 44th Street, NW. While stressing the importance of the DC tourist industry, Mr. Brown explained that DDOT has been involved in trying to resolve issues between neighborhood ANCs and the Cathedral tour buses for 3-4 years.

Neighborhood issues include:

- Tour buses double and triple parking
- Tour buses idling in front of the Cathedral, in the neighborhood and blocking traffic
- Increased air pollution during the tourist season
- Increased traffic congestion caused by tour buses travelling to and from the Cathedral through the neighborhood

In an effort to resolve the issues, ANC 3C approved a resolution, in 2001, to discontinue the practice of issuing temporary No Parking signs for cars on Wisconsin Avenue during the peak tourist season. The resolution noted that the cathedral had use of the service road in front of the Cathedral and it contributed to neighborhood problems to also ban car parking on Wisconsin Avenue when the Cathedral has property which it is unwilling to open to tour buses. In June 2001, DDOT wrote a draft resolution eliminating tour bus parking on Wisconsin Avenue, and restricting parking on the service road to non-rush hour time. The resolution was withdrawn at the Mayor's request. The Cathedral has now submitted a management plan and a reservation system for tours and tour buses. They have also hired three extra people to instruct tour bus drivers where to park and an off-duty officer to ensure that buses are not idling in the neighborhood. Mr. Brown noted that no tickets have been issued to idling buses within the last year.

Mr. Buchard referred to his letter in the April 3, 2002 edition of the Northwest Current. He noted that the problem lay with the Cathedral and urged the DDOT not to burden the neighborhood with additional buses driving through the community.

Several other residents spoke of the reluctance of the Cathedral to park tour buses on their own property.

Nancy McKennie presented a petition from the employees in the Jenifer Street Mall building at 4400 Jenifer Street, NW protesting the proposed 6 parking spaces for National Cathedral tour buses at the Metro Garage. Their protest was based on the increased air and noise pollution in the neighborhood as well as increased traffic congestion at the intersection of Wisconsin Avenue and Jenifer Street.

Commissioner DiBiase agreed that tourism is an important industry but asked if the Cathedral would reconsider parking buses on the property.

Chairperson Diskan expressed concern about the continuing problem of tour buses idling on Wisconsin Avenue and the decrease in air quality caused by buses driving up and down Wisconsin Avenue. She suggested that the Cathedral do more to alleviate the problem in the neighborhood and urged DDOT to consider the petition presented by the employees of the Jenifer Street Mall.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tad DiBiase
Secretary