

ANC 3E MEETING
Minutes of March 14, 2002

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. Commissioners Jill Diskan, Frank Gordon, Leslie Quynn and Chris McNamara were present. Commissioner DiBiase arrived at 7:45 p.m.

Announcements:

Chairperson Diskan announced that ABC liquor licenses renewals in the neighborhood will be posted on the ANC 3E web site and in Communit-E. Residents should contact the commissioner in their single member district if they have any concerns.

ANC Business/Actions:

The minutes of the February 14, 2002 Meeting were unanimously approved.

The Treasurer's February 2002 report was unanimously approved.

The following checks were issued and approved at (the March 14) meeting:

- Check no. 1062 to Kinko's in the amount of \$84.40
- Check no. 1063 to Polly King in the amount of \$291.10
- Check no. 1064 to Scolaworks in the amount of \$40.00
- Check no. 1065 to Verizon in the amount of \$31.70
- Check no. 1066 to Barbara Edmondson in the amount of \$50.00

Support of Chevy Chase Land Company's application for public space permits was unanimously approved.

Support of Madison Retail's application for three variances and a special exception was unanimously approved.

Support of the Chevy Chase Shopping District Association's application for a DC Main Street Program in Friendship Heights was unanimously approved.

Open Forum:

Mr. Scott announced that WAMU had a successful fund drive and raised approximately \$900,00.00. Many of the pledges came from the neighborhood.

He also announced that March 14 was the anniversary of Vice President Marshall's birthday.

Mr. Tievsky asked if anyone knew about the permit issued to the Monarc Construction Company at 4601 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.

Vote on public space permits for development at Western and Wisconsin Avenues, N.W. (Chevy Chase Land Company site)

David Martin spoke on behalf on the Chevy Chase Land Company and presented their application for Public Space Permits in connection with their proposed development at Western and Wisconsin Avenues, NW. The development site is located in Montgomery County, but the District of Columbia controls the frontage on Western Avenue, NW

The Chevy Chase Land Company is requesting the following public space permits:

- To replace the existing sidewalk on the North side of Wisconsin Avenue with a 15ft brick sidewalk, including a bike path, from the site of the current vehicle entrance to Wisconsin Circle.
- To add a total of 9 trees and replace 1 tree from the site of the current vehicle entrance to Wisconsin Circle.
- To provide standard Acorn lights from the site of the current vehicle entrance to Wisconsin Circle.
- To provide temporary access to the site during construction via the existing northern most access point.

Chevy Chase Land Company agreed at the February 2002 meeting that construction traffic will use Willard Road in Montgomery County and Wisconsin Avenue north of the intersection of Wisconsin and Western Avenues to access the construction site and transport debris from the site.

Chairperson Diskan moved to support Chevy Chase Land Company's application for public space permits. Commissioner McNamara seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Presentation by 2nd District Police:

Sgt. Hayes of the 2nd District Police gave the crime update for the neighborhood and distributed the PSA 202 newsletter.

A resident asked the police if they could watch the 4600 and 4700 block of Chesapeake where the lack of a stop sign contributed to speeding problems.

Discussion with Paul Levy, principal of Georgetown Day School:

Commissioner DiBiase noted that there were 2 issues to be addressed concerning Georgetown Day school: 1) Student parking and 2) the alley behind 43rd Place, NW.

1) Student Parking:

Rick Seravtius spoke on behalf of concerned neighbors of Georgetown Day School. He reported that many residents were unable to park in the area surrounding Georgetown Day School during school hours because of students driving to school and parking in the neighborhood. Residents felt that an agreement made between ANC 3E and Georgetown Day School, when the building opened, was being violated. The agreement stated that GDS has said that few GDS students would drive to school, so there would be no traffic of parking problems in the neighborhood. And, those who did drive to school must park on site and not in residential areas. Mr. Seravtius also complained that GDS students were throwing litter on the streets and smoking pot in parked cars and alleyways. Several other residents supported Mr. Seravtius's complaints.

Mr. Levy, principal of Georgetown Day School, responded that he was aware of the agreement made between the school and ANC 3E. He stated that the school's policy was to allow only on-site student parking. He suggested residents call him if they see cars belonging to GDS students parked in residential areas. He explained that the police would be able to trace the owner of a car once they had license plate number and the student would be reprimanded by the school. He also stated that the school had a no-tolerance policy on illegal drugs and encouraged residents to call the police if they suspected students of smoking pot in public areas.

Jonathan Tannenwald spoke as a GDS student and mentioned that many of the student body did not live close to a metro station so that driving to school was their only practical method of transportation.

Commissioner DiBiase suggested that each student provide GDS with their license plate number when they renew their contract with the school each year. GDS security guards can then look for those cars on their daily rounds of the neighborhood. If a student car is found GDS can notify the student of the agreement that students are not to park on neighborhood streets.

2) Alley behind 43rd Place, NW.

Mr. Ishmael spoke on behalf of neighbors concerned that debris and dirt collected in the alley behind 43rd Place, NW was causing basement flooding in the houses that backed onto the alley. Mr. Ishmael explained that GDS had agreed to take care of the water problem as part of their original agreement with ANC 3E. Mr. Ishmael suggested that Safeway might be able to assist in maintaining the alley.

Mr. Levy said that the school's building engineer would try to find a way to redirect the water and debris away from the alley.

Chairperson Diskan stated ANC 3E would outline these problems and possible solutions in a letter to the school.

Mr. Levy agreed to attend the June 13, 2002 ANC 3E meeting to discuss how GDS had decided to resolve these issues.

Discussion and vote on approval of the proposed plans for the former Hechinger site:

Armond Spikell and Richard Lake presented the current plans for the former Hechinger site to accommodate changes requested by the Historic Preservation Review Board. A four-story luxury residential addition will be added to the building. The proposed project provides for residential rooftop parking, accessed from Albemarle Street. Retail parking will be in the basement and accessed from River Road. The project will provide 9,300 square feet of recreational. The owners of the property have no plans to rent roof space for commercial antennas. However, retail tenants may put antennae on the roof of the building. To protect Janney School students who walk to and from school through the alley, the property owners propose to put up a guardrail between the sidewalk and the alley.

Chairperson Diskan requested a construction agreement between ANC 3E, Janney School and Madison Retail.

Madison Retail requested support for:

- A variance to allow a building height for the property of seventy feet.
- A variance from the minimum parking isle width.
- A variance to permit a reduction in recreational space to 9,300 square feet as opposed to the 29,400 square feet required under current zoning.
- A special exception to allow parking to be allocated as proposed.

Commissioner DiBiase moved to support Madison Retail's application for three variances and a special exception. Commissioner McNamara seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Discussion of Main Street Project for Friendship Heights:

Stephanie Lynch, of M J Marketing, spoke on behalf of Chevy Chase Association of Retailers, Inc and requested support for the participation of Friendship Heights in the District of Columbia's Main Street Program. DC Main Streets provides commercial districts with the information and resources to manage their commercial districts and support local efforts to revitalize the neighborhood.

Chairperson Diskan moved to support the participation of Friendship Heights in the DC Main Street Program and it was approved unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tad DiBiase

Secretary

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