

ANC 3E Meeting
Minutes of March 11, 2004

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. Commissioners Amy McVey, Chapman Todd and Amy Hoang Wrona were present.

ANC Business/Actions:

The Commission voted unanimously to adopt the minutes of February, 2004 meeting

The Commission voted unanimously to adopt the minutes of January 8, 2004 meeting

The Commission voted unanimously to approve the Treasurer's report

The following checks were approved:

Check No. 1156	25.00	Security Trust Fund	Bonding
Check No. 1157	30.33	Verizon	Monthly Phone Service, 02/0
Check No. 1158	60.00	D.C. Treasurer	Zoning Maps
Check No 1159	100.00	USPS	PO Box
Check No. 1160	Void	XXXXXX	XXXXX
Check No. 1161	191.21	Polly King Petty Cash Custodian	Petty Cash

Announcements:

Commission Chair Amy McVey announced that ANC 3E Spring Grants were due on April 8, 2004 and will be awarded at the May Meeting. She also announced that the DC Department of Public Works will hold its bi-annual household hazardous waste event on Saturday, April 3 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Carter Barron Amphitheater or the Penn Branch Shopping Center.

Commissioner Hoang Wrona updated the community on the lead levels in the City's drinking water.

Open Forum:

Kathy Smith asked the commission to request that local liquor stores discontinue selling small bottles of liquor. Commissioner Todd promised to pass the request onto Commissioner Eldridge, in whose district most of the stores are located.

Presentation by 2nd District Police:

Lt. Aiello gave a crime update for PSA 202. He also updated the community on Metro's response to the homeless community who often sleep in the areas close to the entrance of the Metro. The company had agreed to treat the area with a Clorox solution to ensure hygienic conditions. The company did not support arresting the homeless community who were found loitering on their property.

Discussion with Sczerina Perot and possible vote on the Housing Production Trust Fund:

Sczerina Perot, representing the Housing Production Trust Fund, and a resident who lives in the 4300 block of Chesapeake Street, NW, gave a brief presentation on the history and mission of the fund, including its services to low and moderate income families and

asked the Commission to support their resolution to endorse the Housing Production Trust Fund and asking the Mayor and the City Council of the District of Columbia to fully fund the Housing Production Trust Fund in the District of Columbia's FY 2005 Budget. The resolution passed 3-0.

Discussion of and possible vote regarding the small parking lot behind the commercial strip on Wisconsin between Fessenden and Ellicott:

The lot owner's legal representative and the lot's manager presented their application before ANC 3E for a special exception Application to operate a 27 space surface parking lot. This property was the subject of a Special Exception granted by the Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) with a final date of January 21, 1998, and identified as Order Number 16212. This Special Exception expired January 21, 2003, which the owner says was due to an oversight. In the Special Exception Application filed February 19, 2004, the applicant sought approval of the application under the same terms and conditions as imposed in Order Number 16212, with two modifications: 1) a change of term from five years, to ten years, and 2) an expansion of the hours of operation. After discussion with neighbors, it was agreed to amend the Special Exception Application to remove the two proposed modifications. The Commission requested a copy of the modified filing, and agreed to consider a resolution in support of the application, as amended, at the April 2004 meeting.

Discussion of and possible vote on a curb cut at 4538 43rd Place:

Mr. Ken Boley presented a plan for a curb cut at his residence at 4538 43rd Place. Commissioner Todd noted that while the Commission has a preference for parking at the rear of a property when an alley is accessible to the property, they were not opposed the current application based on the number of existing curb cuts and front driveways in the immediate neighborhood of the applicant's address, the lack of objections made concerning this application to ANC 3E by those living adjacent and across from the applicant's address, and the applicant's commitment that the existing garage at 4538 43rd Place NW will be removed and replaced by green space in the rear of his house, and that an existing tree at the front of the property will not be removed by the curb cut and driveway. The Commission voted 3-0 not to oppose the application.

Discussion of and vote on the addition of "Welcome to Washington DC" signs at Western Avenue and River Road and at Western Avenue and Wisconsin Avenue:

Commissioner Hoang Wrona posed a list of questions for the DC Department of Public Works to answer regarding the "Welcome to Washington D.C. signs to be located on River Road and Western and Wisconsin and Western.

The list of questions included:

1. Where exactly will the signs lie along the road at River and Western and Wisconsin and Western?
2. Since the signs are so large, how will they be illuminated? How will DDOT or the contractor assure that the lights will not disturb surrounding houses in the case of River Road and Western Avenue.
3. Why are the signs so big (10'x10'x2')? Why does DDOT feel like a smaller sign is not adequate?
4. Who is paying for the signs?

5. Is the mayor's name going to be on the signs? If so, What provisions do you have to change the name at an absolute minimum cost and inconvenience to surrounding neighbors?
6. What assessments for pedestrian safety have been made since both gateways get a tremendous amount of both foot and car traffic?
7. Who will pay and take care for the upkeep of these signs?

The Commission voted 3-0 to object to the signs until the answers had been received from the DC Department of Public Works.

Discussion of proposed under ground parking garage and addition to school building at Georgetown Day School:

Peter Branch, head of Georgetown Day School, reviewed the school's plans to renovate and enlarge the building located at 4200 Davenport Street. The School is requesting permission to construct an addition to its existing building in order to modernize its facilities as well as requesting permission to renovate its existing facilities. The school plans to update the academic and art facilities, reconfigure the community/assembly space and construct a new athletic facility underground, below the existing athletic field. The school also proposes to construct a new underground garage to provide approximately 140 spaces, doubling the existing parking capacity on site. The school is not requesting an increase in the current cap on student enrollment or faculty and staff. The school's traffic management plan will remain in effect. Residents of the community voiced concerns that the school would later ask for an increase in enrollment and Commissioner Todd suggested that the neighborhood agreement with the school should be reviewed when the final plans were presented to the Commission.

Discussion of and possible vote on the application of a payphone permit at 4904 Wisconsin Avenue NW:

The Chairperson McVey noted that ANC3E had not been properly notified of the proposed pay phone being installed at 4904 Wisconsin Ave NW and that the first correspondence received from the Office of Public Space was on March 11 in the form of a phone call from Sarah Crawford and a faxed letter dated March 3. Because there had been insufficient time to discuss the merits or demerits of the payphone the Commission voted 3-0 to object to the installation of the payphone pending an additional 45 day comment period to study the issue and to consider the issue at our April meeting.

Discussion of and vote of the Tenleytown Firehouse:

Commissioner McVey introduced a resolution urging Councilmember Kathy Patterson to introduce emergency legislation overturning historic landmark status of the Tenleytown Firehouse so that the house can be built as DCFEMS originally planned, with room to expand in 3 full bays and that all public safety buildings be exempt from historic preservation. The resolution was passed 3-0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,

Amy Hoang, Secretary