

**ANC 3E Meeting  
Minutes of February 12, 2004**

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

**ANC Business/Actions:**

The following checks were issued and approved:

Check No. 1153 for \$477.00 to Polly King for Consultation  
Check No. 1154 for \$31.04 to Verizon  
Check No. 1155 for \$750 to Patrick Chapman for Consultation

- The Commission voted unanimously not to oppose the application for a permit at 4414 Albemarle Street
- The Commission voted unanimously not to oppose the application for a permit at 4311 Brandywine Street
- The Commission voted unanimously not to oppose the modifications to the Washington Clinic Project
- The Commission voted unanimously to adopt the minutes of the January 12, 2004 meeting
- The Commission voted unanimously to approve the Treasurer's report and the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter financial report
- The Commission voted unanimously the passage of the Bi-Laws. A copy of the By-Laws are attached
- The Commission voted unanimously to allow Amy McVey, Chair ANC 3E designate a representative of the community to testify on behalf of the community of ANC 3E at the hearing concerning the application of D.C. Wine, Inc. t/a Total Wine and More, 5345 Wisconsin Avenue

**Announcements:**

A Youth Law Fair will be held at the D.C. Courthouse, 500 Indiana Avenue, NW on Saturday March 13, 2004 from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. to teach D.C. youth and their parents about their rights and responsibilities and the justice system

Lisner-Louise-Dickson-Hurt Home and Chevy Chase Plaza Children's Center invited residents, families and children to join them on March 6, 2004 at 5425 Western Avenue, NW for a Kick-Off Party for their Helping Hugs campaign.

The Container Store will open on March 6, 2004 at the old Hechinger building on Wisconsin Avenue.

**Open Forum:**

Kirsti Columbant gave an update on the Elm tree that had been removed at the old Hechinger site. She asked that ANC 3E try to set up a procedure whereby the city would

try to protect trees. Commissioner Todd said a procedure was in place, and the Commission should have received notification of the application to remove the tree. Mr. Todd said he would update the community on those procedures when he has received a response to his letter to the Urban Forestry Administration.

Hazel Rebold gave an update on the February 25, 2004 Total Wine's hearing before the ABC Board.

The Assistant Head of Georgetown Day School announced a meeting to discuss the proposed underground parking at the school on March 19, 2004 at 7:00 p.m.

**Discussion of and possible vote on Washington Clinic Project modifications:**

Doug Firstenburg, representing Stonebridge Associates, described the modifications agreed upon by Fford and Stonebridge and requested support of those modifications from ANC 3E. Stonebridge has agreed to request from the Zoning Commission a modification of the PUD so that:

- (i) The density of the residential building on the Washington Clinic property shall be changed from 182,000 square feet of gross floor area to the lesser of 173,000 square feet of gross floor area or a floor area ratio (FAR) of 3.95;
- (ii) The height of the penthouse shall be reduced from 18 feet, 6 inches, to 10 feet;
- (iii) Parking will be provided with a minimum of 1.1 accessible parking spaces per residential unit and residents shall be prohibited from seeking a residential street parking permit from the District of Columbia, and agree to abide by certain other restrictions governing the use of parking spaces; and
- (iv) A new architectural design shall be incorporated into the project that reflects the reduction in density, a reconfigured penthouse, the introduction of a "water feature" in the open space, and no reduction in either the amount of open space or the distance of the residential building from any residential property.

The Commission voted 4-0 to support the proposed modification to the project for the Washington Clinic site. In response to questions from Chairperson McVey, Mr. Freedman, representing Fford, stated that the Office of Planning had not represented neighborhood interests when dealing with Stonebridge, was extremely unresponsive to citizen concerns, and had caused unnecessary delay in a community agreement with Stonebridge. In addition, he stated that the Office of Planning had negotiated poorly on behalf of the city and the community what amenities Stonebridge would have to provide in exchange for project approval.

**Discussion of and possible vote on the Housing Production Trust Fund:**

The discussion of the Housing Production Trust Fund was moved to the March 12, 2004 meeting.

**Presentation by the 2<sup>nd</sup> District Police:**

Officer Adrian Sanders gave a crime update for PSA 202

**Discussion of and vote on an application for a special exception to build a roof canopy over an existing areaway and steps at 4414 Albemarle Street:**

Kenneth Bailey requested ANC 3E support his application for a special exception for a zoning variance to allow the construction of a roof canopy over an existing stair areaway in his side yard at 4414 Albemarle Street. The Commission voted 4-0 not to oppose the application.

**Discussion of and vote on a zoning variance for work at 4311 Brandywine Street:**

Dwight Sterling requested ANC 3E support his application for a special exception for a zoning variance to allow the enclosure and enlargement of an existing front and side porch at 4311 Brandywine Street. The Commission voted 4-0 not to oppose the application.

**Discussion with Mr. Randall regarding A.U. signs:**

Richard Randall presented a petition objecting to the signage of the A.U. Theater at Van Ness and Wisconsin Avenue. While he noted that the sign falls within the DCRA requirements, and that American University was granted a permit to hang the sign, Mr. Randall requested support of the Commission to reduce the size of the sign so that it is more in keeping with other signs in the area. Chairperson McVey agreed to discuss the issue with ANC 3F, in whose district the building is located.

**Discussion of and possible vote on the Wisconsin Avenue Corridor Study**

**Resolution:**

Commissioner Todd presented ANC 3E's resolution to oppose the Upper Wisconsin Avenue Corridor Study in its present form. The resolution also asked that the Mayor direct the Office of Planning to withdraw the U.W.A.C.S. as a small-area plan, and asked that OP draft a new Strategic Framework Plan to include an objective and independent infrastructure study of the area. Commissioner Todd said that the present zoning would accommodate the growth along the corridor while still protecting the character of the neighborhoods. Commissioner Hoang Wrona stated her opposition to the wording of the resolution, saying that it sent the message that the Commission was anti-growth. Commissioners Eldridge and McVey supported Chapman Todd, noting that the existing zoning already allows for 90-foot heights close to the Metro station and allows for 50-foot buildings as a matter of right, as well as 65-foot heights for PUDs. Commissioner Eldridge also noted that the plan did not necessarily guarantee the vibrant street life that the community was hoping for. Chairperson McVey expressed concerns that the Office of Planning had stated that they did not have the money to spend on an infrastructure plan. Commissioner Hoang Wrona reaffirmed to Commissioner Eldridge that her objection to the resolution was tactical and not substantive. The Commission voted 3-1 to support the resolution, with Commissioner Hoang Wrona objecting.

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

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Amy Hoang, Secretary

