



**ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3E**  
**TENLEYTOWN AMERICAN UNIVERSITY PARK**  
**FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS**

**c/o Lisner Home 5425 Western Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20015**

**Resolution Supporting Morning Off-leash Dog Users Request to Create a Multi-purpose Field Without Requiring The Need to Build Another Fence**

**Whereas:** On June 15, 2009, members of a contingent representing a large group of dog owners that use the facilities at Chevy Chase park came before us requesting that we support their request to DPR that the field at Chevy Chase park be codified as a mixed-use field, one that would legally serve dogs and their owners (when the field is otherwise not being used), ball players, and others, and which would include a small fenced in area that would serve as an all day dog run.

**Whereas:** This commission supported this request and passed a resolution in support.

**Whereas:** DPR agreed and approved this usage arrangement on a trial basis.

**Whereas:** The morning off-leash dog users have been using the park (as it was—with fencing much the way it is now) in this manner for decades.

**Whereas:** DC’s dog park code allows for legal mixed-use (dog/human) areas and whereas the Director has the discretion to adjust the requirements as seem appropriate.

**Whereas:** The park is still under construction and details related to the mixed use field, specifically the morning dog usage have not been full resolved.

**Whereas:** The question of the exact arrangement (vis-à-vis fencing, hours, codes of conduct) are at the discretion of the Director.

**Whereas:** The community would strongly prefer not to see another fence added to the park, but rather maintain whatever openness still remains.

**Whereas:** Requiring another fence parallel to the existing fence that exists around much of the baseball field would create an area upon entering and walking through the park where three fences running parallel to one another (“dog” fence, backstop and sideline fence, and playground fence) occur within a fifty foot (or so) span of one another.

**Whereas:** Such an arrangement of fences would be unpleasant and would convey a feeling of confinement rather than the liberating feeling park users should feel.

**Whereas:** If it is determined that a fence must be added to the area (to fully enclose it), we would suggest that it should extend from the existing backstop and sideline fencing that presently exists so as to minimize the presence of fencing in the park.

**Whereas:** This park and field is an ideal space for this usage and has been used in this manner for decades.

**Now Therefore be it resolved:**

ANC3E requests that the Director use the discretion of his office and allow this trial program to begin without the need for additional fencing for the morning usage to take place on the ball field, and if such fencing is deemed absolutely necessary that the Director specify the fence height as four feet (rather than the five foot fence currently being requested).

ANC 3E also requests that the direction to install two sets of double gates be removed, and replaced with two single gates at either end of the fence.

ANC 3E approved this resolution by a 5-0 vote at its regularly scheduled meeting on June 16, 2011, which was properly noticed and at which a quorum was present.

Commissioners Jonathan Bender, Matt Frumin, Tom Quinn, Sam Serebin, and Beverly Sklover were present.