



ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3E

**TENLEYTOWN AMERICAN UNIVERSITY PARK
FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS**

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

Minutes of ANC 3E September 23, 2010 Meeting

The meeting convened at 7:40 pm. Commissioners Jonathan Bender, Lucy Eldridge, Beverly Sklover and Matthew Frumin were present.

Announcements

None

Open Forum:

Tom Hall, a Davenport Street resident, asked if there was any progress regarding the Safeway project and also whether TD Bank would be presenting at the meeting. Commissioner Frumin explained that the Commissioners had met with Safeway, which currently is considering options for revised plans for renovation and improvement of the store. Commissioner Sklover said that she expected Safeway would be back on the agenda in October or November. Commissioner Frumin said that TD Bank would not be on the agenda at the meeting that evening, but that the ANC would seek to have representatives of the bank appear before the end of the year to report its findings on the traffic study conducted as part of the agreement reached with the ANC and to discuss any other issue of interest to the neighborhood.

Report of the Second District Police

MPO Shannon Williams described the most serious crimes in PSA 202 in the most recent 30 days. It was noted that a car had been stolen at gun point on the 4400 block of Van Ness and that there had been an assault with a gun on the 4200 block of Davenport. Generally, both violent crime and property crime were down compared to the same period last year: 5 violent crimes in the 30-day period this year, compared to 11 in the same period last year and 89 property crimes this year, compared to 117 last year. There had been a slight uptick in burglaries, which are a source of concern - 15 this year compared to 14 in 2009. In response to a question by a resident, Lt. Alan Hill stated that PSA 202's response time to calls for immediate assistance is excellent and the average time is 4 to 5 minutes - 2 minutes for burglaries. A resident in AU Park confirmed that he had reported a burglary in the Ft. Gaines area and that response time was as claimed.

Agenda:

Presentation and Vote on Grant Application by Northwest Neighbors Village

Francis Mahncke presented the application for a \$5,000 grant to allow Northwest Neighbors Village ("NWNV") to extend service to the ANC 3E area noting that they have been successfully providing service in the area directly to the east of ANC 3E for the past years. She explained that the requested funding would allow for a mailing to all the residents in ANC 3E over the age of 55 and fund extra time for the Executive Director during the period of transition. Commissioner Bender sought and was provided clarification regarding the overall funding of NWNV. The organization is reportedly supported by participant fees and contributions and had a balance of close to \$30,000 at the end of 2009. They expect, however, to spend down part of that balance in the

coming year. Commissioner Bender stated that he believed NWNV helped meet an important community need, and he was satisfied with the organization's current financial picture. Commissioner Sklover noted that ANC 3E has been looking for ways to support aging-in-place programs in the ANC 3E area for some time and was pleased that NWNV would be doing so and ANC 3E was supporting them in that effort. The Commissioners voted unanimously to fund the grant.

Vote on Grant Application by the Lisner-Louise-Dickson-Hurt Home

This application had been presented at the July meeting. The Commissioners voted unanimously to award the grant for \$760 to the Lisner - Louise-Dickson-Hurt Home to support educational art programs at the annual Zoo Day Festival.

Vote on Grant Application by the Deal Middle School PTA

This application had been presented at the July meeting and, in the process of responding to follow-up questions from the Commissioners, had been revised between the July and September meetings to ask for a reduced amount \$3895 instead of the originally requested \$5000. The Commissioners voted unanimously to award the grant for \$3,895 to the Deal Middle School PTA to pay for science lab materials for the International Baccalaureate Program.

Landscaping, Noise and Light at Deal Middle School

Ron Skyles of URS representing the Office of Public Education Facilities Modernization ("OPEFM") outlined the plans for the completion of the modernization of Alice Deal Middle School.

Mr. Skyles explained that with regard to the issues raised about noise from the HVAC and boiler systems, various options had been presented to the Director of OPEFM, Allen Lew who is reviewing them and their cost. With regard to the lights emanating from the school, Skyles said the school was continuing to look for ways to minimize the light (and use of energy), consistent with the various safety requirements and meet the neighbors concerns regarding lights shining through their homes.

The focus of the discussion at this meeting was on the landscaping plans for the grounds and bordering areas on the north side of the school. Mr. Skyles explained that with regard to the landscaping plans, OPEFM had hired the landscape architecture firm of Jordan Honeyman and Holt Jordan of that firm had met with nearby neighbors and would present the plan as it stood. Mr. Skyles explained, however, that the National Park Service (“NPS”) had insisted that in order for it to plant trees along the west side by the fall, NPS would need a plan and list of trees by the next day.

Both the Commissioners and some neighbors present -- Nancy Elam and David Levinson of 37th Street -- expressed support for the general outlines of the Jordan Honeyman plan. Ms. Elam urged, however, that care be taken in the planting along the north side so as to not foreclose eventual inclusion of a sidewalk there which it was pointed out was now back in the hands of the National Park Service that had opposed making a current path wider. She also urged that the Commission work with NPS to get a sidewalk placed given significant pedestrian safety issues associated with children and parents concerns that children walk in the street in the area.

Commissioners Eldridge and Sklover favored immediate approval of the plan, noting that the plan appeared to be a good one and that immediate approval would guaranty Fall planting, as opposed to waiting until the Spring.

Commissioner Frumin expressed reluctance, wanting to get a greater sense of buy-in from a larger cross section of the neighbors. It was agreed that an effort would be made on Friday to get input from more of the neighbors in the hope that the Commissioners could support the project as planned or reach an agreement with NPS to grant additional time to present the plan to the neighborhood and still allow for Fall planting.

Chevy Chase Park

Avon Wilson of McKissack and McKissack working with OPEFM and the Department of Recreation (“DPR”) on the Chevy Chase Park project explained the general plans for construction on the site. Mr. Wilson explained that he expected construction to start in earnest very soon. He said that contractors would begin taking apart the old playground in the next couple of days. He also reported that DPR intended to be finished with everything—the baseball field, the playground (including the water feature), the dog park, and the field house renovations—by mid-April 2011.

There was a discussion of whether the fence around the baseball field would fully encircle the field or be open along the foul lines in the outfield. Mr. Wilson said he believed it would be open on the sides.

A member of the community asked if the park would include any amenities for seniors. The response was that there is no plan for any feature specifically designed for seniors. Commissioners Sklover and Eldridge expressed

disappointment that the plans for the park no longer included a proposal for a walking/running track element that had been urged by residents. Commissioner Sklover urged OPEFM to consider revisions to the plan that could serve seniors and make the park a multi-generational destination.

Commissioner Bender requested an update on the status of the “Day Two” issues – the Environmental Impact Statement, parking in the cul-de-sac, the timing of the lights, and use of the ball field by the dog group. John Stokes of DPR explained that the dog park application would be published on Friday September 24th with the comment period ending on October 24th. Mr. Stokes could not report any other progress on the other “Day Two” issues.

Commissioner Frumin noted that while he supported the inclusion of lights on the baseball field, it was important to make progress on those issues and that he believed such progress was achievable, if the stakeholders set aside the time to focus on the issues and be creative. The Commissioners expressed frustration that the process had dragged on as long as it had without progress and some voiced skepticism that progress would be made in the near term.

Presentation on Requests for Special Exceptions for 5009 and 5011 Belt Road

John Lemoine, the owner of 5011 Belt Road, NW, and Ari Zentner, the owner of the adjoining property at 5009 Belt Road, NW, presented their related applications for Special Exceptions to allow for additions to their duplex homes. They explained that their additions on the back of their homes would extend back basically to the same depth as the houses to the north and south and that the need for the Special Exceptions related to the fact that given their shared wall their homes were nonconforming as to the side yard and lot width requirements. They explained that all of the nearby neighbors had been given

notice of the application and the adjoining neighbors supported the application. However, due to travel schedules, they were unable to provide written acknowledgement of support from the neighbor to the north. It was agreed that if such written support were provided in advance of the next ANC 3E meeting, the Commission would proceed to a resolution in support of the application without further discussion.

ANC Business

The Commission approved July/August financial report unanimously.

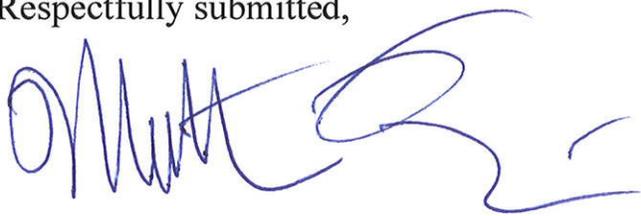
The Commissioners approved the July minutes unanimously.

The Commissioners approved payment of Diana Winthrop's invoice for the period from July 22nd to September 23rd for \$212.50 unanimously and payment was made by check number 1276.

The Commissioners approved the letter to local businesses on litter and associated cover letter subject to final revisions to be agreed by consensus unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,



Matthew Frumin, Chair