



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 January 13, 2011 Meeting

The meeting convened at 7:35 pm.

Commissioners Bender, Sklover, Quinn, Serebin and Frumin were present.

Open Forum:

A resident of 45TH and Brandywine (Mr. Moses) presented his case for requesting a stop sign at the intersection to force cars to slow down.

A former ANC commissioner (Mr. Norman) complained about residents being slow to shovel their walks (if they do at all). Mr. Norman asked the ANC to support CM Cheh's legislation which lays out resident responsibilities for cleaning sidewalks in front of their homes after snowstorms.

Presentation by the Director (Bill Howland) of the Department of Public Works (DPW)

Director Howland outlined the regulations relating to tree branches and DPW issuance of tickets. There was a brief discussion regarding the issuance of citations for trees and scrubs growing over and causing problems for traffic and pedestrian traffic. An attendee (Mr. Yates) spoke up regarding issues pertaining to businesses not cleaning up in front of their stores, and the city's failure to issue citations for such offenses. He urged DPW to issue citations to business owners who are lax in fulfilling their responsibilities.

Director Howland noted that property owners are responsible for keeping the area in front of their property's clean all the way to the curb area.

Crime Summit with Councilmember Cheh, Chief Lanier and other members of the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD)

CM Cheh convened a "Crime Summit," bringing police officials to the ANC meeting to discuss the upward trend of crime. Chief Lanier along with Deputy Chief Diane Grooms, Chief of Detectives Danny Hickson, Lt. Alan Hill, outgoing 2nd district Chief Commander Klein, and incoming Commander Reese attended.

Commander Klein acknowledged that people in the community are concerned about and scared by the home invasions and the increase in burglaries. Commander Klein indicated that the department had temporarily moved officers from PSAs in the southern part of the 2nd District to the northern part of the district to combat the uptick in crime there. He also indicated that additional units were not being added to the 2nd district (as had been reported). Some residents spoke about the quick response of 2nd district police officials and their caring attitude; others asserted that they rarely, if ever, saw officers on their blocks.

Chief Lanier asked the community what it thinks the police should do better or what they should focus on differently. Concerns were expressed by members of the public in attendance regarding the nature of recent crimes—the aggressive manner in which many occurred with little regard for confrontation with people possibly being home at the time of the break-ins, and the presence of lethal weapons. A resident of 41st and Harrison Street explains how his wife was robbed at gunpoint as she was putting her key in the door.

Chief Lanier discussed the use of dead bolts and home security systems as the best deterrence to home invasion and urged using them whether residents are home or not. The chief reiterated the importance of locking basement windows and other entry points in a house, as well as the importance of locking cars and placing items in the car's trunk. The Chief indicated they

would place police cars in areas where robberies or crime invasions have taken place such as 41st and Harrison Street.

A question was posed regarding whether, in light of Mayor Gray's stated positions, MPD would begin to make monthly police staffing reports available to the ANC. Asst. Chief Groomes said that MPD would do so, if requested. MPD was also asked whether it would commit to setting a crime reduction goal for PSA 202. Chief Groomes replied that she encourages all her commanders and lieutenant's to set such goals, and that she often encourages that ambitious goals be set.

Presentation by representatives of the General Services Administration (GSA) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) regarding the development of the DHS site on Nebraska Avenue

Four options were presented by representatives of GSA and DHS. The first option would leave the site as is. The second option would involve construction of low density buildings and construction of a parking garage. The third option proposed constructing of a "signature" building on Ward Circle including two entrances off of Nebraska Avenue, parking garage, etc. The fourth option would be the highest density usage. Development of the site is being considered in connection with a desire to consolidate DHS into fewer sites throughout the DC/MD/VA area. Concerns were expressed by community members related to the traffic pressures and impact that adding a substantial number of people (most of whom will drive to the site) will have on traffic—which is already quite problematic for both pedestrians and drivers. A community meeting will be held in February (date? _____) to further present and detail the alternatives as they are proposed.

Presentation by the Director (Jesus Aguirre) of the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR)

Director Aguirre indicated that the department was close to resolving "day two" issues, including neighborhood concerns regarding lights at Livingston

Park, construction of an enclosed dog park, legalization of the morning dog usage, and questions pertaining to parking in the cul de sac. Director Aguirre insisted that he expected the park to be completed on time even though little observable work has been underway at the park. A motion to approve installation of lights at the park provided that the day two issues were resolved was presented, seconded, and unanimously approved.

ANC Business

The meeting schedule for 2011 was unanimously approved.

The monthly treasurer's report was unanimously approved.

The 2011 budget was unanimously approved.

The quarterly report was unanimously approved.

Diana Winthrop's invoice for December 2010– January 13, 2011 was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Bender was elected Chair, Commissioner Sklover Vice-Chair, Commissioner Serebin Secretary, and Commissioner Quinn Treasurer, unanimously.

A security fund resolution was unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Bender, Chair