



ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3E

TENLEYTOWN AMERICAN UNIVERSITY PARK FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS
c/o Lisner-Louise-Dickson-Hurt Home 5425 Western Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20015
www.anc3e.org

Meeting Minutes May 14, 2015, 7:30 pm

The meeting convened at 7:36 PM. Commissioners Wallace, Hall, Bender, McHugh and Quinn were present.

Announcements / Open Forum— opportunity for members of the community to raise issues of concern or importance to the 3E neighborhood

Ian Maggard, the Ward 3 Liaison from the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS) introduced himself to the community. He can be reached at his office at 202-724-5535 or via email at ian.maggard@dc.gov and will be holding Community Office Hours on Tuesday, May 19 at the Tenleytown Starbucks.

Commissioner Quinn announced that the DDOT discussion of the 39th Street and Reno Road intersection was taken off the agenda.

Presentation by 2nd District Police

Lt Hill of the Second District provided an update on recent crime trends in the area. Lt Hill is now overseeing PSAs 201 (Chevy Chase) and 202 (Tenleytown/AU Park). Since the last ANC meeting, there were no homicides, sexual abuses or robberies with a gun. There was one robbery without gun that took place within Wilson High School. There are not a lot of burglaries in the area, but the numbers of burglaries remain roughly constant from month to month. The stores in Chevy Chase have worked a lot on theft prevention and there is a police officer stationed in Friendship Heights to deter shoplifting. Thefts from autos are trending down as the police have made some arrests. There was one stolen auto reported in PSA 202 and they have made an arrest in that case. Lt Hill reminded the community to lock their car door and not leave keyless ignition keys in their cars. There have been no arsons in our PSA. The police have been doing quite a bit more traffic enforcement in the area.

Commissioners McHugh and Quinn asked if the police could enforce the new traffic signs posted at 42nd Street and Nebraska Avenue. Commissioner Bender asked if the police could enforce the regulations regarding no trucks on 42nd Street. Commissioner Quinn asked about cars stopping along Wisconsin Avenue in Friendship Heights during rush hour. Commissioner Bender stated that he was concerned that Lt Hill was being asked to manage two PSAs, and he offered to contact Lt. Hill's superiors to suggest he be provided with extra staff help.



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Presentation by the Lisner Home about May 21st fundraising event involving a go-go concert.

Ward Orem, Director of the Lisner-Louise-Dickson-Hurt Home announced that they are having a fundraising event on May 21 from 6:30 – 10:00 PM featuring The Chuck Brown Band. The band will be playing in the courtyard and they will have a tent in the courtyard to help contain the sounds from the event. Parking will be available to guests in the Chevy Chase Center across the street. They passed out letters to all immediate neighbors and they have not heard any feedback or concerns, and they have notified the police of the event. No one in attendance had any concerns or comments for Mr. Orem.

Update by Georgetown Day School on its proposal to add a middle and lower school to its Tenley high school campus and the Tenley Safeway lot, and to build a mixed-use project on the Marten's Volvo lot.

Russell Shaw, Head of School, presented GDS's current plans regarding development of the Safeway and Martens sites. The plans for their lower and middle school buildings are more developed than the retail/residential buildings.

Rob Chisel of Gorove Slade presented the traffic study methodology. He stated that their goal is to minimize the number of cars coming to the campus. They would like to take advantage of the proximity of the campus to public transportation and increase the number of students per car. One third of parents pass by the Tenley campus on their way to work, he said. They are looking at ways to incentivize carpooling, encourage students and staff members to ride bikes, the possibility of providing a "Kiss and Ride" program for parents, staggering the school start times to spread out the arrival of cars to the campus, and to provide multiple access points to the parking garage.

They would like to put a traffic signal at Chesapeake and Wisconsin Avenues and open up a pedestrian connection along Davenport Street between Wisconsin Avenue and 42nd Street. Finally, they would like to shift the southbound Wisconsin Ave traffic onto the fishhook at 42nd Street.

Phil Esocoff presented the plans for the buildings. The entrances for the residential buildings lobbies will be on 42nd Street along with an entrance to the parking garage and service dock that connects to the 2 buildings. There will be double height retail space along 42nd Street. The north building will be approximately 15,000 square feet per floor. They would like to place townhouse style homes along part of 42nd Street. They are proposing to place a cantilevered overhang over the public space along 42nd Street. There would be approximately 21,000 square feet of retail in the north building (15,000 feet on one floor and 6,000 on a second) and approximately 13,000 square feet in the south



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building. The entire development will have approximately 340 residential units and would be approximately 352,000 square feet.

Mr. Esocoff presented drawings showing the distances between the retail/residential building and the neighbors and between the school and the neighbors' homes. He also presented renderings of the buildings from the neighbors' homes.

Attendees expressed concerns about students parking in the neighborhood, traffic generated by after school activities, the lack of results provided by the traffic study, the design of the fence and "moat" around the lower school, and the lack of design specifics of the middle school. Some neighbors hope the school will set concrete targets for reducing car trips.

Commissioner Wallace hopes GDS will give bus service to the campus more consideration. She also would like to see a vibrant retail corridor along 42nd Street and would like to see detailed renderings of the streetscapes for the next meeting.

Commissioner Quinn would like to see the traffic study look far away from the school to see how cut through traffic affects neighbors far away from the school. He also would like GDS to put a lot of thought into the mix and placement of stores along Wisconsin Avenue and 42nd Street and would like to see sidewalk cafes along 42nd Street and believes there should be more trees lining the streets rather than the proposed overhang.

Commissioner Bender expressed concerns that there didn't appear to be any mechanisms in place to force parents to reduce the number of car trips to the campus and that given the size of the development there is not much retail, especially along 42nd Street. He questioned whether many community members would linger on the steps facing GDS the school proposes to build and which it considers an important community amenity. He also expressed hope that GDS would be able to find more space for a full-service grocery store within the development. He also stated that he was not comfortable with the overhang over 42nd Street.

Discussion of and possible vote on resolution(s) regarding liquor license renewals for Paul's Discount Liquors, Tenley Wine & Liquors, and Tenley Market/Liquor

Three establishments within ANC3E have their liquor licenses up for renewal. Commissioner Bender asked if anybody wanted to raise a concern about any of these establishments. No one in attendance had any comments or concerns and none of the Commissioners have heard comments from their constituents. Commissioner Bender proposed the ANC accordingly take no action regarding their applications.



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Presentation by AMC Entertainment, Inc. regarding proposal to serve alcohol at all Mazza Gallerie Theaters

Frank Lewis, representing AMC Entertainment announced that they would like to expand the scope of the liquor license at the Mazza Gallerie Theaters. They would like to expand the service to all theaters at Mazza Gallerie. Mr. Lewis talked about the precautions they use to ensure that minors do not purchase alcohol including staff training, ID checks of all customers, DC Metro Police stopping in at random times each day, the use of distinctive cups and straws for alcoholic beverages. They plan to issue wristbands for all patrons purchasing alcohol and would allow only one drink to be purchased per person per trip through the line. None of the commissioners had concerns with the proposal assuming that AMC to the promised measures to prevent abuse.

Discussion of and possible vote on resolution regarding proposal to remove two female Ginkgo trees on 4300 block of Verplanck Pl, NW

Commissioner McHugh introduced this item from his SMD. The Urban Forestry Administration (UFA) received two separate petitions to remove and replace two female ginkgo trees on the 4300 block of Verplanck Place. UFA policy is that they will remove a female ginkgo tree if 60% of homeowners on a given block agree to have it removed. One of the petitions has been withdrawn due to not meeting the signatory threshold. Since then, however, DC WASA inappropriately dug a hole right next to the base of that tree and damaged its roots and that tree will need to be removed. What remains before the ANC and UFA is the petition to remove the tree in front of 4332 Verplanck Place. This petition did meet the signatory threshold.

Neighbors for the removal noted that they and UFA have tried many strategies over the years to reduce the fruit from the trees, they spend three months per year cleaning up after the trees, the fruit stink horribly and the acid from the fruit eats through their cars' finish. Neighbors against the removal stated that the nuisance that the trees create last only a few weeks during the year and that the trees provide a benefit to the community and to wildlife and will be lost forever if the trees were removed.

Commissioner McHugh noted that the ANC did not have to write a resolution regarding the removal, but he put forth a resolution in support of the trees removal. The resolution passed 5-0.

Discussion of and possible vote on resolution regarding application for special exception to install an HVAC unit on top of Janney Elementary School without screening



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Commissioner Wallace introduced this item. An addition was added to Janney last year and a new HVAC unit was placed on the roof of the new addition without visual screening. DC Department of General Services (DGS) did not receive the exception for installing the unit without the required screening when the unit was installed and are looking to receive it now. Commissioner Wallace noted that the unit is well recessed and the ANC has received no complaints from neighbors about sight or noise from the unit. For those reasons, Commissioner Wallace proposed that the ANC not oppose the exception. Commissioner Quinn asked to change the term HVAC to mechanical equipment in the proposed resolution. Commissioner Wallace moved to approve the amended resolution. The amended resolution passed 5-0.

ANC Business

- **Possible approval of contract for LEED consultant** – The ANC required the development of Tenley View (the old Babe’s Billiards site) to be LEED certifiable. Under the agreement between the ANC and Douglas Development, the ANC would retain an expert and Douglas Development will pay up to \$10,000 for the review. Commissioner Bender found a well-qualified consultant and has sent the contract to Douglas but has not heard back. Commissioner Bender put forth a motion to approve the agreement as is. If Douglas Development wanted any changes to the contract, the ANC could review the proposed changes to the contract at the next ANC meeting in June. Commissioner McHugh seconded the motion. It passed 5-0.
- **Approval of April 2015 meeting minutes** – Minor changes were offered to the draft minutes. Commissioner Bender put forth a motion to approve the amended minutes. Commissioner McHugh seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.
- **Treasurer Report** – Commissioner Quinn presented the first quarter 2015 treasurers report to the Commissioners but since the report had previously been approved no action was taken.
- **Approval of expenditures** - Commissioner Quinn put forth a motion to approve payments of \$481.25 to Sherry Cohen for administrative work, \$83.02 to Fedex for copying and \$45 to RR Donnoley for new checks. Commissioner McHugh seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 10:54 PM.