

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3B
GLOVER PARK AND CATHEDRAL HEIGHTS

July 2011 Minutes

A quorum was established and the meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. at Stoddert Elementary School and Recreation Center. In attendance were: Commissioners Cohen (05), Stevens, (03) Blumenthal (02), Thielen (01), and Kreitzman (04).

SECOND DISTRICT POLICE REPORT

No representative from the Metropolitan Police Department's Second District attended the June 2011 ANC 3B meeting to give the monthly police report. None of the commissioners nor did ANC 3B residents in attendance had any issues to report to the Metropolitan Police Department. Commissioner Cohen will follow up with MPD to ensure a representative at the September meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Parking: Commissioner Cohen noted that ANC 3B is taking two approaches to address parking: 1) working with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) to increase the supply of parking, and 2) potential changes to the Residential Parking Permit (RPP) rules. Currently, throughout much of Glover Park, there is restricted RPP parking until 8:30 PM, Monday – Friday. ANC 3B has been working with Councilmember Mary Cheh and DDOT to examine changes to the RPP program.

ANC 3B issues a parking survey throughout the spring of 2011. Four options were included: 1) status quo, 2) extended RPP hours, 3) making one side of the street RPP only, 4) both options 2 and 3. The survey results indicated there is a strong desire for change from the community, with over 70% of residents voting to change the status quo. The most popular response was number 4 but there is also concern from many Glover Park residents about the need to accommodate guests. Commissioner Cohen noted that DDOT is working on an online system for one-day guest parking passes.

There is a presentation available on the ANC website providing information about parking, as well as the options to address the demand for parking.

According to DDOT, resident -only restrictions work best where there is a significant traffic-generator in the neighborhood (i.e. baseball stadium, etc.). DDOT suggested that extended RPP hours are the best option for Glover Park but resident -only parking might be appropriate for the streets immediately off of Wisconsin Avenue near the Glover Park commercial corridor.

Commissioner Cohen noted that changes to the RPP program need either legislative approval from the DC Council or administrative approval from DDOT, or both. ANC 3B needs to show DDOT that there is community consensus for change. One resident, however, questioned whether there were an adequate number of residents who participated in the parking survey.

Based on input from the parking survey and from DDOT, the primary option to be considered by ANC 3B will be to extend RPP hours from 7 AM until midnight, seven days a week, throughout the ANC. The ANC will also seek to implement resident-only parking on one side of the street on streets near Wisconsin Avenue – W. Pl, Hall Place, and several blocks of Tunlaw Rd. ANC 3B will seek to work with DDOT to find ways to accommodate guests of ANC 3B residents.

In order to ensure consensus for this change, ANC 3B will hold an open community meeting, with representatives from Councilmember Cheh's office and DDOT. Commissioner Cohen noted the goal is to implement the changes by the spring of 2012.

One resident in attendance asked about the possibility of DDOT allowing on-street parking on Tunlaw Road all the way to Fulton Street since Glover Park is losing the N8 bus route. Commissioner Theilen said he would promote this idea.

JP's liquor license: Commissioner Blumenthal updated the ANC on the status of the JP's liquor license renewal. Commissioner Blumenthal explained that the protest hearing focused on the fact that the character of the Glover Park neighborhood has changed significantly since the license was grandfathered, making the renewal of JP's nude dancing liquor license no longer appropriate for the locality. ABRA is expected to reach a decision by August, 2011. The ABC Board appeared to be somewhat receptive to the concern about the impact of JP's on children in Glover Park, but the outcome regarding the renewed license is unclear. If the license is renewed, the business is expected to be sold to a new owner.

Commissioner Blumenthal explained that as part of the protest process, ANC3B and the Group of 16 Protestants, represented pro bono by Milton Grossman, together submitted a document proposing how the ABC Board should rule in the case based on the Finding of Facts and Conclusions of Law and she asked the ANC to confirm its support for that document in a letter to ABRA. ANC 3B approved sending such a letter by a vote of 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Grant request for Healthy Living Inc.: *Healthy Living Inc.* sought a grant for \$980. This non-profit runs an after-school program at Jellef Boys & Girls Club twice per week to promote a healthy living program. The program includes residents of Ward 3 and ANC 3B. This program is partially supported by *Whole Foods*, which provides food for the organization. *Healthy Living Inc.* pays the administrative expenses and insurance. ANC 3B approved the request 5-0.

Grant request for the Appalachian Trail Club: Alex Sanders from the *Appalachian Trail Club* appeared before ANC 3B to request a grant for \$2,500_ to repair a section of the Whitehaven trail. The club maintains all the trains in Rock Creek, Glover Archibald Park, and the Whitehaven trail on a volunteer basis. There has been significant erosion in recent months on the Whitehaven train. The requested funds will be used to purchase treated lumber, fill, and metal rebar. The National Park Service does not have the material required for the restoration of the trail.

Mr. Sanders noted the repairs to the trail would run from 37th Street up the hill to the unofficial dog park. The improvements will occur between August to early-October. Mr. Sanders noted no experience is necessary to improve the trails and the *Appalachian Trail Club* would welcome volunteers. Commissioner Cohen said ANC 3B will post a notice on the ANC website and community bulletin board.

Georgetown Regional Dialysis: Representatives from the Georgetown Regional Dialysis Center, along with their legal counsel, Karen Lovitch from *Mintz Levin*, appeared before the ANC to get ANC 3B's approval for their planned location at 2233 Wisconsin Avenue. This location has five off-street parking spaces for patients and employees and the building is on the second floor. The representative from the dialysis center noted that this is a life-sustaining treatment. Ms. Lovitch noted there are six steps required to receive a Certificate of Need, including support from the ANC.

The request was approved 5-0. Commissioner Cohen noted he'd be in contact with Councilmember Cheh to inquire why the Certificate of Need is necessary.

OPEN FORUM

DC Statehood: Johnny Barnes from the DC chapter of the American Civil Liberties (ACLU) Union appeared before ANC 3B to discuss the importance of DC statehood. According to Mr. Barnes, the District is denied \$2.6B of federal funding each year because it isn't a state. DC pays higher interest rates on its debt because of an unpredictable revenue stream. Mr. Barnes noted that President Obama said he would sign a statehood bill if it comes to him.

Mr. Barnes noted that a demonstration is planned for the west lawn of the Capital on September 23, 2011. Commissioner Cohen said the ANC will be taking up a statehood resolution at the September meeting. Commissioner Cohen asked Mr. Barnes what the merits of statehood versus other methods for enfranchisement are. Mr. Barnes answered that the ACLU favor any steps that will move District residents toward representation and statehood.

Gaming legislation: One resident asked whether the ANC was following up on a gaming bill before the DC Council. Commissioner Cohen said the ANC has not but will weigh in if it becomes an issue in Glover Park.

Café Romeo: The proprietor of Café Romeo appeared before the ANC to announce his plan to apply for a license to serve wine and beer. The proprietor noted that Café Romeo has been in this location for ten years. Class D licenses to allow wine and beer service only are not included in the Glover Park moratorium on liquor licenses. The ANC indicated it had no concerns about Café Romeo's plan but would take up the issue when the application was filed. Commissioners also asked about the vacant lot on Wisconsin Avenue owned by Romeo's that is currently boarded from the street. The owner explained that he hopes to build on the site and move Romeo's there, but business has not been strong enough to allow him to do so yet.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Treasurer's Report: The June 2011 Financial Report was approved 5-0. The June opening balance was \$10,969.22. There was a withdrawal of \$60.57 for bank fees. There were also withdrawals of \$120.84 (bank fee refund), \$144.83 (refund to Commissioner Blumenthal), \$530.00 (DLM Web Development), \$153.73 refund to Commissioner Cohen), and \$3000.00 (grant to Stoddert PTA). The closing balance was \$7,230.93.

Commissioner Kreitzman inquired about the feasibility of changing banks if the ANC is going to continue to be charged bank fees. Commissioner Cohen noted the administrative burden of changing banks.

June Minutes: The June 2011 minutes were approved by a vote of 5-0.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded and passed unanimously at 8:230 PM.