

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



ANC3B Public Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2017

Chairman Jackie Blumenthal (3B02) called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. Commissioners Ann Mladinov (3B01), Melissa Lane (3B03), and Mary Young (3B04) were also in attendance, which constituted a quorum. (Three of the five Commissioners make a quorum.) Commissioner Brian Turmail (3B05) had a last minute business trip and had to miss the meeting.

Chairman Blumenthal moved to vote on adopting the proposed agenda. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 4-0 to approve the agenda.

The first item on the agenda was the election of new officers for the year 2017. Chairman Blumenthal said that the officers who held the positions in 2016 had agreed to continue to serve, so the slate of officers would be the same for 2017: Jackie Blumenthal, Chairman; Brian Turmail, Vice Chairman; Mary Young, Treasurer; and Ann Mladinov, Secretary. Commissioner Melissa Lane will continue to be responsible for media and communications for the Commission. Chairman Blumenthal moved to vote on the election of officers. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 4-0 to elect the officers as proposed.

Chairman Blumenthal also proposed that the Commission would continue to meet on the second Thursday of the month, unless special circumstances require a change from that pattern. Hearing no objections, that proposal was adopted by the Commission. Chairman Blumenthal announced that the meeting dates will be posted on the ANC3B website. Notice will be provided of any changes in meeting dates at least 7 days in advance, on the website, email list, and other usual means of notifying the public of meetings and meeting agendas, as required.

Police Report

Lt. Ralph Neal of the MPD Second District presented the Police Report for PSA 204 for the past 30 days, comparing the figures to the same period last year. He noted there were no robberies or other violent crimes in the area in that time period compared to 1 in the previous year. For property crimes, there were 3 burglaries this year compared to 2 last year, 3 motor vehicle thefts v. 0 last year, 13 thefts from autos v. 2, and 16 general thefts v. 21 last year. Total property crimes were up 14% mostly due to the increase in thefts from autos.

Lt. Neal also read a statement from the Mayor reporting that city-wide crimes were down 5% for the full year 2016 compared to 2015, with a drop in total violent crime of 10%, including homicides down 17%, and robberies down 13%. The MPD also confiscated 1,844 guns, up from 1,609 in 2015. In the Second District, 2016 saw a reduction in total crimes including thefts. He said MPD intends to have more community-based police and foot patrols. His officers are also involved in a youth mentoring program through a local faith-based organization.

Lt. Neal also said the MPD was implementing the “sector” concept as of January 3, and PSA 204 and 205 will together constitute Sector 2. That does not mean any change in the police officers working in the neighborhood but will mean that the police lieutenants share duties across PSAs so there will always be a lieutenant on-duty. Lt. Neal has the daytime shift and will continue to be officially assigned to overseeing PSA 204 (Woodley Park and Cleveland Park south of Macomb, McLean Gardens, Massachusetts Avenue Heights, Cathedral Heights, and Glover Park), while Lieutenant Eric Hayes has the evening shift, and is officially assigned to PSA 205 (Palisades, Foxhall, AU Park, and Spring Valley).

Presentation on the DC Office of Public-Private Partnerships

Seth Miller Gabriel, Director of the DC Office of Public-Private Partnerships, addressed the Commission about the work of his office. Launched in November 2015, it is one of the newest and smallest offices in DC government, with only two staff members—the director and the deputy director. He explained that public-private partnerships (P3) do not mean selling city property or giving free money to private businesses; instead P3 will mean a long-term contractual relationship between the government and a private entity for certain large-scale projects (usually \$50 million or so), which the private sector partner designs, builds or refurbishes, and maintains in exchange for an annual payment from the city. The private partners are identified through an RFP and bid process, and once they enter a contract with the city, they assume the risk of the project and financing. The city’s payment can be reduced or deferred if the agreed standards for maintenance and operations are not met. Generally the arrangements save the city money on operating costs, while the private entities can earn profits from the efficiencies they achieve. He suggested that P3 could be used for school modernization, roads or other building projects, with the advantage that as P3 projects, they would not affect the city’s borrowing cap.

Mr. Miller Gabriel noted that his office has 12 potential projects “in the pipeline” right now and is continuing to meet with public and private organizations about the city’s priority projects. The projects are taken to related city agencies for comment, and large projects or those that extend for multiple years have to go to the Council for a vote. Dee Smith of Councilmember Cheh’s office asked if there would be a chance for public comments as well as ANC comments on the project, and the answer was yes, the city would provide notice and ask for public comments.

The three top priority projects on the city’s initial list are the DC Corrections Center, the Henry J. Daly Building which houses MPD headquarters, and conversion of city streetlights to LEDs.

Several participants asked questions about the proposal to replace streetlights with LEDs. Mr. Miller Gabriel recognized there are varying opinions about LEDs and said his office wants to hear from people on the proposal and partner with DOEE to review the health and environmental effects of LEDs. With 70,000 streetlights in the city, he said the cost of the current lights is \$8 million and with LEDs, the city could save money as well as 300 million pounds of coal, and reduce glare and light escaping into the skies because LEDs can be more directed more precisely. Through the LED project, he is also hoping the city could install ubiquitous “free wi-fi” using the new light poles. He said the city was inviting companies to “Industry Days” January 24-25 to talk about the project options and is hoping to engage with industry to find the best solution for District streetlights.

Chairman Blumenthal asked if street repair and repavement could be a prospect for P3. Mr. Miller Gabriel said it might be possible if a very large package of projects could be put together and put out to private companies with standards for what they would have to achieve. He suggested, however, that might not be practical for street repairs because of the difficulty of projecting how much repaving work would be required each year when so much of the work is related to the effects of weather and other unpredictable incidents on the streets and roads.

Commissioner Mladinov asked about the idea that P3 might be used to improve city parks. Mr. Miller Gabriel said for local parks (or local police or fire stations), the city would have to package together a large enough number of sites to be able to attract private investors. The city would have to offer projects where a company could save money on the construction or management, so the contract would be worthwhile for both the city and the private sector partner.

Updates

1. Glover Park Clean Team: Chairman Blumenthal reported that thanks to the Mayor and Councilmember Mary Cheh, a new Clean Team would be working in Glover Park starting on Monday, January 16, picking trash, scraping up gum, shoveling snow, taking care of ice removal, mulching tree boxes, and keeping the commercial area clean. They will work every day except Wednesday, from 7 am-4:30 pm on Friday and Saturday and from 7:30 am-5 pm other days. The funding ends September 30, 2017, but the Commission plans to ask Councilmember Cheh to put the Clean Team in the budget for the next year as well.

2. ANC Legislation: Commissioner Mladinov reported that at the end of December, the DC Council voted to approve a modified version of the proposed ANC Omnibus Amendment Bill discussed at the ANC3B meeting in December. The bill that was adopted did not include strengthening of the notice and great weight provisions that most ANCs had hoped to see but did add some requirements for ANCs in their own operations, many of which ANC3B already follows under its own by-laws. It was not yet certain if the Mayor would sign or veto the bill because it had not yet reached her desk. After final action, the Commission will review the terms of the law and any implementing regulations and determine what changes need to be made in the ANC3B procedures and by-laws.

Open Forum

One meeting participant asked if the Commission had any information about the Glover Park Assisted Living facility at 2136 Wisconsin Avenue. Chairman Blumenthal responded that the facility has received a license and does have residents. Several Commissioners have visited the building and it is quite modern but small. It can accommodate up to 16 residents. There were no other questions or comments.

Administrative Business

Chairman Blumenthal made a motion to approve the minutes of the Commission's December public meeting. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 4-0 to approve the minutes as prepared.

Treasurer Mary Young presented the monthly financial report for December:

ANC3B – December 2016 Financial Report (Approved at January 2017 Meeting)

Checking Account

Opening Balance:	\$11,160.17
Income:	\$2,930.71 - 1st Quarter FY2017 Allotment \$1.84 – Unused Grant Money Returned to ANC3B
Outgoing:	\$186.75 – Check #1264 for ANC3B Website Domain Registration \$1,189.00 – Check #1265 Grant to Iona Senior Services for defibrillator for its Active Wellness program for seniors at Satterlee Hall, St. Alban's
Closing Balance:	\$12,716.93 per Bank Statement

Chairman Blumenthal made a motion to adopt the monthly financial report. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 4-0 to approve.

Chairman Blumenthal announced that the next public meeting of the Commission would be Thursday, February 9, 2017.

Chairman Blumenthal made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 4-0 to approve.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm