

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



Tamela Gordon 3B01, Chair
Melissa J. Lane 3B03, Vice-Chair
Amy Bowman 3B05, Treasurer
Charles L. Howe, 3B02, Secretary
Horace Kreitzman, 3B04

ANC-3B Minutes
September 8th, 2005

A quorum was established and the meeting called to order at 7:04 pm. Commissioner Gordon asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Hearing not changes, the agenda was accepted.

Commissioners present

3B01 – Tamela Gordon
3B02 – Charles L. Howe
3B03 – Melissa J. Lane
3B04 – Horace Kreitzman
3B05 – Amy Bowman

2nd DISTRICT POLICE REPORT

A representative from PSA 205 was not able to attend the meeting because they were attending the funeral of a PSA 205 officer killed in a car accident. Officer Fitch from the 2nd District did attend in place of a 205 representative in order to answer questions. Commissioner Lane gave the traffic statistics forwarded from Officer Baker.

Commissioner Howe asked about speed enforcement on Calvert as well as enforcement of a full stop at the pedestrian walkway at Fulton and Wisconsin. Officer Fitch said that MPD was aware of problems and had targeted those areas for enforcement. Commissioner Howe further asked if they was any action regarding the “massage parlor” on Wisconsin Avenue. Officer Fitch said they were aware of the operation and were keeping an eye on it.

Commissioner Bowman asked about patrolling the parking lots for Pearson’s and Wachovia later at night when the bars are closing because of complaints of public urination and harassment of women. Officer Fitch said he would bring the problems to the attention of PSA 205 officers.

OLD BUSINESS:

Update on Lifting of Rush Hour Restrictions on Tunlaw Road. DDOT has informed Kathy Patterson’s office that they intend on lifting the rush hour restrictions on the 2200 block of Tunlaw Road but they did not give a time frame. A representative of DDOT was asked to attend the ANC 3B meeting but no one showed up. Commissioner Gordon presented a

motion to write DDOT a letter asking them for their specific plans on this issue. The motion was seconded and passed 5-0.

Stop Sign Installation at W & 40th Street and 39th Place and Benton Street. Because a DDOT representative was not at the meeting, the issue was tabled until a representative could attend.

Stoddert Soccer Plans for Curbing Traffic Problems. A representative from Stoddert Soccer was not able to attend so Commissioner Lane gave a brief description of their plans to resolve parking issues around Stoddert field on game days. The league sent out flyers to each player's parents asking them to be mindful of and obey parking rules around the field. They are required to use only legal spaces on the streets and in the parking lot. They will not be allowed to park under or near trees on unpaved lands. These trees will be roped off to prevent such parking. In addition, parents were asked to only let children out on the side of playing fields and not to let them run across streets unattended. Stoddert soccer will have representatives at the game to make sure that these rules are upheld. If problems occur, Stoddert Soccer will be willing to hire an off-duty officer on game days to enforce parking restrictions. Commissioner Gordon asked that a representative from Stoddert Soccer be asked to attend the October meeting. Commissioner Lane agreed.

NEW BUSINESS

Liquor License Application for "My Bakery." George Gutierrez passed out a menu for his establishment and explained why they are applying for a beer and wine license. Although they are bringing in a breakfast and lunch crowd, they have not no dinner crowd and would like to attract one. They think offering beer and wine would help. Right now they are only open from 7 am until 9 pm because they have not been able to attract the dinner crowd. They would like to stay open until early morning hours.

Commissioner Gordon asked why they applied for a DR (wine and beer) license for the maximum hours (8 am to 3 am on weekdays and 4 am on weekends). Mr. Gutierrez said that the reason was two-fold: to attract a dinner crowd as well as a "dessert and coffee" crowd after the regular restaurants close. She asked their specific plans regarding "live music." Mr. Gutierrez responded that they do not foresee hiring a DJ per se but rather a solo musician or a dance instructor, etc. Commissioner Bowman asked for a comparison between this store and their two other ones in Virginia. Mr. Gutierrez responded that they were similar scale except the ones in Virginia did not have liquor licenses.

The Commissioners asked if My Bakery consider curbing the hours that it requested since they were longer than any of the other establishments that had liquor licenses on the Wisconsin Avenue GP strip. Mr. Gutierrez said they would consider it but he would have to check with his brother, David Escobar, who is the President of the company.

Pat Bitondo, a member of the audience, asked if they had spoken to the language school next door since some of their students are underage. Mr. Gutierrez agreed. Milton Grossman, another member of the audience, said that he was concerned about the late hours and entertainment and that it was reminiscent of Paragon II, a nightclub in that block back in the seventies. He asked that ANC 3B protest the license application in order to have leverage in negotiating the license.

Commissioner Gordon said the problem with the current application was that it looked like a license for a nightclub and that ANC 3B would need assurances that the establishment would not turn into a club with a DJ and rowdy crowd. Commissioner Gordon introduced a resolution to send ABRA a letter asking for a) a 30 day delay in the hearing date (the current date is October 5) in order to gather more opinions and b) for My Bakery to enter into a Voluntary Agreement with ANC 3B which would restrict the numbers of hours to those of other establishments on Wisconsin Avenue and address the issue of live music and entertainment. The resolution was seconded and passed 5-0.

MPD Focused Mission Team. MPD Sargeants Thorton and Dilisi introduced themselves and their Focused Mission Team. They are a plainclothes unit responsible for investigating such on-going issues as narcotics, prostitution, under-aged drinking, etc. Their tip line number is 202.966.3731.

Good Guys Expansion Plan. Ben Zagana, the owner of Good Guys, described his plans to expand his restaurant into the space currently occupied by Mama Maria's Restaurant. Mr. Zagana explained that the nature of his business has changed and there is now greater demand for full food service, up from 2 percent of 9 percent recently. He has bought the space where Mama Maria's is located and is planning on expanding food service. He has no plans to expand the entertainment portion of his business. The seating capacity for the Mama Maria space is 45. He will be applying to ABRA for a substantial change to his license because the square footage in which alcohol will be served will increase.

Commissioner Kreitzman asked if there would be any change in hours and the answer was that the hours will remain the same. Commissioner Bowman asked for clarification about any plans to expand entertainment. Mr. Zagana said that there are no plans for expansion and the stages will remain the same. Commissioner Gordon asked for a timetable. Mr. Zagana said that they were applying to ABRA for the change and that a hearing would likely take place in November or December. Given that the formal request for a substantial change has not yet been issued, the matter was tabled until October or November.

Unauthorized Use of Guy Mason Field After Hours. Commissioner Lane explained that there had been several instances in the past few weeks where Guy Mason field was being used after hours without authorization. The electrical box on the field was broken and therefore not securing allowing teams to keep the field lights on long after they are suppose to be off. Bob Haldeman, Director of Guy Mason Recreation Center, is working to fix the problem but because of budget cuts, etc., has not yet been able to do so. Commissioner Gordon asked that a letter be written to DPR expressing concern over the situation as well as the general breakdown in maintenance for the entire facility.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

Treasurer's Report. Commissioner Bowman gave the treasurer's report. As of the end of July 2005, the ANC 3B bank balance is \$22,203. The only expenditure was \$237.54 to Verizon.

FY 2005 Third Quarter Report. Commissioner Bowman presented the third quarter report for FY 2005. The quarter started with a balance of \$21,403.74. After expenditures for taxes (\$1,202.84), post office box (\$100), and bank charges (\$20.22) and the ANC quarterly deposit from the D.C. government, the balance is \$22,440.99.

Approval of the July 2005 Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Gordon presented the July 2005 minutes for approval. Commissioner Gordon presented a motion to approve the minutes, the motion was seconded, and the minutes were approved by a vote of 5-0 (attached).

OPEN FORUM:

- Mory Watkins gave an update on the D2 issue. Although the brakes are being swapped out of the old buses, he said it is only happening at a rate of one bus were week which would mean it would take 1-1/2 years to complete the entire fleet. He also complained of excess idling and noise because of speed. Finally, he said that WMATA was doing a ridership study but that it was unclear when the results would be issued. Commissioner Kreitzman introduced a motion to write a letter to WMATA asking them for the schedule to complete the audit; the schedule for switching out the brake lines; and changing the schedule of the D2 buses so they do not run all night causing excessive noise in the neighborhood. The motion was seconded and passed 5-0.
- Jim Lively asked about plans for handling parking when Hardy School undergoes renovation. He said it will not only impact street parking but also the Flea Market. No one knows the answer. Will check with the school system.
- A member of the audience complained about excessive noise on Manor Place and the adjoining streets at 11 pm and around 2 am on weekends. He said that he thinks it could be the result of the bar crowds coming and going to Wisconsin Avenue. Pat Bitondo also mentioned that there was a new group house on Hall Place that was causing some excessive noise. It was agreed that MPD would be asked to increase patrols in the area on weekends during those hours.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Gordon asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion was so presented, seconded, and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:56 pm.

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ANC-3B Minutes
July 14th, 2005

A quorum was established and the meeting called to order at 7:08 pm. Commissioner Gordon asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Since representatives from WMATA were at the meeting, they were added to the agenda.

Commissioners present

3B01 – Tamela Gordon
3B02 – Charles L. Howe
3B03 – Melissa J. Lane
3B04 – Horace Kreitzman

Commissioner absent

3B05 – Amy Bowman

2nd DISTRICT POLICE REPORT

A representative was not able to attend the meeting so a police report for PSA 204 was not presented.

OLD BUSINESS:

Town Hall: Consideration of Resolution to Approve a Stipulated License. Paul Holder, one of the partners who owns Town Hall, described the work that has been done on the building to date. They have added significant soundproofing so that noise does not emanate out the front or back of the building as well as upgrading the electrical system. In addition to major interior upgrades, they have fixed the roof, improved the exterior façade, and have also cleaned up the lot and taken away substantial amount of debris. They have also spent approximately \$40 thousand to modernize the kitchen.

The restaurant is expected to open sometime in August and will have a dining capacity of 110. They plan on having food service to 11:30 on weekdays and 12:30 on weekends. Future plans also call for opening for lunch and brunch on weekdays and weekends.

As they had consistently stated at previous ANC 3B meetings in March and May, their intention has been to apply to ABRA for extended hours. They have now made their application to ABRA asking for a substantial change to their license, e.g., longer hours, and would like ANC 3B to consider granting them a 45-day stipulated license allowing them to

stay open later while their application is being considered by ABRA. The specific hours are negotiable.

Milton Grossman, a resident of Hall Place, asked Tom Felder, attorney for Town Hall when they had applied for a substantial change. Mr. Felder told him that the request had been submitted to ABRA on May 26th. Mr. Grossman expressed concerns by Hall Place residents that Town Hall would be more of a bar scene than a restaurant and that patrons would take up parking spaces on Hall Place. Mr. Holder said that complimentary or heavily subsidized parking will be available from Solomon that covers about twenty spaces.

Mr. Grossman expressed further concerns that neither he nor his neighbors were given adequate notice that Town Hall was asking for extended hours or a stipulated license from ANC 3B so that they did not have the opportunity to voice their objections. Commissioner Gordon countered that Hall Place residents had repeated opportunities to express their concerns in several ANC 3B meetings going back to February. She further stated that ANC 3B was well aware of their concerns and had addressed them on several occasions. Finally, Commissioner Gordon said that ANC 3B had heard from many other residents in addition to those who live on Hall Place and they expressed a lot of support for Town Hall and the extension of their hours.

Commissioner Gordon read the proposed resolution which would grant Town Hall a stipulated license allowing them to stay open until 1:30 on weekdays and 2:30 on weekends. Commissioner Kreitzman seconded the resolution and it passed 4-0.

WMATA Briefing: ORION Bus Noise and N8 Bus Route Plans. Representatives from WMATA addressed concerns about the ORION buses (the small commuter bus). The said that speakers will be turned off on the D2 buses as of July 18th and that testing of new brakes was proceeding. Although it will a year to fit the entire fleet of 42 buses with the new brake lines, the D2 buses would get the new brake lines first. Regarding long-term plans, all the current ORION buses will be replaced by 2010. The specific type of replacement bus has not been decided but it will probably be a 30 foot rather than a 26 foot bus.

David Erion of WMATA said that changes to the N8 Bus Route plans were scheduled to be considered at Board hearings in July. The hearings, however, have been delayed until at least October while WMATA conducts more comprehensive usage studies.

Commissioner Gordon asked for clarification on the order of repair of the brake lines. She was assured that the D2 buses were first in the queue. She also asked if there had been any studies done or complaints about the air quality inside the buses. WMATA representatives did not know and would get back to ANC 3B with a response.

NEW BUSINESS

Announcement of Documentary on Glover Park Softball. Anne Savage, representing Jennifer Crescenzo, announced that a screening of Jennifer's documentary on the history of the Glover Park Softball League would be aired at the Stoddert softball field Saturday, July 30th, at approximately 9 pm. All are welcome. ANC 3B through the St. Luke's Development Corporation contributed to the costs of developing this project.

Opening of “My Bakery” on Wisconsin Avenue. David Escobar and George Gutierrez announced they were opening their third “My Bakery” store in Glover Park on Wisconsin Avenue. The store will be an all around bakery and an internet café. Validated parking will be available in back of the building (located at 2233 Wisconsin Avenue, NW). Seating capacity is about 62 inside and 32 in the outside atrium. Hours of operation will be 7 am to 10 pm on weekdays with later hours on weekends. They are scheduled to open on Friday, July 22nd. They do not have a liquor license but plan to apply for one. Commissioner Lane notified them that Glover Park was a moratorium zone and that there were no full liquor licences (CR) available but they could apply for a beer and wine only (DR) license as they were not restricted.

Consideration of Curb Cut for 2407 Tunlaw Road. Don DeFranceaux and his wife asked for a waiver to put in a curb cut in front of their house as they have no alley to provide parking. The curb cut would be 15 feet. Although it would take away one public parking spot, it would take two cars off the street. The DeFranceauxes sent out 62 notices to their neighbors alerting them to the plan and asking for their approval. They received 26 favorable responses back and did not receive any negative responses.

Commissioner Gordon introduced a motion of write a letter to the Zoning Board supporting the waiver for the DeFranceauxes under current zoning laws. Commissioner Lane seconded the motion and it passed 3-1 with Commissioner Howe opposed.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

Treasurer’s Report. As the Treasurer was absent, no treasurer’s report was presented.

Approval of the June 2005 Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Gordon presented the June 2005 minutes for approval. Commissioner Gordon presented a motion to approve the minutes, Commissioner Kreitzman seconded, and the minutes were approved by a vote of 4-0 (attached).

OPEN FORUM:

- **Jim Bubar and Pat Bitondo of Babe Ruth Baseball expressed serious concerns over the use of Guy Mason field by Georgetown University Women’s Fast Pitch Softball team. Babe Ruth serves approximately 200 youth between 13 and 15 years old who play roughly 120 games there per year. They were concerned not only with problems in scheduling the field but also with changing the configuration to accommodate Women’s fast pitch and also with construction on the backstop and bleachers. They also said that although plans were not final, construction was suppose to start on the field by August 1. Commissioner Lane asked for clarification about the type of construction but was told that DPR had not divulged specifically what they were doing. Jim Bubar asked that ANC 3B keep an eye on this project as there were many things about it that were anything but transparent. Commissioner Gordon asked for constituent input on the issue and will ask DPR was the MOU, construction plan, and scheduling plans.**

Pat Bitondo discussed how ANC 3B passed a resolution in probably 1999-2000 that stipulated that the field be used only by 13-15 year olds for baseball and by adult softball teams. Rick Gersten said that most D.C. fields for youth sports were in bad shape and that additional stress on this field could destroy it.

- **Rick Gersten asked about the re-striping in front of Stoddert School. Commissioner Lane said that she had put in the order for the work and would follow-up on it.**

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Gordon asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion was so presented, seconded, and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 pm.