

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



**ANC3B Public Meeting Minutes**  
**January 13, 2022**

Commissioner and 2021 ANC3B Chairman Brian Turmail called the virtual meeting to order at 7:00 pm. All five Commissioners were participating: Ann Mladinov (3B01), Jackie Blumenthal (3B02), Melissa Lane (3B03), Elizabeth Elson (3B04), and Brian Turmail (3B05), which constituted a quorum. (Three of the five Commissioners make a quorum.)

Commissioner Turmail announced that the first item of business was the election of officers for calendar year 2022. He reported that the officers from calendar year 2021 had all offered to run again to continue serving in the same positions. As allowed by the ANC3B by-laws, if all the Commissioners are in agreement with the slate of candidates, the candidates can be elected by acclamation. Chairman Turmail made a motion to take a vote on the slate of candidates, the motion was seconded, and the Commission voted 5-0 to elect the officers by acclamation: Chairman Brian Turmail, Vice Chairman Jackie Blumenthal, Treasurer Elizabeth Elson, and Secretary Ann Mladinov, and Melissa Allen will continue as Communications and Media.

Chairman Turmail made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 5-0 to approve the agenda.

**Police Report**

Lt. Paul Johnson presented the statistics on crime reported in ANC3B for the previous 30 days compared to the same period in 2020-2021. There were no violent crimes reported in ANC3B. There were 5 property crimes compared to 14 in the previous years. The crimes included 1 stolen auto this year compared to 1 last year, 3 thefts from auto compared to 3 last year, and 1 general theft compared to 8 in the same time period a year ago. He also noted a call from a witness reporting an Assault with a Dangerous Weapon (Gun) in the 2700 block of Wisconsin Avenue on December 30 at 1 am. An individual had seen a car break-in and ran at the suspect, who fled. The witness called MPD the next day with a description of the event and the vehicle. There was no injury, and no arrest or look-out for a suspect.

Lt. Johnson also reported that he had spoken at the previous ANC3B meeting in December about assigning a speed device to Tunlaw Road near 42<sup>nd</sup> Street. He said the speed device had been in use at a school crossing but he assigned an officer to be posted at the intersection for 3 days. The officer issued numerous warnings and a half dozen citations (sliding through the stop sign, speeding, and using a cell phone while driving).

Commissioner Elson inquired about the series of reports from the Colonnade about break-ins of contractors' vans and thefts of tools and equipment. The most recent event had been a theft of tools the previous day, right off the loading dock. Lt. Johnson said after the Commissioners had raised this at the December meeting, he had checked MPD records and had not found any police reports of incidents of that kind. He said he would speak with the Manager at the Colonnade and get more details, and encouraged everyone witnessing break-ins or thefts to call MPD using the 911 system and make a report over the phone. He also said he would send officers to that location during the day to keep their eyes out for crimes of this kind.

**Presentation of Request for Zoning Special Exception for rear deck addition at 2309 38<sup>th</sup> Street NW**

Avneet Luthra of Case Design Remodeling, representing homeowners Jeremy Kern and Rebecca Fitch presented a request for a Special Exception to add a 13 foot x 10 foot rear deck that would reduce the rear setback to 15 feet 6 inches rather than the required 20 feet in the R-3 zone, and increase lot occupancy to 64%. She said the property is next to an alley, would not have an effect on light or air at the neighboring properties, and most houses on that street and across the alley have decks already. She said the applicants have received a letter of support from the only adjoining property owner on 38<sup>th</sup> and two other nearby neighbors. There were no letters in opposition. The Commission invited comments and did not hear any others. one else. Chairman Turmail made a motion to vote on a resolution to support the zoning request. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 5-0 to send an official letter of support to the Board of Zoning Adjustment in this case.

**Postponed – Presentation on Request for Zoning Special Exception for addition at 3900 Edmunds Street**

The other zoning case that was on the proposed agenda for the January public meeting was postponed until the ANC3B February 10 public meeting. That case, BZA Case 20641, involves a request for a Special Exception to allow addition of 3 units to the 4-unit apartment at 3900 Edmunds, along with construction of a third story, penthouse and roof deck. The BZA hearing on that case was set for March 9, 2022.

**DDOT Presentation on implementation of recommendations in 2019 DDOT Livability Study in ANC3B**

Ted Van Houten, Project Manager for the DC Department of Transportation (DDOT) 2019 Livability Study for the Rock Creek Far West area, provided a brief progress report on implementation steps taken to date on recommendations for traffic safety improvements in or near the Commission area in Glover Park and Cathedral Heights. That study gathered data and community input through the first 9 months of 2019 and DDOT's September 2019 Final Report of the Livability Study included a series of recommendations in or near ANC3B. Mr. Van Houten reported that to date DDOT had:

1. Started the Community Engagement process on proposed improvements to bike lanes on the New Mexico, Tunlaw and 37<sup>th</sup> Street corridor, and is currently developing new design proposals to share in early spring for the sections of street north of Calvert Street.
2. Installed a traffic signal at Wisconsin Avenue and Fulton Street, as part of a small area safety study of the Wisconsin/Massachusetts/Fulton Street triangle.
3. Started evaluation of a proposed 10-foot wide shared use path for pedestrians, bicyclists and scooters on Massachusetts Avenue through ANC3B. He said the project would probably start with the section from Westmoreland Circle to Ward Circle, and later extend as far as Massachusetts Avenue in ANC3B. DDOT is still at a preliminary change and has not yet determined which side of the street the path would be proposed.
4. Implemented new pavement markings, traffic signs, and safety devices on Cathedral Avenue west of 39<sup>th</sup> Street and would be considering other improvements, in response to comments and requests.

Residents offered several comments and questions:

1. Susan Spencer mentioned that the traffic signal had improved traffic safety at Fulton and Wisconsin, but Fulton Street west of Wisconsin is very narrow, with parking on both side of the street, so neighbors in the adjoining apartment building have suggested that DDOT remove either 3 or 5 parking spaces on the north side of Fulton between Wisconsin Avenue and the first driveway or the alley, to make it possible for vehicles entering Fulton Street to move safely out of the intersection past any vehicles moving in the opposite direction so they are not backing up into the crosswalk and the driving lanes on Wisconsin. Mr. Van Houten suggested submitting a request on the DC 311 system for a Traffic Safety Investigation, asking about removing parking spaces, and also submit a supporting letter or resolution from the ANC, and DDOT would look into it.
2. Victoria Zuckerman mentioned that DDOT had improved the parking on Cathedral Avenue at the bottom of the hill and the crosswalk was better, but residents at Cathedral West would still like to have DDOT eliminate one parking space on the north side of the street to allow a safer right turn from their driveway onto eastbound Cathedral Avenue. She also asked for DDOT attention to the steel plate that had been in the street and was moved to the path on the south side of Cathedral, where a problem had come up with the DC Water lines. In addition, she raised a question about the new devices DDOT had installed at the intersection of Idaho Avenue and Cathedral Avenue. Mr. Van Houten described the devices, called Rectangular Rapid Flashing Two-Sided Beacons. They are designed so a pedestrian can push a button on one side of the street and the small lights flash to signal to drivers that a pedestrian is in the crosswalk. They are often used where DDOT can't install a HAWK. Ms. Zuckerman said the devices are not very visible to drivers.

Mr. Van Houten suggested if the device are not working effectively, residents should let him know, and provided his contact information: [theodore.vanhouten@dc.gov](mailto:theodore.vanhouten@dc.gov) 202-671-4580

3. Moulin Desai asked about possible solutions on the 3800 blocks of Garfield, where there are 8 families with a total of 14 children under 10 years old and the parents are concerned about traffic speeds where the children are playing outside or walking to school. Mr. Van Houten again suggested submitting a 311 request and sending it to him and to DDOT liaison Christian Piñeiro so DDOT could look into it and see what kind of mitigation might be needed. Chairman Turmail suggested that some short-term traffic enforcement by MPD might also be possible, and offered that the ANC could talk to Lt. Johnson about that option.

4. Residents living near the intersection of Wisconsin and Calvert Street asked what DDOT might be considering for changes to the short section of 37<sup>th</sup> Street north of Calvert Street. Mr. Van Houten said that section by the small triangle was a “slip lane” between Wisconsin and Calvert, and DDOT might consider making southbound traffic heading south on 37<sup>th</sup> Street continue on Wisconsin to Calvert, turn right on Calvert and then turn left onto 37<sup>th</sup> Street. Several neighbors noted difficulties with that proposal, including that emergency vehicles such as ambulances often use that section of 37<sup>th</sup> Street. Mr. Van Houten explained that no change would be made without collecting data, holding a community meeting, issuing a formal Notice of Intent, and holding a formal public comment period.

Returning to the subject of bike lanes on the New Mexico/Tunlaw/37<sup>th</sup> Street corridor, Chairman Turmail brought up that DDOT had not yet repainted the bike lanes on the pavement along Tunlaw and 37<sup>th</sup> Street, after the roadway was resurfaced in the July 2021, so bicyclists were operating without any indication that a bike lane existed on those streets. He made a motion to take a vote on asking DDOT to repaint those pavement markings. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 5-0 to make that request to DDOT.

### Updates and Information

Commissioners reported on:

- **Board of Zoning Adjustment review of zoning case BZA 20542 for residential flats at 2405 37th Street**  
At the first hearing on December 15, BZA ordered the case continued to a second hearing on March 30.
- **ParkDC parking permits** – DC Council voted to extend 2020 Annual Visitor Parking Passes to April 14.
- **Local Metrobus weekday services reduced to Saturday schedule** during COVID-19 related staff shortages
- **DPW still planning holiday tree and greens collection and second leaf collection within a few weeks**
- **Mayor Bowser visited Ward 3 on December 16 to present a roadmap for affordable housing in Ward 3.**  
The December 16 event and press release highlighted the commitment to create 2,000 affordable housing units west of Rock Creek Park by 2025, and called for more Accessory Dwelling Units, better use of DC properties, and increased residential development in areas zoned for mixed use such as MU-27 zones.
- **Ward 3 Redistricting task force had been appointed and was beginning its meetings January 18, to begin redrawing the boundaries of ANCs and Single Member Districts to fit 2020 Census populations.**
- **New design of ANC3B website to make it more readable, more contemporary, and easier to navigate.**

### Open Forum

Adriana Radulescu said she had heard there were layoffs at the U.S. Postal Service, and wondered if that could be a reason why deliveries had been so spotty in the Glover Park area. Commissioners recommending being in touch with DC Delegate to Congress Eleanor Holmes Norton, because the federal and not the local government would have jurisdiction over the Post Office.

Victoria Zuckerman asked if there were updates on the reopening of the Glover Park Whole Foods. Commissioner Blumenthal said the latest word was that the Whole Foods would be opening in March. As of early January, the store was open only for Amazon and Whole Foods employees, to test the new systems.

### Administrative Matters

Commissioner Mladinov had prepared minutes for the December meeting. Commissioner Blumenthal made a motion to vote on the minutes. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 5-0 to approve the minutes.

Treasurer Elizabeth Elson read the monthly financial reports for November and December 2021:

### November 2021 ANC3B Monthly Financial Report

OPENING BALANCE: 17,986.17

Income: \$ 0.00

Total Income \$ 0.00

Outgoing: \$ 2,500.00 Grant to Stoddert PTO for tent for outdoor learning  
230.59 Reimbursement to Commissioner Melissa Lane

Total Outgoing \$ 2,730.59

CLOSING BALANCE: \$ 15,255.58

### December 2021 ANC3B Monthly Financial Report

OPENING BALANCE: \$ 15,255.58

Income: \$ 0.00

Total Income \$0.00

Outgoing: \$ 0.00

Total Outgoing \$ 0.00

CLOSING BALANCE: \$ 15,255.58

Commissioner Elson presented the ANC3B quarterly report for the first quarter of FY2022. Chairman Turmail made a motion to approve the quarterly report. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 5-0 to approve the quarterly report.

Commissioner Elson also announced that the Commission needed to adopt a resolution to follow up on the \$2,500 grant the ANC approved in June 2021 to the International Democratic Women's Center to support the Feed the Family pantry. The grant agreement calls for receipts to be provided within 60 days, but unfortunately the grant recipient had not been able to provide receipts so the Commission was expecting to have the full amount of the \$2,500 grant withheld from the next District allotment. The Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (OANC) had asked the ANC to send an official letter to OANC stating that the Commission would deny any future grants to the Feed the Family pantry unless they provided the required documentation of the expenditures, and would create a blacklist of groups that were not allowed to receive any additional grants from the ANC. Chairman Turmail made a motion to approve the letter. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 5-0 to approve the letter and submit it to OANC.

Commissioner Mladinov had prepared a list of all the proposed ANC3B public meeting dates for the coming calendar year and the first meeting of calendar year 2023. The proposed schedule called for meetings on the second Thursday of the month except in May 2022 when the meeting would be shifted to the third Thursday, May 19, because of a scheduling conflict. Chairman Turmail made a motion to vote on the meeting schedule. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 5-0 to approve the meeting schedule as proposed.

Commissioner Elson announced that the Commission was required to approve the annual payment of \$25 to the ANC Security to protect the Commission and the District against loss or unauthorized use of District funds that are appropriated to the ANC. Chairman Turmail made a motion to vote on that proposed expenditure. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 5-0 to approve the \$25 expenditure to the ANC Security Fund.

Chairman Turmail announced the next meeting would be on February 10 at 7 pm by Zoom.

Chairman Turmail made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 5-0 to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.f