January 2011 Minutes

A quorum was established and the meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. at Stoddert Elementary School and Recreation Center. In attendance were: Commissioners Krietizman (04), Cohen (05), Blumenthal (02); Stevens (03), and Thielen (01). The meeting started with a motion to elect the following officers for the 2011-2012 term. Brian Cohen will serve as Chair, Jackie Blumenthal as Vice-Chair, Mark Stevens as Treasurer, and Ben Thielen as Secretary. The motion was approved 5-0.

SECOND DISTRICT POLICE REPORT

Officer Baker noted crime was up in December, 2010. There was theft from autos and approximately one dozen cars parked on New Mexico Avenue during the month of December had windows broken. During the month, there were four armed robberies in Woodley Park. Bicycle thefts in the neighborhood have also increased.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was taken up at this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Vincent Gray was introduced by Councilmember Cheh, and appeared before the ANC to take questions from residents and commissioners. The Mayor discussed his plans and vision for the District. Mayor Gray noted that the District currently has a $188M budget shortfall, with the expectation of a $450M deficit. According to the Mayor, 80% of District revenue comes from property taxes, sales tax, and income tax. Mayor Gray answered questions about problems at the Hardy School since the principal, Patrick Pope, was replaced by a part-time principal. He said he was aware of the problems and had discussed it with acting chancellor Henderson who would be making a decision soon.

Councilmember Mary Cheh appeared before the Commission. Councilmember Cheh discussed the upcoming special election to replace the at-large seat on the DC Council previously held by Kwame Brown. The Councilmember noted that if the DC Board of Elections followed the traditional process of allowing voting in every precinct, it will cost over $800,000 to have this election. Councilmember Cheh also discussed her winter sidewalk safety bill, noting that it will enhance enforcement of what is already existing law. Councilmember Cheh noted this bill would allow tickets/citations to be issued for failure to properly shovel sidewalks. The fine would be $250 for businesses and $25 for residences.

The ANC presented a plaque to former Commissioner Melissa Labe in honor of her commitment and service on the ANC.
Former Commissioner, Melissa Lane discussed the Glover Park Business Committee. The group is made up of six volunteers and is pursuing a five-part strategy to attract new businesses to Glover Park. The Committee is conducting an online survey of Glover Park residents and seeks to develop: 1) a demographic profile of Glover Park, 2) a list of vacant properties and characteristics of these properties, 3) promotional materials to provide to businesses that may potentially relocate to Glover Park, 4) foster ongoing discussion with existing businesses, and 5) leverage existing city resources.

Andrew Kline representing Whole Foods discussed a request for a liquor license to allow the consumption of beer and wine on premises. The application asked for 94 seats and Mr. Kline noted that Whole Foods has no plans to change its business hours. Commissioner Blumenthal noted the Glover Park liquor license moratorium allows beer/wine-only licenses. The ANC wanted more details about what Whole Foods planned to do with the license and by a vote of 5-0, to neither oppose or support the proposal.

Grant Requests
The ANC approved (5-0) a grant request by the Hardy PTA for $3,000 for the purchase of books and materials for a campaign to encourage reading.

The Potomac Appalachian Trail Club (PATC) is seeking a grant for $22,000 from the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) to help mitigate erosion on a section of the Glover Archbold trail. The club asking ANC 3B to send a letter of support to DDOT. The ANCE voted 5-0 in favor of sending a letter to be drafted and sent by Commissioner Cohen. The letter was sent to the PATC.

OPEN FORUM

ADMINISTRATIVE
Treasurer’s Report: Commissioner Stevens gave the financial report for December 2010, citing an opening balance of $17,555.31, withdrawals of $63.77 (bank fees) and $260.00 (DLM Web Development—updated ANC website). There was a deposit of $900 for the return of a Babe Ruth baseball grant. The closing balance was $18,131.54. Checks to be written in January 2011 include a phone bill, nameplate, website reimbursement for Commissioner Cohen, and possible additional payment to DLM Web Development.

A motion was made to approve a resolution for ANC 3B to take part in the District Security Fund. The resolution was approved 5-0.

December Minutes: The minutes were moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded and passed unanimously.