Meeting Minutes
April 14, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm by Chairman Jackie Blumenthal (3B02). Commissioners Ann Mladinov (3B01), Mary Young (3B04) and Brian Turmail (3B05) were also present, which constituted a quorum. (Three members make a quorum.)

Chairman Blumenthal noted that with the resignation of Commissioner Abigail Zenner in ANC3B03 as of March 1, the position in that Single Member District became vacant. The Chairman introduced Melissa Lane of ANC3B03, who submitted the required paperwork including signed petitions to run for that seat. She was the only candidate, so she will become Commissioner but she had not yet been sworn in, so for this meeting, the seat remained vacant.

Chairman Blumenthal presented the proposed agenda, noting that she was recommending tabling the item about a resolution related to the ANC Omnibus Legislation recently introduced in the DC Council as well as the presentation about a grant request from the Citizens Advisory Council for the MPD Second District. She moved to adopt the agenda, the motion was seconded, and the Commission voted 4-0 to approve the agenda as presented.

Updates
Fillmore Arts Center: John Claud, Board Chair of the Friends of Fillmore, spoke about the DC Public School system’s proposal to provide only one more year of funding for the Fillmore Arts Center, which five elementary schools rely on for arts programming because they do not have the space for arts education in their buildings. He explained that the school system is trying to get each school to provide arts programs within the schools, though these five schools do not have capacity to do that. He thanked the ANC for its resolution supporting Fillmore, and asked residents to urge the mayor to provide long-term funding to maintain Fillmore’s arts programs.

Mayor’s Plan for Emergency Shelters for Homeless Families: Chairman Blumenthal reported that the DC Council had not yet decided if it would take up the mayor’s proposed emergency legislation to advance plans for shelters around the city to provide short-term housing for homeless families. Chairman Phil Mendelson had submitted a series of questions to the mayor about the proposed shelter sites and noted that the Mayor had not requested money in her 2017 budget to pay for any part of the proposal for temporary family shelters. Councilmember Mary Cheh had written a letter to the mayor asking her to consider alternative sites, instead of or in addition to the site at Wisconsin and Edmunds, that the city owns or could repurpose to save on costs, including the Second District Police Station, the former Polish ambassador’s residence on River Road, and the City Church on River Road in Tenleytown. Chairman Blumenthal committed to posting links on www.anc3b.org with information representing different perspectives on the issues.
Police Report
Lt. Eric Hayes of PSA 205 presented a brief report on crime statistics in the area through the first 14 days of April 2016 compared to 2015 in PSA 204, which runs from the zoo in Woodley Park through Cleveland Park and south to Whitehaven Parkway in Glover Park. He noted there had been no robberies in the area from January through early April 2016 v. one in 2015; one assault with a deadly weapon v. two in 2015; and two cases of reported sexual abuse in 2016, including one at 3100 Wisconsin, compared to one report in 2015. Commissioner Turmail reported that the other incident was being investigated by the police but was not considered a threat to the community. Among property crimes, Lt. Hayes cited 5 burglaries v. 9 in 2015; 6 stolen autos v. 8 in 2015; 40 thefts from autos v. 49 in 2015; but 76 thefts overall v. 58 in 2015, an increase of 23%. He explained that thefts can involve bikes and other objects taken from a porch, items taken from an office, or wallets or bags or electronics left on a counter or under a chair at a restaurant, so he cautioned people to watch their possessions and take measures to safeguard them.

Presentation by the DC Board of Election on 2016 Voting Process
Kevin Newsome from the DC Board of Elections (DCBOE) outlined the schedule and process for voting in the District in 2016. He noted that the city has replaced all its equipment including voting machines and check-in systems. Check-ins will use Apple IPads equipped to scan voters’ IDs. IDs are not required in order to vote, but speed up the check-in process. Voters can use paper ballots or vote electronically on a new touch screen machine that prints out a ballot for review. Mr. Newsome demonstrated the new DS-200 Express Vote machine that scans paper ballots and counts electronically submitted votes, so there will be a complete tally at each voting site tabulated by the same machine.

The DCBOE also described the dates, hours, and locations for early voting for the June DC primary, including a central voting site at One Judiciary Square open for 10 days starting May 31, including weekends (the only early voting site that will have paper ballots available for the primary). The Ward 3 early voting site is located at Chevy Chase Community Center on upper Connecticut Avenue, which will be open for 7 days, Saturday, June 4 through Sunday June 11. During early voting, eligible voters from across the city can cast ballots at any voting center. On Primary Election Day on June 14, registered voters are required to vote at their own precinct, and all precincts will have paper ballots available. The last date to change your party registration or address for the primary election is May 16; after that voters who have moved must go to their old polling place to vote.

The General Election will be Tuesday, November 8, again with early voting on a similar schedule. The last day to submit a change of address for the General Election is October 10.

Updates on ANC3B Issues
Glover Park Liquor License Moratorium: Chairman Blumenthal reported that the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board held a hearing on the extension of the moratorium on March 30. ANC3B and the Glover Park Citizens’ Association (GPCA) had petitioned to renew the moratorium but only maintain the ban on new licenses for taverns, nightclubs, and Class A liquor stores, no longer restricting the number of licenses for restaurants. Rite Aid challenged the extension of the ban on new Class A licenses, since they would like to sell beer, wine and liquor at the new Rite Aid on Wisconsin Avenue. The ABC Board had extended the moratorium only until May so the ABC board was expected to decide by that time.
New Commissioner in ANC3B03: Chairman Blumenthal announced that Melissa Lane would be sworn in shortly for the ANC seat in West Glover Park. She has served on the ANC previously, is the President of the GPCA, and is a welcome addition to the ANC.

DC Water Events: Commissioner Mladinov announced that DC Water was holding its annual Ward 3 Town Hall Meeting on April 21 at UDC and the ANC3B meeting on May 12 would also include a presentation by DC Water’s Clean Rivers Project Green Infrastructure Program. Several residents had questions about possible effects of installing green infrastructure projects such as permeable pavement on streets, alleys, and available parking. Commissioner Turmail explained that permeable pavement can require more frequent street sweeping to avoid loose gravel. Chairman Blumenthal said that the ANC has told DC Water that the projects should absolutely not reduce available parking spaces.

Open Forum
Sherry Kaskey from Jackson Art Center on R Street in Georgetown announced the Open House/Open Studio Day on May 1 at the center, which hosts more than 40 local artists

Mike Matthews, the mayor’s Ward 3 community liaison, announced that Saturday, April 16, would be the 154th Emancipation Day in the city, with many events, and the following weekend would be a special clean-up day in Rock Creek Park led by the Rock Creek Conservancy and other community groups. He said he is hoping to organize something similar in other local parks including Glover-Archbold Park.

Administrative Matters
Chairman Blumenthal announced that the ANC3B regular public meeting in June would be on Thursday, June 16, the third Thursday of the month, rather than the second Thursday. The May meeting is Thursday, May 12.

Chairman Blumenthal offered the minutes of the March meeting and moved to accept the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 4-0 to approve.

Treasurer Mary Young presented the monthly financial report for March, including the quarterly allocation of $2,930.71 from the city to the ANC and one $25 check to the ANC Security Fund:

ANC3B March 2016
Financial Report

Checking Account
Opening Balance: $8,926.67

Income: $2,930.71 - received 3/7/16 from DC Auditor for 1st Quarter FY 2016 Allotment

Expenses: $25.00 Check # 1253 cleared - payable to DC Auditor for ANC3B Participation in ANC Security Fund

Closing Balance: $11,832.38
Chairman Blumenthal made a motion to accept the March financial report as presented. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 4-0 to approve.

Chairman Blumenthal noted that ANC3B tries to use most of its funds for grants to benefit the community and invited anyone who is a charitable organization with a project of that kind should check the grant guidelines on the ANC3B website and submit an application.

Treasurer Mary Young presented the quarterly financial report for the second quarter of FY2016 ending March 31, 2016 (posted on the website). Chairman Blumenthal made a motion to accept the quarterly financial report as presented. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 4-0 to approve.

Chairman Blumenthal made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 4-0 to approve. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.