ANC3B Minutes  
December 10, 2014 Public Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM by Chairman Brian Cohen. Commissioner Blumenthal (3B02), Commissioner Fiorillo (3B01) and Commissioner Young (3B04) were also present.

Chairman Brian Cohen presented the meeting agenda, which was approved by unanimous vote.

Sergeant B.R. Firehock, Metropolitan Police Department Second District, PSA204, presented the police report and commented that the overall crime rate for PSA 204 for the period of 11/09/2014 to 12/09/2014 had increased 7% over the same monitored period last year. Sergeant Firehock reported over the last 30 days there were 2 Burglaries, 7 Motor Vehicle Thefts, 18 Thefts from Autos, 22 Thefts/Other and 1 Robbery. When questioned about the definition of Thefts/Other, Sergeant Firehock replied these were thefts that occurred at retail sales establishments. Sergeant Firehock commented that multiple burglaries occur in multi-family dwellings (apartment buildings) and many times master/pass keys are used for entry. Sergeant Firehock reported that vehicle theft, theft from vehicles and forced entry into dwellings occurs predominantly along the wooded areas of Cathedral Avenue and near the intersection of 42nd Street and New Mexico. One person in attendance commented that car theft on her block seemed to be targeting more high-end vehicles like BMWs. Sergeant Firehock explained that car thieves target cars with higher resale values and in some cases have mastered the technology to overcome the most sophisticated alarm and locking systems, though it is very important to remember to lock parked vehicles and not to leave an extra key inside.

ANC3B Chairman Brian Cohen, presented outgoing Commissioner Joe Fiorillo (3B01) a plaque for his service to the ANC. Commissioner Jackie Blumenthal (3B02) presented outgoing Chairman Brian Cohen (3B05) a plaque for his service to ANC3B.

ANC3B discussed the possibility that the DC Council Chair might eliminate the stand-alone Education Committee and give the entire responsibility for education issues to the Committee of the Whole. There was much discussion from the floor and ANC commissioners about how this might affect the District of Columbia’s focus on educational issues. Chairman Cohen distributed copies of a letter drafted by ANC3B to Council Chair Mendelson in favor of keeping the Education Committee as a stand-alone entity. A motion was made, seconded and passed by a unanimous 4-0 vote for the Commission to sign and send the ANC3B letter to Council Chair Mendelson.

Colleen Hawkinson of DDOT was introduced by Chairman Brian Cohen and presented an overview of the moveDC plan published in October 2014, which is a 25-year vision for investment in transportation to support improved transportation services in the District in all wards. She highlighted the 2-year Action Plan which defines the initial steps that DDOT, working with other-
District agencies, plans to take to begin implementing the moveDC plan. The plan will require capital investments by the District and others in order to carry out the longer-term transportation vision, including additional Metrorail and bus services, bicycle connections, streetcars, and possible dedicated transit lanes on the 16th Street corridor and other high-density corridors.

The plan makes safety and reliability two of its main goals. It includes recommendations for high capacity transit (streetcar or articulated bus), high-frequency bus service, Circulator vehicles, vehicles for hire (taxis/limos), improvements to the 2005 Bicycle Plan, pedestrian safety, provisions for freight and delivery vehicles, parking, and bridge rehabilitation, and gives special attention to increasing East-West and North-South connectivity and major route re-configurations (Massachusetts Avenue, Beach Drive, Canal Road, Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway). Transportation improvements to serve the growing activity areas of Adams Morgan, Mount Pleasant, Columbia Heights, Washington Hospital Center, the McMillan Sand Filtration Site, and Brookland are also identified in the plan.

Community meetings to develop the moveDC plan began in 2010 and additional community meetings will be held whenever specific projects are being developed for local areas. Ms Hawkinson stressed that DDOT understands the needs of the neighborhoods differ from the needs downtown and needs of visitors are different from needs of commuters, so all these need to be considered.

In the Glover Park-Cathedral Heights area, the moveDC plan calls for evaluating options for high-capacity bus service on Wisconsin Avenue, new high-frequency bus service connecting the neighborhood to Woodley Park and Columbia Heights, new bicycle trails and other facilities, and a new Metro station serving Georgetown. (In the plan, neither Wisconsin Avenue nor Connecticut Avenue are being considered for dedicated bus lanes.) Chairman Cohen asked Ms. Hawkinson to include Glover Park-Cathedral Heights in the list of areas that would like to be part of the next phase of traffic signal modernization as well as the planned pilot project for buses to be able to trigger a traffic signal to turn green, which would allow more efficient service on Wisconsin Avenue.

Interested parties can view the full moveDC plan at www.wemovedc.org

David Chung, one of the current owners of Mason Inn (2408 Wisconsin Ave.) appeared before the ANC to share his intentions to purchase the existing JP’s building (2412 Wisconsin) and to move Mason Inn to that building. Commissioner Blumenthal explained that this was not a formal request by Mason Inn at this time which would require ANC approval, but merely informational. Commissioner Blumenthal stated that changes to the current voluntary agreement between Mason Inn, the ANC, GPCA, and neighborhood residents will be required once the sale of the property is finalized and Mr. Chung applies for the transfer of his liquor license to the new location. She encouraged Mason Inn’s owners to consider their options carefully regarding the timing of any application for a roof deck, since it would require additional review and negotiating an agreement to cover a roof deck (similar to the existing voluntary agreement covering 2408 Wisconsin Avenue which would have allowed a roof deck on the current Mason Inn building) will require a complete set of architectural plans for construction of the proposed roof deck at 2412 Wisconsin Avenue. Commissioner Blumenthal also explained that transferring the Mason Inn liquor license into the building at 2412 Wisconsin Avenue (formerly JP’s) means that the JP’s nude dancing license can no longer be used in Glover Park since the District-wide moratorium on nude dancing licenses prohibits the license from being used elsewhere.
Open Discussion: There were no items presented during open discussion.

Minutes of the November 2014 meeting were presented. Motion was made, seconded and approved by a unanimous vote to accept the minutes of the November ANC3B Public Meeting.

The November 2014 Financial Report was presented. Two expenditures -- one in the amount of $158.41 for two ceremonial plaques and the other in the amount of $186.75 for ANC3B Domain Registration and Hosting -- were presented. Motion was made, seconded and approved by a unanimous vote to accept the ANC3B November 2014 Financial Report provided below and the two expenditures.

ANC3B – November 2014 Financial Report
(Approved at December 2014 Meeting)

Checking Account

Opening Balance: $8,704.39
Withdrawals: $2,500.00
Deposits: 
Closing Balance: $6,204.39

The next public meeting of ANC3B was announced as being January 8, 2015, at 7:00PM.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 PM and was approved by unanimous vote.