

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



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

ANC-3B Minutes
May 12, 2005

A quorum was established and the meeting called to order at 7:10 pm.

Commissioners present:

3B01 – Tamela Gordon
3B02 – Charles Howe
3B05 – Amy Bowman

2nd DISTRICT POLICE REPORT:

Officer Baker presented the police report. He reported the traffic violations persisted in PSA 204 but that average speeds were beginning to decline in a number of areas. Commissioner Gordon asked that Officer Baker add the intersection of 39th Street and Calvert to patrol for speed and stop sign violations. Commissioner Howe reported that speeding persisted on Wisconsin Ave. at Fulton St. and it continues to be unsafe for pedestrians. Officer Baker said that he would make a greater effort to patrol that area but had already written numerous tickets at the site.

Officer Baker reported that all crime statistics for PSA 204 were down for the months of April and May compared to 2004. Theft from auto declined by 46% year over year, thefts declined 30%, stolen autos declined by 80%.

Officer Friedman arrived late and added that there continued to be problems with homeless people on Wisconsin Avenue. He requested that the ANC forward contact information for the owner of the Laundromat on Wisconsin so that the police could obtain permission to clear trespassers.

NATIONAL PARK POLICE REPORT:

Officer La Chance presented the report. He reported that there was one case of dumping in the local park area and that taggers persisted. He stated that the Park Police believed that much of the tagging was due to MS 13, a local gang. The dispatch number to report problems is 202 619-7105.

NEW BUSINESS:

Presentation on Tenant and Housing Provider Issues: The presentation was made by Raenelle Humbles Zapata, Rent Administrator for the Rental Accommodations and

Conversion Division of DCRA. She stated that all building with 5 or more units fall under rent control and that all landlords need a business license. The business license is required even for a single house that is rented out. The cost to register is \$80 and all relevant information can be obtained on the DCRA website. She also stated that all rent ceiling analysis must be done in the office and interested parties must appear in person. She stated that all rents must conform to the "Unitary Rent Ceiling Act" and that landlords can in most cases only avoid conforming to this act by making major capital improvements. This then allows them to increase rents to accommodate for the improvement.

OLD BUSINESS:

Town Hall Restaurant Status Report (new owners of restaurant that was formerly Savuer):

The owners stated that the name of their company was the "5 Glovers" and that they are proceeding with renovations. They stated that the past paperwork for the liquor license had not been filed properly and that they were attempting to rectify the situation. They announced that they had hired the Executive Chef from Paolo's to be the new Executive Chef for Town Hall. They are using restaurants such as Daily Grill and Clyde's as a model for the type of atmosphere that they would like to create. The restaurant will have 96 tables and the upstairs will be used for restaurant seating. There are no plans for live music and Town Hall has not requested the required license needed for live music. There will be no rooftop use by the restaurant.

Numerous residents of Hall place stated their objections to a "bar" in the neighborhood and suggested that Town Hall's request to have a liquor license allowing them to stay open until 2am and 3am meant that they would be operating a bar. The owners of Town Hall insisted that this was not the case and named a number of restaurants that keep the same hours, including Clyde's. They also reminded residents that Savuer had maintained the same hours that they wished to utilize without incident. The residents insisted that operating hours be limited until 11:30 pm.

Milton Grossman spoke for the residents and stated that Savuer's obtained the later time on its liquor license by an illegal procedure and that the new owner's should not benefit from this. He urged the ANC to pass a resolution stating that the ANC recognizes the original license with operating hours until 11:30 pm and that later hours of operation be ruled a "substantial change". And that extended hours would require the new owners to go through the legal procedure required by ABRA to obtain this "substantial change". The resolution was adopted by a vote of 3-0.

Metrobus Noise: Citizen Mory Watkins made the presentation. He outlined the troubles with the newer, smaller buses (Orion 2). He noted that these buses were louder and in many instances less safe than the larger older buses. Particularly, the brake noise is problematic. Not only is the noise an issue, often starting at 5:30 am, but the sound is indicative of the brakes "glazing" which reduces the buses ability to stop. Mr. Watkins stated that bus drivers often coast through stop signs in order to avoid the noise and many wear earplugs. Bus drivers have also requested hearing tests according to Mr. Watkins. The Orion buses are also costly to maintain and have nearly drained the WMATA maintenance budget, perhaps causing further safety issues. Mr. Watkins suggested that some solutions might include going back to the old buses, purchasing new buses, creating a bus curfew or changing the route during certain hours. The ANC agreed to invite WMATA to the next meeting to discuss these issues.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

Treasurer's Report.

Approval of the April 2005 Meeting Minutes. Approved 3-0.

Approval of FY 2005 3rd Quarter Report. Approved 3-0.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

**RESOLUTION REGARDING THE TERMS OF THE LIQUOR
LICENSE FOR JADE, LLC AT 2218 WISCONSIN AVE., NW**

WHEREAS, ANC 3B recognizes that the original liquor license for the establishment at 2218 Wisconsin Ave., NW, formerly Saveur and now Town Hall operated by Jade, LLC, was for the hours of operation no later than 11:30 PM;

WHEREAS, the extension of operating hours until 2am and 3am on weekends was obtained without proper consultation with ANC 3B or by adhering to proper procedures of the Alcoholic Beverages Control Board;

WHEREAS, residents have a reasonable expectation of being consulted and notified before a substantial change is made to a liquor license for the establishment located at 2218 Wisconsin Ave;

WHEREAS, hours of operation past 11:30 PM are strongly opposed by neighborhood residents;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3B, requests that the Alcoholic Beverages Control Board honor the terms of the original liquor license allowing operation hours until 11:30 PM and consider any request to remain open past that hour a substantial change requiring proper notification and approval of both ANC 3B and the Alcoholic Beverages Control Board.

ADOPTED, May 12th, 2005.

We hereby certify this Resolution to be true and correct.

Tamela Gordon
Vice-Chair, ANC 3B

Amy Bowman
Treasurer, ANC 3B