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A new chair for the Historic Preservation Review Board

Resolved, that ANC1D advises the Mayor to seek out and nominate a new chair for the Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB).

Why: Chairman Tersh Boasberg of the Historic Preservation Review Board has given long and honorable service. ANC1D particularly appreciates the current chair's work to collect and freely publish the texts of the reports by the Mayor's Agent on appeals from the HPRB. This was a good first step towards much needed reforms that emphasize policy transparency and responsibility. Nonetheless, ANC1D believes that it is time for reform and more creativity in handling historic preservation issues in DC.

Specifically, ANC1D advises the Mayor to seek a nominee who is inclined to work closely with ANCs to clarify the distinctive historical character of a designated neighborhood, and to formulate an explicitly defined and less intuitive policy.

Also, a new chair should pledge to assure good communication with ANCs, including providing an immediate no-cost record of HPRB proceedings affecting an ANC area, and assuring that any major changes delegated to the staff are carried out with timely notice and engagement with the relevant ANCs.

Passed by five to zero vote at the legally noticed, public meeting of April 11, 2007, with a quorum present.