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## Minutes of the January 6, 2009 meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1-D

*These minutes accepted at the February 17, 2009 meeting.*

### Call to order

[7:09 pm] Chair Scott called the meeting to order at 7:09 pm. Present were ANC1D commissioners Scott, Edwards, Bosserman, Lepanto, and McKay, constituting a quorum.

### Public discussion

[7:10 pm] Residents Jane Zara, Claudia Schlosberg, Pedro Aviles, and Olivia Cadaval spoke. David Vacca provided an update from Councilmember Graham's office.

Commissioner Tunda arrived at 7:15 pm. Jack departed at 7:20 to fetch a file from home, returning at 7:29.

### Election of officers for 2009

[7:30 pm] Gregg, serving as temporary chair, called for nominations for ANC Chair. Dave nominated "Stormy" Scott. There were no other nominations, and the commission voted 6 to 0 for Stormy to be ANC1D Chair for 2009.

Stormy called for nominations for Vice Chair. Jack nominated Gregg, and Dave nominated Phil. Gregg was elected, by a 4 (Jack, Gregg, Oliver, and Stormy) to 2 (Dave and Phil) vote,

Stormy called for nominations for Secretary. Gregg nominated Jack. There were no other nominations, and the commission voted 6 to 0 for Jack for ANC Secretary for 2009.

Stormy called for nominations for Treasurer. Dave nominated Jack. Phil nominated Dave, but Dave declined. There were no other nominations, and the commission voted 6 to 0 for Jack for ANC Treasurer for 2009.

### Schedule of meetings for 2009

[7:33 pm] The schedule of meetings for 2009 was brought up. The commission agreed that business meetings would be held on the third Tuesday of each month, and the first Tuesday would be available for informal meetings with the neighborhood. This was approved by a 5 to 1 vote (Gregg voting "no"). Phil noted that the third Tuesday of January was Inauguration Day, and we should not meet on that day.

That motion was approved by general consent. Gregg requested that the first meeting of 2010 also be included on the list; this too was agreed to by general consent.

The schedule of regular business meetings is thus: Feb 17, March 17, April 21, May 19, June 16, July 21, Aug 18, Sept 15, Oct 20, Nov 17, Dec 15, of 2009, and January 13, 2010.

The first-Tuesday meetings, for informal meetings, are as follows: Feb 3, March 3, April 7, May 5, June 2, July 7, Aug 4, Sept 1, Oct 6, Nov 3, Dec 1.

## **Standing committees**

[7:39 pm] Gregg moved that the only standing committee be the Commercial Corridor Committee.  
*Approved, 6 to 0.*

## **Secretary's report**

[7:40 pm] No corrections being offered to the December 2 meeting minutes, those minutes were declared accepted.

## **Treasurer's report**

[7:40 pm] Jack offered the following resolution:

Resolved, that ANC1D approves the Commission's participation in the Advisory Neighborhood Commission Security Fund, and authorizes the payment of the \$25 fee for the period January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009.

The Chairperson and the Secretary are authorized to execute the Security Fund agreement.

*Passed, 6 to 0.*

Jack displayed the financial report for the first quarter of FY09, ready for submission to the auditor.  
*Quarterly report approved by the commission, 6 to 0.*

Jack requested specific approval by the Commission for payments to three of the residents who served on the grant review committee: \$75 each to Patrick Cullinan, Erin Argueta, and Anita Levy. *Payments approved, 6 to 0.*

Jack requested post-expenditure approval of the following payments: Community of Christ, \$150, for La Casa rent, Oct-Dec 2008; Radio Shack, \$29.95, for a replacement microphone; Staples, \$17.96, for cable ties and a cable concealer (petty cash). *Approved, 6 to 0.*

Jack requested permission to make the following payments, for services rendered: Neil Richardson, December services, \$825; Adebisi Odegbile, December services, \$52.50; Tony Grillo, postering, \$50; Albert Varela, audio assistance, \$50. *Approved, 6 to 0.*

Jack requested renewal of the standing agreements with Tony Grillo, \$50 for putting up posters for ANC meetings, and Albert Varela, \$50 for any meeting at which he provides audio assistance.  
*Approved, 6 to 0.*

Gregg moved that we continue the FY08 budget into FY09, until we decide on a revised budget.  
*Approved, 6 to 0*

## **New business:**

### **Renew contract of Adebisi Odegbile, clarify staff oversight**

[7:52 pm] Gregg moved the following:

The current contract for administrative services of Adebisi Odegbile is renewed for one year, through 2009, with the following conditions:

The intent of staff is to provide administrative support, not executive decisions. ID's staff works with communications and collaboration of the full commission, and under the oversight of the Staff Group of Angelia D. Scott, Gregg Edwards, and Jack McKay, but with a single point of contact, currently Gregg Edwards. Interim reports on task progress and draft products will be sent to all commissioners as these work products are written. The commission encourages and will pay for somewhat more time than before for documentation, including brief reports on discussions, URLs of information useful on research topics, database design documentation, and alternatives considered.

All references in the old contract to an Executive Director are void, and a fresh copy should be submitted, incorporating the above changes.

*Motion passed, 5 to 1 (Phil voting "no").*

## **Don Juan's appeal**

[7:58 pm] Phil read the following resolution:

Resolved, ANC1D authorizes the filing of a notice of appeal in the matter of Don Juan's Restaurant and Carryout in order to preserve the ANC's rights to be given great weight in matters before the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board. The notice of appeal shall be filed before January 15, 2009.

Why: it is imperative that the ANC pursue the appeal to preserve its rights before ABRA.

*Motion passed, 6 to 0.*

## **Gain easements, establish better trees on 1600 block of Park Rd NW**

[8:00 pm] Gregg moved the following:

ANC1D advises the DC Council Committee on Public Works, Chairman Jim Graham, and the DC Department of Transportation (dDoT) to leverage this moment of great attention on streetscape upgrades on the 1600 block of Park Rd NW to gain and record easements for improved life quality, to replace junk trees, and wherever possible to start planting a regular pattern of tall trees immediately.

ID asks Councilmember Graham and the Director-Designate to make obtaining easements a top priority for the dDoT legal agency, to complete the first pass in the next few weeks, and to make moderate fund transfers for a first pass upgrade.

Why: A recent survey of property owners, especially those with holdings on the south side of this block, indicates their willingness to give easements in exchange for dDoT investments in a significant upgrade of this now bleak street. As one of the early roads laid out over a century ago, this block does not have public parkings that dDoT can use to remedy the bleakness of the street, the narrowness of the sidewalks, and the lack of normal tree cover. Easements from property owners is the only ready remedy. Unfortunately, this needs to be implemented immediately. Otherwise, this current disruption of many months will not result in much benefit to the many thousands of residents that live on the densely populated block, use it one of the two but very difficult pedestrian gateways between Mt Pleasant and Columbia Heights, or use it as a cross town arterial.

Jack moved that the motion be tabled until the February meeting. *Motion to table passed, 4 to 2 (Oliver, Stormy, Jack, Phil voting "yes", Gregg and Dave, "no").*

## Grants Package Resolution

[8:24 pm] Gregg moved the following:

ANC1D resolves to make 22 grants in accordance to the first 22 rankings of 1D's grant review panel, with the highest ranked two granted \$500 each, and the next 20 granted \$200 each. Each grant is to be made to a group with a letter as the announcement instrument that specifies: disbursements (within two months of this resolution) will only be made upon 1D's receipt of a short final report sketching the results of a small prototype of the proposed project and ideas for further proposals not to 1D, receipts with documentation sufficient to meet DC legal requirements, a signed statement that almost all of the funds went to the benefit of people and activities within Mt Pleasant, and a reasonably determined identification of to whom the 1D check should be made.

The two most highly ranked projects, each a \$500 grant, are:

- § "Nuevas Raices - New Roots" Growing Community
- § AMP Policing Workgroup & PSA 301 for Improved Policing & Crime Reporting.

The next twenty ranked projects, each a \$200 grant, are:

- § Empowering all community members with skills and resources needed to care for their bicycles
- § Provide effective education to Woodner residents on protection from bedbugs
- § Convene a focus forum for group disc on solving vexing security challenges in MP apt bldgs.
- § Launch an emergency/fire safety plan for the 3000 occupants of the Woodner apt building.
- § Teach Life Survival Skills to Spanish speaking women enabling them to lead independent productive lives
- § Oaklawn Terrace BA forms a Work Group on Fire and Emergency to Save Lives
- § Bringing the Benefits of Urban Gardening to ANC1D
- § Forensic/Legal Counseling for Indigent Arrestees
- § Helping our residents transition out of addiction and homelessness
- § Teach Survival English to Spanish speaking women for greater participation in the community
- § Self-sufficient and Urban Gardening in MP
- § Form an Incorporated Oaklawn Terrace Building Association
- § Complete a List of MP apartment buildings, property management, DCRA information
- § Youth Sleuth - Wrapping our minds around needs of at-risk youth
- § We are MtP: Celebrating Difference, Finding Common Ground
- § AMP workshops to assist groups articulate ideas and leverage further grants
- § Oaklawn Terrace BA forms a Security Workgroup to Assure Safety for its Residents
- § Is My Neighborhood Hazardous to My Health?
- § Identify Needs of the Vietnamese Community in Mount Pleasant towards their Better Future
- § Incorporate the Park Road Row Association to Build Community and Progress

*Passed 5 to 0 (Jack abstaining).*

## **dDoT must provide advance notice of substantial changes of bus and mass transit services in MtP**

[8:29 pm] Gregg moved the following:

ANC1D advises the District Department of Transportation that the bus pad at the triangle park on Park Road should not be moved to the east side of the 17<sup>th</sup> Street intersection.

1D notes that the proposed bus pad at the west end of the 1600 block of Park Rd NW was not requested by WMATA, was never discussed with 1D, and would interfere with other 1D resolutions.

Why: Among the nuisances of moving the bus stop from Park Road Park a hundred feet or so west:

- a) There is no room for a bus shelter at the West end of the 1600 block of Park.
- b) The noise and pollution at the proposed location would bother the residents in the two tall apartment buildings. Now, at the park, there are no proximate neighbors.
- c) The placement would eliminate as many as five parking spaces on a block with about 1300 residents and less than 30 parking spaces.
- d) The placement would interfere with having three traffic lanes at the west end of that block, as advised in a recent 1D resolution.

*Passed 5 to 0 (Oliver abstaining).*

## **Restructure fiestas in MtP to include better consultation**

[8:41 pm] Gregg moved the following:

ANC1D resolves to ask its staff and its Commercial Corridor Committee to convene a meeting to discuss the future of street festivals in Mt Pleasant. ANC1D resolves to advise the DC Government agencies that the legally required coordination with ANC1D and Fiesta DC did not take place, and ANC1D asks each of the agencies for its evaluation of the process leading up to, and the handling of this Festival, including why the agencies did not obey the law, and their proposals for a substantially transformed process in the future. ANC1D asks the Mayor, the agencies involved, and Councilmember Mary Cheh and the DC Council committees overseeing DCRA and other elements of this process to help make changes, including requiring agencies to obey the ANC law requiring acknowledgment and response to this and previous ANC1D resolutions on these issues. ANC1D allocates \$500 for its staff to pursue these issues.

Why: This year there was no substantial discussion between Fiesta DC and ANC1D. Any discussion with several other civic groups, including the Mt Pleasant Business Association and All-Ways Mt Pleasant was a one-way indication of plans, and those were vague. Fiesta DC did pass out many flyers for a public meeting to discuss plans, but only one resident showed up, and apparently none of the suggestions made were followed. Thus, there was no substantial or legally required consultation.

Further, none of the ANC1D resolutions directed to DC agencies over the years about these festivals have been acknowledged or answered as required by law and executive orders.

Since there are many benefits Fiesta DC brings, this resolution intends to build a more suitable and regular basis for cooperation in the future.

Jack moved that this resolution be tabled until a future meeting. *Motion to table passed, 5 to 0 (Gregg abstaining).*

## **Adjournment**

[8:55 pm] Jack moved adjournment. *Approved by general consent.*