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Minutes of the October 3, 2006 regular monthly meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1-D

These minutes approved at the November 14, 2006 meeting.

Call to order

Chair Edwards called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm. Present were all six ANC 1D Commissioners: Gregg Edwards, Mitchell Backfield, Stormy Scott, Wayne Kahn, Rich Wysocki, and Jack McKay.

Public discussion

[7:12 pm] **Geraldine Gardner**, representing the DC Government NIF Program, spoke about the Neighborhood Investment Fund. **Sergeant Eccles** of the Metropolitan Police spoke about MPD Halloween party plans, and the problem of burglaries in Mount Pleasant.

Secretary's report

[7:40 pm] Jack noted that the draft minutes of the September meeting had been distributed to the commissioners, and said that this was an opportunity for commissioners to offer corrections to the minutes. Gregg said that "Sturgis delegates to the Chair the right to give instructions to the Secretary on how the minutes are to be handled", and asked that references in the minutes to times be omitted, except for times stated by the Chair. Jack asked the opinion of the commission on this matter. Gregg asserted that this was delegated to the Chair. Jack disagreed with that interpretation of Sturgis. Wayne moved that the review of the minutes be tabled until the next meeting; *motion to table approved, five to one* (*Jack voting "no"*).

Treasurer's report

[7:43 pm] Rich Wysocki did not have a report, but asked for commissioners to report expenses, so that he could deal with them at this meeting. At Gregg's request, Rich moved "that we agree to pay no more than \$120 to register our domain names, anc1d.org and anc1d.com, for a period of two years". *Motion passed six to zero*. Jack moved that "we authorize payment of \$210 annual fee for the post office box". *Motion passed, six to zero*.

Agenda prioritization

[7:46 pm] Gregg initiated a discussion of the agenda items, and time allocations, for the evening. Gregg asked for general approval of the overall times of the agenda, and for a "friendly amendment" extending the agenda item clock times by 20 minutes, since we were already that far behind schedule. Wayne suggested that that this be dealt with at the end of the meeting, not now. Gregg said that he took "that as a motion to adopt the overall agenda as presented". *Motion passed, five to zero, one abstention (Jack)*.

This was followed by a discussion of business items that could be considered "consent items". Only the rescheduling of the November meeting was agreeable as a "consent item".

Consent item: rescheduling of November monthly meeting

[7:53 pm] Gregg moved that "ANC1D resolves to delay its November meeting from the seventh to the 14th, 2006, in order to avoid conflict with the general election". *Motion passed, six to zero*.

Gregg then asked for "priority items" for the meeting. Jack observed that this category should be defined as items that could not be put off until later meetings, but which had deadlines such that they had to be considered at the present meeting. Gregg noted that the proposed resolution calling for a delay in the City Council consideration of the new Comprehensive Plan met that criterion.

Priority item: deferral of consideration of the Draft Comprehensive Plan

[7:59 pm] Mitchell introduced a resolution calling for deferral of consideration of the draft District of Columbia Comprehensive Plan. After amendment, the text of this resolution was as follows:

ANC1D resolves to ask the Council and Mayor to defer approval of the draft comprehensive plan for six months:

Why: This is a large and complex plan that will have a significant impact on Mount Pleasant, and ANC1D needs more time to review the alternatives and consequences.

Resolution approved by six to zero vote

New business: Neighborhood Investment Fund boundaries

[8:12 pm] Rich introduced a resolution concerning the eligibility boundaries of the Neighborhood Investment Fund. After amendment, the text of this resolution was:

ANC1D resolves to ask the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Economic Development to make it clear that the current boundary of the Neighborhood Investment Fund Columbia Heights Target Area includes both sides of Mount Pleasant Street. Further, ANC1D resolves to ask Councilmember Graham and the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Economic Development to move the boundary for the NIF to the centerline of 17th Street Northwest, south of Park Road Northwest, to Irving Street Northwest.

Why: This is needed to assure opportunities for economic development and affordable housing for many of the large apartment houses of the neighborhood.

Resolution passed by six to zero vote.

Unfinished business: Exploration of alley & courtyard-oriented development

[8:41 pm] The resolution introduced by Gregg in the September monthly meeting had been separated into its seven components, and two of those components passed. The remaining five were implicitly tabled until the next meeting, and so were brought up at this time. Gregg moved that the third item of the five be considered as a separate resolution, and the rest be tabled. After amendment, the text was:

ANC1D resolves to advise the Office of the City Administrator to assign DC government coordination of efforts concerning the improvement of the area around Alley ID = 6253260801 to a single agency, preferably DCRA, and not DDOT.

Why: There will be many permits required, and DCRA is the central point for most of these. Supporting innovative developments is a relatively new role for DCRA, but one it is increasingly called upon to exercise.

Resolution passed, six to zero.

New business: Zoning variance for Alante Financial

[9:00 pm] Mitchell introduced a resolution responding to a notice of application to the Office of Zoning for a zoning variance:

Resolved: ANC 1D advises the Office of Zoning and the Board of Zoning Adjustment to approve Alante Financial's request for a variance from the use provisions (DCMR Title 11, Section 350.4) of the R-5-D Zone. Specifically, we advise the Office of Zoning Administrator to approve Alante Financial's variance request utilizing its authority to grant variance under provisions of DCMR Title 11, Section 3107.2.

Why: The commission does not have any issues or concerns with Alante Financial's request.

Resolution passed, six to zero. The time was 9:09 pm.

New business: proposed meeting concerning Ward One traffic issues

[9:09 pm] Jack moved that "ANC1D resolves to support Councilmember Graham's convening of public meetings and broad consultation for Ward One consultation on traffic."

Why: The opening of the Columbia Heights metro stop, the huge new developments in Columbia Heights, the expansion of U Street, all promise to radically change traffic patterns in ward one. Furthermore, there are severe problems right now due to construction work, and we must work out immediate means of minimizing the impact of these construction tie-ups. These changes are likely to have major impacts that go well beyond the scope of any single ANC. Thus, CM Graham's initiative to discuss and consider alternatives is very welcome.

Resolution passed by six to zero vote.

New business: acceptance of joint ANC space in the Reeves Center

[9:17 pm] Jack moved that "ANC 1D resolves to accept the offer by Councilmember Graham for joint ANC space in the Reeves Center as a temporary measure.

"ANC1D furthermore resolves to ask the Mayor to provide free office space for the use of Ward One ANCs, closer to the four corners of the four ANCs in ward one, and to apply for the \$600 a month extra payment promised for such if there are no other government spaces available within one and a half blocks of the intersection of our boundaries."

Resolution passed by six to zero vote.

New business: postal service

[9:25 pm] Wayne moved that "ANC 1D resolves to ask the U.S. Postal Service to reinstate a postal service within two blocks of Mount Pleasant". Wayne then moved to table the motion until the next meeting. *Motion passed, six to zero*.

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[9:26 pm] By general consent, the meeting was adjourned at 9:26 pm.