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Minutes of the May 19, 2009 meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1-D

These minutes accepted at the June 16, 2009 meeting.

Call to order

[7:03 pm] Chair Scott called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm. Present were ANC1D commissioners Scott, Edwards, Bosserman, Lepanto, and McKay, constituting a quorum.

Public discussion

[7:03 pm] The meeting was opened to public discussion. Jim Dickerson, resident of 17th Street, spoke. Commissioner Tunda arrived at 7:06 pm.

Secretary's report

[7:08 pm] Jack noted that minutes of the April 21 meeting had been distributed. After some discussion, the commission voted 5 to 0 to accept the minutes, Phil abstaining.

Treasurer's report

[7:15 pm] Jack asked if there was any objection to the following payments: Tony Grillo, \$100 (postering for the May 5 and May 19 meetings), Lina Parikh \$450 (grants program support), plus \$26.56 expenses, Bill Boteler \$50 (audio support), Bill Boteler \$123.75 (grants program support). No objections were voiced.

Commercial corridor committee report

[7:16 pm] Gregg presented a brief committee report.

Informal meeting topics

[7:27 pm] The commission agreed, with a 6 to 0 vote, to have no informal meeting in June.

Unfinished business: Add the power to assess fines on public utilities to the Public Service Commission

[7:32 pm] Gregg moved that this be tabled until the next business meeting. *Motion passed, 6 to 0.*

Speed humps for 17th Street

[7:33 pm] Jack moved the following:

Resolved, that ANC1D advises DDOT to respond to the petition from residents of the 3400 block of 17th Street, requesting speed humps, with an appropriate traffic engineering assessment of the traffic calming problem, and a proposal for its solution, employing speed humps as appropriate. DDOT is further advised to permit residents, and the ANC, to review its design for speed humps, or other traffic calming measures, on this road, before committing to installation. The installation of any traffic calming measures should be preceded and followed by a quantitative measurement of their effectiveness.

Rationale: while the Mount Pleasant Traffic Study found that “the 85th percentile speeds observed during this study are within normally accepted parameters for a 25 MPH roadway”, residents are unhappy with traffic speeds, want speed humps, and have prepared a petition with 17 household signatures, of 33 or 34 households on this block.

Gregg moved to table this motion until the next business meeting. There being no second to the motion, the motion to table failed.

Motion passed, 5 to 1 (Stormy, Jack, Dave, Phil, Oliver voting “yes”, Gregg voting “no”).

The proceedings were interrupted at this time for a comment from the audience, concerning parking issues.

Speed-triggered traffic cameras

[8:04] Jack moved the following:

Resolved, that ANC1D advises the MPD, and DDOT, to install speed cameras on the 1800 and 2000 blocks of Park Road.

Rationale: Park Road, as an east-west arterial passing through Mount Pleasant, is notorious for traffic speeds uncomfortably high for a residential, pedestrian- and bicycle-oriented neighborhood. Because of heavy traffic on this arterial, many traffic calming measures, such as speed humps, are not feasible. Speed-triggered cameras would be effective at detecting and deterring excessive speed.

Motion passed, 6 to 0 (Stormy, Jack, Dave, Phil, Oliver, Gregg voting “yes”).

ANC notification

[8:15 pm] Gregg moved the following:

Resolved, ANC1D advises the Office of Zoning, the Board of Zoning Adjustment, the Zoning Commission, the Office of Planning, the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, and the Mayor to include in any conventionally sent letter of notification to neighboring residents of a substantial change an additional sentence suggesting that they contact their local ANC to participate in formulation of local advice.

Why: This is a small, low-cost change. The benefits can be great. The proposed change supports public law and policy, which both mandate inviting ANC participation in any substantial change. It reduces the possibility that an ANC conducts public discussion on an issue without neighbors knowing of the discussion and participating.

ANCs do not have the budget or staff to learn about proposed changes and contact neighbors separately. If were ANCs to have the resources to do so, it is a waste of public funds to duplicate efforts.

Motion passed, 6 to 0 (Stormy, Jack, Dave, Phil, Oliver, Gregg voting “yes”).

Liquor license renewals

[8:18 pm] Gregg moved the following:

Resolved, that ANC1D advises the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board to accept the applications for renewal for retailers Sportsman Wine and Liquors (ABRA-070310) and Irving Liquor (ABRA-000301). ANC1D authorizes Gregg Edwards to testify on behalf of the Commission should either owner request assistance at their respective hearings or with their cases.

Why: There have been no substantial complaints made to ANC1D by the customers or neighbors of these establishments. Commissioner Edwards often passes or drops by the these two licensees, and has neither heard about nor seen problems.

Addendum:

#:ABRA-070310 CLASS: Retailer A

Applicant: Sunami, Lie

T/A: Sportsman Wine And Liquors

3249 Mt Pleasant St NW

#:ABRA-000301 CLASS: Retailer A

Applicant: Lee-Irving Liquor Inc

T/A: Irving Liquor

3100 Mt Pleasant St NW

Motion passed, 6 to 0 (Stormy, Jack, Dave, Phil, Oliver, Gregg voting “yes”).

Main Street and Green Team Commendation

[8:22 pm] Phil moved the following:

Resolved: ANC1D commends Mount Pleasant Main Street and the Mount Pleasant Green Team for the substantial amount of work that has been completed to make the streets of the Mount Pleasant Commercial Corridor more attractive and clean.

The Commission should send letters of Commendation to Alejandro Yepes and Charlie Whitaker care of Mount Pleasant Main Street and carbon copy Council Member Jim Graham’s office.

Reasoning: In the short time that the contract has been active, the Green Team has removed over 226 bags of trash and debris; they have serviced and cleaned our neighborhood tree boxes over 1400 times and have planted new liriopie plants in the tree boxes. Furthermore, they have removed 21 pieces of graffiti from vacant properties, businesses and street furniture. Also, they removed 46 improperly placed stickers, signs, and flyers from light poles, trees, mail boxes and newspaper boxes. Finally, in conjunction with the Mount Pleasant Business Association, the Green Team planted liriopie and perennials in Lamont Park.

Mount Pleasant truly benefits from the efforts of the Green Team. They have made a substantial difference in the short time they have been actively servicing our neighborhood.

Motion failed on 3 to 3 vote: Oliver, Dave, and Phil voting “yes”, Gregg, Stormy, and Jack voting “no”.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 pm.