

<b>1D01: Frank Agbro</b> Chairperson <a href="mailto:frankojazz@aol.com">frankojazz@aol.com</a>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Mount Pleasant Advisory Neighborhood Commission</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>anc1D</b> mount pleasant, dc</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1380 Monroe St NW, #117 Washington DC 20010</p>	<b>1D04: Rosa Rivas</b> Vice chairperson <a href="mailto:1D04@anc.dc.gov">1D04@anc.dc.gov</a>
<b>1D02: Adam Hoey</b> <a href="mailto:adamanc1d@gmail.com">adamanc1d@gmail.com</a>		<b>1D05: Arturo Griffiths</b> <a href="mailto:arturoanc1d05@gmail.com">arturoanc1d05@gmail.com</a>
<b>1D03: Jack McKay</b> Secretary/Treasurer <a href="mailto:jack.mckay@verizon.net">jack.mckay@verizon.net</a>		Website: <a href="http://anc1d.org">anc1d.org</a> e-mail: <a href="mailto:anc1d@googlegroups.com">anc1d@googlegroups.com</a>

## Minutes of the June 23, 2015 meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1-D

*These minutes accepted at the July 21, 2015 meeting.*

### Call to order

[7:05 pm] Chair Agbro called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. Present were four commissioners: Frank Agbro, Adam Hoey, Rosa Rivas, and Jack McKay, constituting a quorum.

### Agenda

[7:06 pm] Jack showed the proposed meeting agenda. Adam asked that his "hire administrative assistant" topic be moved up to come earlier in the meeting. The change made, the commission agreed to the posted agenda.

### Public discussion

[7:08 pm] The meeting was opened for public discussion.

### Secretary's report

[7:29 pm] Jack asked if there were any corrections to the meeting minutes for the April and May meetings. None being offered, the minutes were declared accepted.

### Treasurer's report

[7:30 pm] Jack asked if there were any concerns about the usual monthly expenditures, for the May and June meetings: checks to Tony Grillo, 2x\$50, poster for the May and June meetings; HearSay Interpreting, 2x\$100, interpreting at the May and June meetings; Jazmín Rumbaut, 2x\$100, interpreting at the May and June meetings; Julio Lopez, 2x\$30, for assistance at the May and June meetings. No objections were raised.

### Gum-buster parts purchase

[7:31 pm] Jack offered the following motion, noting that the check for this expenditure had already been sent out:

Resolved, that ANC1D authorizes the purchase of replacement parts for the Mount Pleasant Main Street "gum-buster", for an amount not to exceed \$400.

Why: in helping clean Mount Pleasant Street sidewalks, specifically by removing old gum, this purchase will benefit the Mount Pleasant public.

*Passed, 3 to 0 vote with one abstention (Adam).*

## **Permit the Bancroft demolition**

[7:34 pm] Jack offered the following resolution:

Resolved, that the proposed modernization of Bancroft Elementary School, including the demolition of the gymnasium/auditorium, is consistent with the Historic District Protection Act, and should be permitted, without requiring a "project of special merit" determination.

Why: Historic Mount Pleasant has observed that the gymnasium/auditorium does not "hold any significant historic value to either the property or the community". That building is not mentioned in the filing for the National Register of Historic Places, which refers to the Newton Street frontage -- the triple arch, classical columns, and red tiled roof -- but makes no mention of the gymnasium/auditorium, added to the building in 1938. That building is in fact entirely concealed by the Newton Street frontage, and thus does not contribute to the historic style of the structure. It is inaccurate to describe this portion of Bancroft as "historic", as Historic Mount Pleasant has observed.

Because this particular portion of the school is of neither historic nor architectural significance, its demolition is not a violation of Section 2(b)(1) of the Historic District Protection Act, and so is not inconsistent with that Act.

ANC1D is confident that the case for a "project of special merit" can be made, given the compelling need of Mount Pleasant for a thorough redesign of this 90-year-old school. Nonetheless, the demolition of the gymnasium/auditorium need not, and should not, depend on such a determination.

*Passed, 4 to 0 vote.*

## **Concerning nighttime noise regulation legislation**

[7:37 pm] Jack offered the following resolution:

Resolved, that ANC1D advises the Committee on Business, Consumer, and Regulatory Affairs of the Council of the District of Columbia that bill B21-196, the "Nightlife Regulation Amendment Act of 2015", is excessively burdensome on liquor licensed business establishments as written, and should be modified as follows:

- (1) the requirement for hourly sound level measurements should be triggered by actual complaints against an establishment, rather than being a blanket requirement for all licensed establishments; and
- (2) the maximum permissible sound levels should be modified to reflect the actualities of the urban street environment.

Why: If a nightlife establishment has never been the object of a noise complaint, a requirement for hourly sound level measurements is truly unwarranted. Whether an establishment is potentially a noise problem or not for nearby residents depends on many factors, including the nature of the establishment, e.g., whether it features loud music or not, and on the proximity to residences. Before an establishment is required to make regular sound-level measurements, there should be some evidence that it does present a problem, warranting such measurements.

Concerning the maximum allowed sound levels, the specifications of DCMR 2701.1 are unrealistic for an urban environment. The nominal maximum for a commercial zone after dark is 60 decibels, which is barely audible, and so could not possibly be troublesome for a residence any reasonable distance away from the source. The ambient noise level of an urban sidewalk is about 70 decibels, and requiring businesses to limit

exterior sound levels to significantly less than that will generate countless nominal offenses and fines, where no actual noise disturbance to nearby residents exists.

*Passed, 3 to 0 vote with one abstention (Rosa).*

## **Selection of ANC1D representative to voting rights hearing**

[7:46 pm] The commission agreed that Jack could represent the commission at the July 8 District Council hearing on the “voting rights for noncitizen residents” bill.

## **Hire administrative assistant**

[7:46 pm] Adam offered the following resolution:

RESOLVED: ANC 1D will hire Leila Corcoran as a part-time consultant for the role of Administrative Assistant. Details and management are as follows:

### **Overview**

The Administrative Assistant (AA) is a part-time role responsible for assisting ANC 1D with administration and communications including: meeting and event coordination, stakeholder communications, project and committee tracking and publishing content and announcements to various communication channels such as ANC 1D’s website, listservs and social networks.

### **Working Conditions**

ANC1D does not have an office. The AA works in a virtual environment from anywhere using a personal laptop computer or one provided by ANC 1D. ANC 1D will purchase the AA software required for the role as needed. The AA is expected to attend the monthly ANC business meeting held the 3rd Tuesday of each month from 7-9pm and to deliver a monthly report.

This is a part-time, freelance consulting role that will pay \$15-\$20 per hour based on experience. There are no additional benefits. The initial term is a 6-month trial period averaging 5 hours per week and capped at 20 hours per month unless the commission approves to allocate additional hours in advance. At 6 months, the commission will evaluate the role and decide whether or not to extend it. The AA will be managed by Adam Hoey for the remainder of 2015; management of the administrator will be voted on in January 2016 and each year forward during officer votes for as long as the position is utilized.

### **Duties and Responsibilities**

The role may include and is not limited to the following:

#### **Communications**

- Administrate content for ANC1D.org, Facebook, Twitter and the Mount Pleasant Forum including posting meeting agendas, minutes and special announcements

- Coordinate outreach efforts to stakeholders: residential, commercial, and government

- Manage small projects, committees and communications

- Develop and manage a quarterly newsletter and or outreach materials

#### **Operational Management**

- Assist the commission and Secretary to generate quarterly reports, meeting agendas and minutes and to maintain supplies

- Attend the monthly business meeting in person the 3rd Tuesday of each month from 7-9pm at the Mount

Pleasant Library at 3160 16th street and Lamont St, Washington DC 20010

Help coordinate occasional special meetings and events

WHY: ANC 1D and its commissioners need assistance to manage operations, special projects and outreach activities to the community and stakeholders to improve overall effectiveness. The funding of administrative support is an authorized and appropriate use of ANC quarterly funds.

*Passed, 4 to 0 vote.*

### **3054 Mount Pleasant Street project**

[7:59 pm] Adam offered the following resolution:

RESOLVED: ANC 1D does not support the current plan submitted by the property owner of 3054 Mount Pleasant to convert the former Mount Pleasant Auto Repair shop into a multi-unit residential condominium building. It recommends that the property owner work with the ANC, Historic Mount Pleasant, the HPRB and the community to find a development solution which is more compatible with the Mount Pleasant Street commercial corridor in terms of architectural design, economic development and the established strategic vision for the neighborhood. The general preference for this space would be mixed commercial use with ground level retail and professional office space above.

WHY: Mount Pleasant has had various studies conducted over the last several years with local organizations, residents, local business owners and government agencies such as the DC Office of Planning, DMPED and DDOT which outline needs and the vision for the commercial corridor. These include the Mount Pleasant Small Area Plan passed into law by DC Council in 2010, a Responsible Hospitality (RZA) study and the Vibrant Retail Streets Grant in 2013 with DC OP, Main Street and vendor Street Sense. All of these studies point to "smart growth", sustaining and developing our commercial corridor with appropriate businesses, improving product/service mix and developing a daytime economy by creating more professional services workspaces. The proposed design does not satisfy neighborhood visionary requirements as a multi-use commercial space nor is it compatible with the scale, style and rhythm of this commercial area. Sitting at the south-west entrance to Mount Pleasant St., it would also establish a negative precedent for more commercial condominiums, over scale heights and density which would eventually smother Mount Pleasant's village-like appearance and cherished atmosphere.

*Passed, 4 to 0 vote.*

### **Councilmember Nadeau**

[8:10 pm] proceedings were halted for a conversation with Councilmember Brianne Nadeau.

### **1756 Kilbourne Place project**

[8:32 pm] An informal discussion followed of what the commission could do now concerning the proposed work at 1756 Kilbourne Place.

### **Waive Lamont Park permit fees for ANC1D commissioners**

[8:37 pm] Franko offered the following resolution:

Resolved, ANC advises DPR to waive the permit fees for ANC 1d Commissioners hosting events for the community in Lamont Park

Why?

The park fees are burdensome to Commissioners who serve their constituents voluntarily and are prevented

from fundraising to cover the costs. This opportunity would allow Commissioners to better serve their constituents and will improve the partnership between DPR and the Mt. Pleasant Community.

Adam moved that this resolution be tabled until the July meeting. *Motion to table passed, 4 to 0.*

## **Cease ticketing of parking by MPD officers**

[8:42 pm] Jack offered the following resolution:

Resolved, that ANC1D advises the Metropolitan Police Department to refrain from writing tickets for illegal parking, barring situations that compromise public safety.

Why: A recent effort by the MPD to assist DPW Parking Enforcement in this neighborhood has resulted in numerous improper parking tickets, issued to legally parked cars. This is more than a nuisance to residents, but also compromises the role of the MPD as the protector of the community.

MPD parking ticketing is inferior to that done by Parking Enforcement for three reasons.

\* First, DPW takes photographs of ticketed vehicles and posts them on-line for confirmation of the violation; the MPD does not.

\* Second, DPW tickets are produced by portable printers, and are clearly legible, whereas MPD tickets are hand-written and frequently illegible.

\* Third, DPW Parking Enforcement personnel are familiar with the parking regulations, whereas the current incident in Mount Pleasant reveals that MPD officers are not. In late March and early April, at least nine tickets were written by MPD officers for legally parked cars, the officers being ill-informed about current parking laws.

This incident has not only harmed the reputation of the Metropolitan Police, but is contrary to the policy of Community Policing. MPD officers on patrol should be seen by residents as serving the community, protecting the residents of neighborhood from crime, rather than as policing the community, penalizing residents for minor parking violations.

Jack moved that this resolution be tabled until the July meeting. *Motion to table passed, 4 to 0.*

## **Adjournment**

[8:45 pm] The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.