

**7B-ANC Monthly Meeting  
Ryland Epworth United Methodist Church  
3200 S St SE, Washington, DC 20020  
Thursday, March 21, 2019  
6:30pm**

**MINUTES**

Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners Present:

- Patricia Howard-Chittams - 7B01
- Tiffany L. Brown - 7B02
- Benjamin Crane - 7B03
- Nicole Smith-McDermott - 7B04
- Villareal "VJ" Johnson - 7B05
- April Pradier - 7B06
- D. L. Humphrey - 7B07

Agenda amended and approved:

Amendments to the agenda including: adding a community concern about improved handicapped accessibility, Porchfest information, moving the invited speaker to the top of the agenda, and fixing a typo on the agenda were proposed. Commissioner Howard-Chittams moved that the amended agenda be approved. The motion passed.

Approval of Minutes from February 22nd:

Commissioner Howard-Chittams moved that the minutes from the previous meeting be accepted. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Commissioner Howard-Chittams asked to postpone the February Treasurer's report. The tax ID number has been corrected. Commissioner Crane moved that the Treasurer's report for February and March be postponed until the April meeting.

Police Reports

Lieutenant Jameson gave a presentation on police reports. Commissioner Brown asked for further information on an attempted robbery on 32nd and W St SE. Maria Peace, the victim of the robbery, spoke about her experience. Commissioner Howard-Chittams asked about threats made against her and about criminal activity at M and Minnesota Avenue.

Invited Speakers

Jeff Marootian, Director, DC Department of Transportation (DDOT)

Presented information on upcoming transportation projects.

Beatrice Evans asked about curb cuts to improve handicapped accessibility.

Commissioner Howard-Chittams asked about how to slow down drivers and address overuse of handicapped parking spaces. Director Marootian announced that DDOT is

likely to take over automated traffic enforcement. Tamara Wells-Lawson asked about putting in a stop sign at 3200 Loud Place. Joseph Snyder asked about the construction work on the intersection of Pennsylvania and Minnesota, and getting Residential Parking Permits (RPP) for the area around 27th and Minnesota Ave where a city owned lot is being developed as 26 units. Commissioner Humphrey asked about accelerating repairs to be made to Southern Avenue. Commissioner Pradier asked about a downed stop sign. Director Marootian was presented with a plaque thanking him for his service.

#### Action Items

##### **BZA Case #19872 - 1735 28th St SE, District Properties - Mohammad Qizar Khan**

The developer is asking for a variance to not include a side yard.

Commissioner Brown asked the developer about the number of parking spaces and to increase the number of parking spaces from two to four.

Commissioner Brown moved that the variance be approved conditional on the addition of two more parking spaces and clearly address the variance for the reduction in space around the property.

Approved, with abstention from Commissioner Howard-Chittams.

##### **BZA Case #19984 - 1326 Anacostia Rd SE, District Properties- Mohammad Qizar Khan**

Requesting special exception to add new construction to RA-1 zoned lot.

Commissioners asked why there was a need for a special exception.

RA-1 zoning is approved for apartment buildings but it is required that any new

Construction request a special exception in order to be approved.

The trees have not been determined to be heritage trees.

Decision postponed until April meeting.

##### **BZA Case #19959 - 2801 R St SE - finishing a basement**

Owner is planning to renovate the property and keep it. Commissioner Brown moved that the ANC approve the variance.

##### **District Properties**

Commissioner Johnson asked what District Properties has planned for the Gainesville Road property. District Properties is trying to withdraw from building a house on the property.

#### **Board of Election Issues**

Commissioner Humphrey read a letter from the Board of Elections concerning alleged vacancies for SMDs 7B04 and 7B05 stating the ANC should hold a special meeting.

Commissioner Howard-Chittams moved that the ANC and hold a special meeting on alleged vacancies of the Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners for SMDs 7B04 and 7B05 and send a letter to the Board of Elections detailing the results of the hearing.

Commissioner Johnson asked whether the letter the ANC had decided to send to the Board of Elections in the executive meeting had been sent. It had not. The motion passed.

#### Relocation of ANC 7B Meetings

Commissioner Howard-Chittams presented on three possible locations and their respective costs.

Pennsylvania Baptist Church - free  
St Timothy's - \$150  
First Baptist Church on Minnesota Ave - \$105

First Baptist Church was the only church that responded to the request for more information from the ANC's office manager. The building is handicap accessible, has lit and sufficient parking, and would not add other charges for any necessary activities except for possibly holding executive committee meetings.

Commissioner Howard-Chittams moved that all three possible locations have contracts ready to review at the next executive meeting. The motion passed.

The criteria for the relocation decision were sent by the office manager via email to the commission.

#### Announcements by:

The Office of Mayor Bowser  
Weston Leary

The mayor's budget will be presented March 22nd. April 6th is Mayor Bowser's cleanup.

#### Community Concerns

Robin Marlin brought up her concerns about too many signs being posted. Officer Davis described how sign posters have changed their tactics and that the city has the Helping Hands Initiative to provide the tools for communities to perform public cleaning.

Commissioner Johnson responded that he is willing to work with his constituents to clean up the neighborhood.

Latoshia Butler offered to provide help with connecting those in need of help with public cleaning with people who are interested in performing community service.

Commissioner Howard-Chittams stated that the Anacostia River Keepers is having their next clean up of Pope Branch is on April 13th.

Kelvin Brown said Marvin Gay Park is having a clean up in the morning on March 24th.

#### Presentations

Josh Burch, Department of Energy and Environment, Stream and Restoration Projects  
Provided information on his office's upcoming projects.

Clara Botstein, Vanessa Anderson, Jeffery Moss, Bard College  
Presentation on partnership between Bard College and DC Public Schools. Students will be prepared for college attendances and can receive an associate's degree as part of the

curriculum. Commissioner Howard-Chittams asked whether students must apply for admission. Students are assessed on a writing sample and an interview.

#### Special Committees

Skyland

PA Ave Construction

Transportation

Zoning

Commissioner Howard-Chittams moved that the special committee reports be tabled. The motion passed.

#### Commissioner's Roundtable

Michelle Peete, Board member for Porchfest, announced that Porchfest is happening on May 19th.

Pennsylvania and Southern Avenue area concerns about trash, traffic, and crime.

Kelsey Brackwart has concerns about pet waste being left in public space.

Commissioner Pradier would like to contact residents in her SMD and hold SMD meetings for 7B06 residents.

Concerns about the helicopter flight path and being below the minimum height over ANC7B need to be addressed to Federal Aviation Authority.

#### Announcements

Jimmie Williams and Latisha Atkins - Ward 7 Democrats

Ward 7 Democrats election of officers is on March 30th, 10am-12pm.

DL Humphrey is running for office in Ward 7 Democrats.

Anne Beers Parent Teacher Organization is holding an art auction on March 30th.

#### Adjournment:

Commissioner Brown moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed.