

**ANC 7B Community Meeting
Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Church
3000 Pennsylvania Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20020
Thursday, July 16, 2020
6:30 pm
Via Zoom Video/Conference Call**

MINUTES

Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners Present:

Patricia Howard-Chittams 7B01
Benjamin Crane 7B03 - Treasurer
Tiffany L. Brown - 7B02 – Vice Chair
Lynnell Humphrey – 7B07 – Chair

Late Arrival

Villareal Johnson – 7B05 - Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order at 6:30 by Chairman Humphrey. A quorum was achieved at 6:30 with a quorum present.

MEETING AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion: Commissioner Howard-Chittams moved that the agenda be approved as written. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tiffany Brown.

Discussion: No discussion

Outcome: Motion was approved

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL

Community meeting minutes for May and for June. It was noted that the minutes were not provided by the Secretary. Commissioner Johnson stated that he sent the minutes and that he had the read receipts. Commissioner Brown and Commissioner Howard-Chittams pointed out that they had not seen the minutes. Commissioner Johnson reported that he did not send out the final version of the minutes as of noon as promised per his email.

Commissioner Howard-Chittams stated for the record that she did not receive any communication from Commissioner Johnson since June 22nd and did not receive any communication regarding the minutes. Commissioner Johnson stated that he would like for the purpose of approving the quarterly reports, we need to structure language which would allow conditional approval so that we don't have to be delayed for the quarterly report.

Commissioner Humphry asked that those commissioners who have received the minutes review them as we go through the meeting. Commissioner Johnson stated that the minutes are transcriptions and they do contain a lot of information. Commissioner Johnson further indicated that according to Robert's Rules of Order, the minutes need not be a total transcription of exactly what was said at a meeting.

Commissioner Howard Chittams concurred with Commissioner Johnson regarding the transcription of the minutes. She further asked that the minutes sent out by Commissioner Johnson be resent so that they could be reviewed during the meeting since all the Commissioners did not receive the minutes. She also pointed out that the April minutes also have not been finalized along with the May and June.

Motion: Commissioner Howard-Chittams moved that the minutes be resent right away and that the agenda be adjusted to review the minutes at the end of the meeting. Motion died for a lack of a second.

Commissioner Crane noted that the minutes were sent from the 7B email, and not from Commissioner Johnson's email.

Motion: Commissioner Johnson moved that the Commission offer a conditional approval of the minutes for April, May, and June to be reviewed between today and the Executive Committee meeting. Motion died for a lack of a second.

Commissioner Crane was concerned about whether if we can approve conditional minutes. He further stated that he was not confident that the minutes can be conditionally approved.

Commissioner Humphrey requested to table the minutes and revisit them at the end of the meeting.

Motion: Commissioner Howard-Chittams moved that the discussion of the minutes be moved to the end of the meeting. Motion failed for lack of a second.

Commissioner Humphrey if you have not received or reviewed the minutes, the commission has to move forward.

Motion: Commissioner Johnson asked that Commissioners moved that the Commission offer a conditional approval of the minutes for April, May, and June to be reviewed between today and the Executive Committee meeting. Motion failed for lack of a second.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The account stands where it was at the end of the last meeting. Commissioner Brown noted that the quarterly treasurer's report is ready for approval. Commissioner Johnson reported that the quarterly report cannot be approved without the minutes. Commissioner Brown corrected him and informed him that the quarterly treasurer's report can be approved but cannot be submitted without the minutes.

Moved: Commissioner Brown moved that the quarterly report for ANC 7B be approved as written. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Howard-Chittams.

Discussion: Commissioner Johnson asked for an amendment that there are no minutes to accompany the quarterly report.

Outcome: The motion was approved

Police Report for PSA 603, 605, and 607

Commander Habeebullah provided updates with the crime stats. Citywide there has been a reduction of about 3% in violent crime overall. In 7B there has been an increase in homicides and robberies. The protesters/demonstrators downtown caused a lot of our manpower to go downtown to assist. During the 4th of July, 6th District recovered more than 70,800 fireworks. Commander Habeebullah also noted that she had

reached out to Councilmember Gray to increase the fine for having illegal fireworks from \$25.00 to \$1,000 and also come with a penalty.

Commander Habeebullah has had to bring in individuals from other districts regarding large gatherings. The fine for the gathering is \$100.00 a party without the permit is \$35.00. The fines should be substantial to ensure people will not do it. The Commander is seeking suggestions on how MPD can handle it without officers being on the news.

Commissioner Howard-Chittams requested assistance with an Ice Cream Truck located in the 3500 block of Minnesota Avenue where complaints were received. In addition noted complaints from constituents regarding a home on D Street SE. Commander Habeebullah noted that she is trying to work with DCRA and other agencies to address concerns when they are small ones. Commissioner Brown noted that her issue in the 2900 Block of S Street is getting resolved. Commissioner Crane had no issues. Commissioner Smith-McDermott had no concerns. Commissioner Johnson was no longer on the line.

Action Items

Public Space Construction Permit #352915 located at 3250 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE. – Commissioner Smith-McDermott – she has requested additional information from DDOT. The permit request is for paving. The commissioner is not ready to bring forward a specific permit request currently.

Public Space Construction Permit #351001 3019 Nash Place SE – For this specific location, they are looking to repave their driveway. There is no opposition to this particular permit.

Motion: Commissioner Smith-McDermott requested that Permit #351001 for 3019 Nash Place SE be approved. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion.

Discussion: No discussion.

Outcome: Unanimously approved.

CORE DC

Commissioner Humphrey noted that there was an email sent out to all the ANC 7 Chairs. The letters came from Delegate Norton's office to organize a call to speak about the half-way house in Ward 7. Commissioner Humphrey noted that if the half-way house opens in Ward 7 it will not leave. Once Commissioner Humphrey receives tangible information, he would share it with the Commissioner and the community.

Speaker

Rashard Young – City Administrator – Discussed the numerous positive growth projects within Ward 7. Mr. Young noted that the Mayor's office has been working with the Council regarding the budget. Mr. Young noted in the Mayor's Press Conference that the Mayor has paused the decisions about school until July 31st. He noted that the health and safety of the students, staff, and families are paramount. Mr. Young noted that the city is comfortable where we are in Phase 2. Mr. Young noted that it is the intent to speak with the teachers, staff, and contractors to discuss their needs while the need of educating the children is met.

Commissioner Humphrey asked for questions from the Commissioners. Commissioner Brown asked when other city services coming back on-line. Mr. Young noted that several services have come back to the traditional way of services. DMV for example is returning to face-to-face work. Inspections can also occur as well. Next week, some recreation camps will be opening in in-person and virtual. Staff DDOT and DCRA are out and deployed and working every day. There will be a significant portion of the staff will continue to telework, through phase two and through phase three. Commissioner Humphrey noted that there is a digital divide in Ward 7. He noted that it raised his concerns when there is such a divide in Ward 7 with remote learning. Mr.

Young noted that in the height of the pandemic, in March and April and the decision was made to go to virtual learning. The city purchased 10,000 tablets and hot spot devices which were distributed throughout the City. The Chancellor requested 3,000,000 more dollars to purchase additional devices for students in need. DCPS intends to ensure students in need to have access to necessary equipment.

Commissioner Howard-Chittams asked why with the thousands of individuals who are currently unemployed is not the city hiring DC residents to man the call centers for DC Services. Mr. Young responded that the city needed a call center that could occur within three days, it could not have occurred within that time frame. Now that there is a lull in the pandemic, they are coming back to say “let's hire more staff” that they will make as hires and not contract staff. Commissioner Howard-Chittams also asked about the length of time needed to receive a result from a COVID test. Mr. Young noted that the capacity of the labs is at capacity at this point and because there are so many labs that perform these tests, there is a delay. Commissioner Howard-Chittams asked if everyone, teachers, nurses, parents were at the table to discuss the return to school with DCPS. The Commissioner also noted that the vast majority of educators reside in Prince George’s County. Mr. Young reported that all were at the table. He stated that there had been on-going conversations with WTU, but there have been and there will continue to be conversations with our employees, about how we are preparing.

Mr. Young reported that there is a separate conversation regarding immunizations, and as a part of the conversation DC Health also emphasized the importance of having immunizations prior to entering into school. The hybrid schedule is being offered to reduce the number of students in the schools. Commissioner Humphry discussed the hours of operation regarding the hours of operation of the DC Government, and at the same time, having schools on a two-hour delay. Mr. Young noted that it is important that the business of the DC Government provide services to the residents.

UPDATES

Mayor’s Office – Wesley Leary

Noted that the City Administrator did most of the updates. He noted that we are in Phase 2 in the health emergency. Mr. Leary reminded everyone to participate in the Mayor’s weekly Wednesday telephone call 1-844-881-1314. Mr. Leary informed all that the DMV resumed services on June 23 and reminded all that the public needed to make appointments for most DMV services. For more details please go to DMV.DC.GOV. All were reminded about the Census.

There was a discussion regarding the lady under the bridge regarding the clean-up of the area.

Councilmember Grey’s Office – D.L. Humphry, Deputy Director of Constituents Services

The Councilmember asked that members of the community reach out to the other council members to advocate for the hospital East of the River. Every Thursday at 5:00 p.m. has a call in with the Councilmember. The call-in number is 650-479-3208 the passcode for the call is 737423077. All of Ward 7 residents are encouraged to call into the call.

Community Concerns

Ms. Lane noted that she represented the DC Federation of Democratic Women, and they are dedicated to engagement in getting out the Vote. This Saturday, from 10:00, am – 12:00 p.m. a virtual workshop with the guest speaker Andrea Miller, from Reclaim our Vote. Ms. Lane also noted the ice cream truck has confederate music playing in the neighborhood and have asked them if they know what kind of music they are playing. Ms. Lane notes that it is offensive and irritating. Commissioner Howard-Chittams informed Ms. Lane that DCRA can address the volume of the music, and licensure, but the type of music which is played is a slippery slope. Commissioner Humphry asked that Ms. Lane contact Mr. Jason Phillips at Jason.Phillips@dc.gov and he can be called at 202-481-3396 regarding her concern.

Commissioner Humphrey did note that he had brought up to the Councilmember the issue regarding the low flying helicopters. The helicopter issue must be directed to the FAA. Delegate Norton's office has been notified.

Ms. Brown informed the Commission that the due date for the quarterly report has been extended. Commissioner Humphrey noted that there is a 10 day turn around for minutes to be returned to the commission for review. Commissioner Humphrey noted that he will speak with Commissioner Johnson about this issue as he was not currently on the call. Commissioner Johnson noted that the ten-day turnaround is for posting draft minutes, not approving the minutes. Commissioner Johnson said that it should be discussed further at the Executive Committee Meeting.

Motion: Commissioner Howard-Chittams moved and it was properly seconded by Commissioner Brown to table the discussion surrounding the minutes until the Executive Committee Meeting.

Outcome:

Mr. Chittams shared information regarding a ceremony in support of the Emancipation Memorial in Lincoln Park. For those of you who are in favor of having that statue remaining in place, please go to UrbanCure.org

Jeremy with the Ed Lazere for DC Council spoke, and he wanted to bring words of greeting

Commissioner's Roundtable

Commissioner Brown – Jacqueline Cannon announcing that DSLBD is now having neighborhood grant applications open. An inquiry regarding the PUD for Skyland, information will be addressed in the next few weeks or in the next meeting.

Commissioner Crane – there is an increase in rodent activity in 7B03. Please report long grass on properties.

Commissioner Humphrey – asked that 311 be called first to get the process going for issues in the community prior to calling the Councilmember.

Commissioner Howard-Chittams moved and it was seconded by Commissioner Smith-McDermott to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:08 pm

Submitted By
Commissioner Howard-Chittams
Interim Secretary