

**ANC 7B Community Meeting**  
**Thursday, September 17, 2020**  
**6:30 pm**  
**Via Zoom Video/Conference Call**

**MINUTES**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairman Humphrey. A quorum was present.

**Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners Present:**

Patricia Howard-Chittams 7B01  
Tiffany L. Brown - 7B02, Vice Chair  
Benjamin Crane – 7B03, Treasurer  
Nicole Smith-McDermott – 7B04  
Villareal Johnson – 7B05  
April Pradier – 7B06  
D.L. Humphrey – 7B07, Chairman

**Approval of the Agenda**

**Motion:** Commissioner Howard-Chittams

Moved that the items requested by Commissioner Chittams and Commissioner Humphry be added to the agenda.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pradier.

**Discussion:** No discussion

**Outcome:** The motion was unanimously approved

Councilmember Gray spoke to the Commission and the community. Areas of emphasis were as follows:

- Noted that the voting was done well during the upcoming election. There were three voting centers in Ward 7. There will be early voting centers for every ward.
- There will be drop boxes, where ballots can be securely returned.
- The Census is still open until September 30<sup>th</sup>. There is a lot of money at stake, and more people need to participate.
- Expressed excitement that Pennsylvania Avenue was designated as a Main Street and the parameters include Pennsylvania Avenue from the Sousa Bridge up to the Maryland line. There are as many as five providers submitting proposals to be the leader of the Pennsylvania Avenue Main Street effort. That information will be brought to ANC 7B.
- Established a Police Reform Commission in the District of Columbia, there are 20 people who comprise the commission and is chaired by Robert Bob, and co-chaired by Christie Lopez who was involved in the Ferguson Study. This committee will be working to reform policing as it is performed in the District of Columbia. The body is empowered to convene and work until the end of December 2020. They will develop a report which will be presented to the Mayor and the Council.

- All approvals have been received to build the Hospital in Ward 8. They expect to have the request for applications be released, that is for people who are interested in performing the design work and to build the hospital. It will include an ambulatory care center, two urgent care centers, offices as well as the hospital. In addition, Whitman Walker is going to be building two office buildings on the campus of St. Elizabeth's. And Skyland will be an office building which will include 15 specialty areas for physicians. The hospital will initially be built for 136 beds and will expand to 196 beds based on the demands.
- The two urgent care centers will take about 18 to 24 months to be built. The entire hospital will take up to four years to be complete. United Medical Center will stay open and will be funded until the new facility opens.
- An animal cruelty situation occurred in Hillcrest. Will bring this information back to 7B once it is known what exactly is involved in this situation. There were 36 dogs and rabbits found at that location.

Additional discussions took place around the incident at DuBois Place and dumping at U Street near Ann Beers ES.

### **Report of the Secretary**

Commissioner Howard-Chittams noted that the minutes for July, August and September will be completed.

### **Report of the Treasurer - Commissioner Crane**

In the month \$1,338.00 was spent.

\$400.00 Verizon Phone

\$400.00 Printer lease

The remainder is for six months of the office managers pay.

### **Report of the Metropolitan Police Department**

Commander Habeebullah – provided the overview for crime in the District of Columbia.

Sex abuse 91% decrease

Assault with a Deadly Weapon 1% increase

Robbery 16% decrease

Violent Crime 8% decrease

Burglary

MV thefts 42% increase

Theft from Auto 23% decrease

Theft 28% decrease

Arsons 50% increase

Total Crime for the city: 19% decrease

In 6<sup>th</sup> District has the highest calls for service in the city. Some of the calls for service include disorderly and social distancing. Domestic violence and the next is for residential alarms. We are about 20% increase related to the rest of the city. PSA of Concern is PSA 603.

Homicides 17% increase

Sex Abuse 11% decrease

Assault w/ a Deadly Weapon – 1% decrease

Robbery – 3% decrease

Total Violent Crime – 1% reduction

MV thefts – 22% increase

Theft from Auto 24% increase

Thefts – 25% decrease

1% increase in total crime.

There has been an increase in carjacking in the 6<sup>th</sup> District. These crimes take seconds, and we are trying to gather intelligence to determine if it is the same suspect and it appears that there are more juveniles involved. Idling is a \$50.00 fine and it is becoming a huge problem and these vehicles are used in homicides and/or robberies throughout the city. Information was provided on the Gun Recovery Unit and the Environmental Crime Unit.

## **NEW ACTION ITEMS**

Commissioner Brown

- Resolution – Excessive Vehicle Speed – is working on the issues related to excessive speed in our ANC. Commissioner Brown is working with commissioners from around the city is very specific for what we want.

Commissioner Pradier

- Resolution – 36<sup>th</sup> Place – DDOT has requested for community awareness for Speedbumps on 36<sup>th</sup> Place SE. A community member completed a petition for speed bumps for her community. And are requesting that speed humps are on the street. A letter of support was sent in support of the speed humps on 36<sup>th</sup>.

### **Motion:**

Commissioner Pradier Moved that a resolution from ANC 7B in support of the Speed Humps on 36<sup>th</sup> Place. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Humphry.

Discussion: Ciara Boderick

## **Updates**

Commissioner Humphrey

- Position of Secretary of ANC 7B – Effective Commissioner Johnson resigned as of September 1, 2020. He therefore did not complete a full term.

Commissioner Brown

- Skyland PUD – As a part of the oversight of the PUD as of today, the Skyland Corporation has written checks for \$150,000
- Anne Beers
- Randal Highlands
- Stanton
- Kramer
- Anacostia
- Orr now known as Boone ES
- Friends President at the Francis Gregory Library – Myles Steel – a gem in our community, and he really did a lot when it came to the Francis Gregory Library – and I want to discuss naming the community room after Miles Steel. He deserves all of the accolades

Commissioner Crane

- Letter of Support requested for MHCDO PA Avenue Great Streets – The deadline for letters of support has passed.

## Speakers/Presentations

- Monica Holman Evans, Senior Policy Advisor – DC Board of Elections – 47 days away from the general election. Ballots will be mailed to each registered voter in the District and will go out beginning October 1. They can be returned via the US Postal Service. They can also be dropped off through the early vote center. There will have 95 vote centers, and you can drop off your ballot without waiting in line. There will be 5 super vote centers. There will not be curbside voting at the Super Vote Centers. An informational postcard was sent out yesterday, and the voter guide will be mailed on or about October 1.
  - The Board of Elections does not take an official position on Ballot Harvesting but it is not an acceptable method of voting.
  - There is not the same level of access in Senior Homes – we do have an existing agreement to work with all of the Senior homes in the DCHA umbrella and will be providing drop boxes inside of the Senior Homes. We have an outreach team to pick up those boxes from the homes.
  - If you do not vote in consecutive elections, and returned mail etc., once we meet that threshold, then we can move to remove that voter. You cannot arbitrarily remove people from the voter roles without giving them due process.
  - If one votes out of precinct, you can do so. An individual can vote on demand.
  - You can track your ballot; intelligent mail barcoding will be used on each ballot. You will be able to track it throughout the system.
  - Ballots will be mailed to DC Jail and to various half-way houses. DC Residents housed outside of DC will receive a ballot as well.
- Jo-Elle Burgard, Green Infrastructure Team, Infrastructure Project Management Division, DDOT.
  - Made a presentation for Stormwater Management and Green Infrastructure Design Project, where they are currently in the design phase.
  - The project is funded through the EPA and is a retrofit project to address impact from storm water. More information can be found at [Foursubwatersheds.com](http://Foursubwatersheds.com) and Ms. Burgard can be reached at [Joelle.Burgard@dc.Gov](mailto:Joelle.Burgard@dc.Gov).

## Announcements

- Ward 7 Education Council – Ebony Rose Thompson meets the first Thursday of the month. The last meeting was recorded and are posted in YouTube if you are interested.
  - For DCPS – if you wish a device, you must complete the survey which is on-line. You must be enrolled to receive a device. There were 77,000 children enrolled between DCPS and Charter Schools. If you are not enrolled in school, you will not get a device. If you wish to get enrolled and do not have a computer, contact your school and they will assist you to become enrolled.
- Office of Mayor Muriel Bowser – Wesley Leary –
  - Please complete the 2020 Census at [2020Census.Gov](http://2020Census.Gov), you can also call.
  - On August 26<sup>th</sup> that requires that insurers to cover COVID 19 testing for certain individuals per week without prior authorization from your health care provider.
  - Unemployment benefits – the DC application to participate in the loss wages plan has been approved.
  - High School Students can work as Poll Workers for the upcoming election more information can be found at [DCBOE.Gov](http://DCBOE.Gov).
- Vincent Orange – And provided his background and made a case surrounding why he is running again for office.
- DC Circulator – David Koch, DDoT, DC Circulator Transit Development Plan. There is a new circulator route going to Ward 7 with seven possible alternatives. The Survey will be open until October 23, 2020. There will be a public meeting in October. A focus group meeting was held this past Monday as well. Originally, planned to take the seven down to four, and based on the focus group, all seven will be in the survey. For more information, please go to [DCCirculatorTDP.Com](http://DCCirculatorTDP.Com).

- DDoT #357144 at 3444 Nash Street is requesting a curb cut which was just received today so that the public can be engaged. It was determined to request an extension on this particular request.

### **Community Concerns**

Commissioner Smith-McDermitt – Mr. Grant sent an email regarding the Lee’s Mini Market about the change of hours of sales. The store wants to change the liquor hours for sale, and they want to start at 7:00 am in the morning which is earlier than the current 10:00 am.

### **Commissioner’s Roundtable**

Commissioner Howard-Chittams notified all of the Neighborhood Clean Up at along Pope Creek on October 3, 2020 with the Anacostia Watershed Society to register go to <https://www.anacostiaws.org/>.

Commissioner Johnson wanted to remind all that many in the community wish the Hillcrest Community Center to remain open. There was a conflicting meeting (at the same time as the ANC meeting) regarding this issue.

Commissioner Brown- DDoT will be doing restoration of the sidewalks on Q Streets and R Streets.

### **Adjournment**

On a motion by Commissioner Brown and seconded by Commissioner Pradier, the meeting was adjourned at 8:56.

Submitted by:  
Commissioner Howard-Chittams