

Minutes of the May 23, 2023 meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1D

Meeting call to order

At 7pm, Angela Allison, chair, called the meeting to order. Six of seven ANC1D commissioners joined the meeting, representing a quorum. The meeting was publicly noticed with flyers and a posting on www.anc1d.org. The meeting was held via zoom and recorded. Spanish interpretation was provided.

SMD1D01 - Kelly Willis, present

SMD1D02 - Hannah Grigg, present

SMD1D03 – Erika Nunez, present

SMD1D04 - Yasmin Romero, not present

SMD1D05 - Omar Parbhoo, present

SMD1D06 – Angela Allison, present

SMD1D07 - Gary Decker, present

Administrative Tasks:

- Agenda Approval
 - Commissioner Parbhoo motioned to approve the agenda, Commissioner Decker seconded. The Chair called a voice vote and the agenda was approved unanimously by voice vote.
- Review & Approve Minutes from Previous Meeting
 - Commissioner Nunez motioned to approve meeting minutes was seconded by Commissioner Decker and approved unanimously by voice vote.
- Committee of the Whole Report and Date for Next Meeting
 - Commissioner Decker described ANC1D's monthly Committee of the Whole meeting as a regular standing time allowing us time to talk about administrative elements in between our regularly scheduled meetings. Commissioner Decker confirmed that COW's don't include official actions or votes, and that the meeting is publicly available to join on the ANC 1D website. Commissioner Decker provided a readout of ANC1D's May COW, which included discussion of hiring an admin assistant in the coming months, the 19th and Lamont Park ribbon cutting, and administrative items. The next COW will likely touch on ANC1D planning for communications, grants, and potential additional committees. COWs will be on the Monday a week prior to the business meeting.

DC Government Announcements

- **Councilmember Nadeau:**
 - Councilmember Nadeau provided a DC budget overview for FY2024 with highlights of successful restorations including 43m to ERAP up from 8m, an additional 240 permanent supportive housing vouchers from 0, funding for 24/7 service on 13 major us routes, restoration of 3 circulator bus routes that would have been cut which go through Mt. Pleasant and had high ridership. CM also highlighted -

- She was proud that the Committee on Public Works was able to contribute to ERAP as budget funding of ERAP is to catch people before entering the cycle of homelessness.
- The council shifted funding from DC central school office to neighborhood schools and classrooms, including 7 schools in Ward 1
- Budget funded vouchers for returning citizens to obtain public benefits and access to justice funds.
- Bundled study and pilot on flexible teaching schedules to address teacher retention issues, the idea being that teachers need built in work period and down time and need to not be working after work.
- Restored cuts and increased funding for school based behavior services.
- The budget will also direct the Mayor to release congestion pricing, council is trying to get people back on transit post COVID. Traffic is back, the way we can address that is through true congestion pricing, which didn't get in the final budget but the conversation got us on track to think through a city wide solution in the future. Essentially the idea is, we should be building roads by thinking of the most vulnerable road users first and go from there, vs current policies which think of cars first.
- Fully funded street vendor bills that creates dedicated zones for vending, and managers. Think like a farmer's market. Streamlines for vending application process. Provides citations for those with citations preventing them from being fully licensed. That bill also decriminalized street vending. That part doesn't require funding, so FY23 kicks in. put them on par with brick and mortar business, cops don't show up when license expires. Domestic workers. Household workers have their full rights embodied under the law.
- Local resident voting rights act, all residents able to vote in local elections
- Bill insuring that any one exiting foster care has access to housing and saving funds so don't have to live in poverty after leaving our call.
- Mayor originally cut 90 positions from DPW (mostly in trash collection etc), 50 restored.
- Restored or added positions in office administrative hearings, LTBOQ affairs, and office of human rights.
- Public restrooms have been sitting on a shelf, and then the budget cut money. To find a way to make it happen, gave money to DPW to implement through contract. Going to be able to do 5 in the city. Certainly pushing for ward 1. Hope that by getting this out the door, everyone will see how easy and great it is so we can do more and more across the city. Huge problem, and one of the things that makes a city world class.
- Councilmember Nadeau noted that most changes to the budget have been made, since the council will vote on the local budget act on Tuesday May 30, a support act in June, and then it will be finalized.
- Budget is not perfect, ideally would be putting more money into SNAP, and also the funds that were promised to excluded workers, weren't eligible for unemployment, 20m

that was there and promised for them, was swept by the mayor, still looking for that funding for them.

- Specific highlights for ward 1:
 - Able to identify 4.5m into public safety investments, including funding to do substance use disorder and behavioral health services in Mt Pleasant St, expansion of target outreach ecosystem approach piloted in Columbia Height run by District Bridges, e.g. the people hired and stationed on Plaza to work with and heal people experiencing addiction. Successful report to be published in June. Connected dozens of people with care. Adams Morgan have safety ambassadors who do similar work.
 - Leaders in Mt P Village have asked for public life study and streetscape design for Mt P Able to put 400k in the budget for study and central columbia heights. And with that, funded two new community planning positions at the office of planning, which will help people city wide, not just our studies.
 - And identified 500k for Amigos park, phase 2. This FY, isn't going to get us there for actual build out. These are dollars that will help us fulfill the design the community comes up with.
- Questions
 - Commissioner Parbhoo thanked CM Nadeau for the positive update that covered many ANC asks, included a rapid turnaround on a study for Mt. Pleasant street. Talk quickly about District of Bridge's work, I'm very supportive of it. Have met community navigators. Last week I walked around the timeline. Budget is starting in October. And the summer is very concerning, do you have any thoughts on how we can close that gap before cna come through.
 - CM Nadeau - doing a follow up walk through next week in the evening. It's not that we don't have any resources right now. Department of behavioral health was out with them. But tried with just those tools in Columbia Heights. Need one or two people who will be there every day and who are not government staff. Given we can guarantee them in the budget, we could pay out of pocket to start earlier. Don't want to over promise on their behalf. They are interviewing for a position now.
 - Commissioner Grigg asked for an update on FY23 EARP funds and noted that Woodner residents are asking as well, since FY24 funds cannot help those in current need.
 - CM Nadeau confirmed that ERAP funds are not planning to reopen this year.
 - Commissioner Grigg asked for an update on what the council is doing to reverse the rent control cap.
 - CM Nadeau explained that CM White working on an amendment to FY23 with funding in place in a proposal for a 6.9% cap. CM Nadeau supports around 5, and was not sure where it will land, somewhere between those two.
 - Commissioner Allison pointed out that a lot of residents have put in 311 requests regarding a lot of missing trash cans in 1D, and that she's emailed DPW, and asked if there is a way to expedite responses.
 - CM Nadeau confirmed that 311 is the right starting point, and requested her team be the list of missing cans. She noted that missing cans is a consistent

- issue. She also clarified that if new cans are not added to an existing route, adding a new route involves a budgetary item.
- Commissioner Decker expressed interest in ensuring that the District Bridges resources for Columbia Heights reach up to 1D07.
 - CM Nadeau stated that the staffing of the plaza has been enough for now. Second person was helpful to get to the Plaza. Hips also works in that area.
 - Commissioner Decker commented on the new park being done and potentially additions of street vendor space in CH.
 - Commissioner Decker asked CM Nadeau to clarify what “finding money for the circulators” meant.
 - CM Nadeau clarified that it meant that they restored circulator rates for one year, and specified that if people wish to continue those routes, DC needs to build bus barns and electric fleet, which means capital expenditures. Reminder that DC is completely redesigning the bus network and is incorporating circulator routes into that design. Currently, the bus network basically recreates old streetcar lines. Believe you should be able to get anywhere by bus as fast as you can by car, achievable. When there were changes to 42, there was concern in mount P, so it’s a good time to weigh in.
 - A constituent offered thanks for raising the issue of trash cans.
 - A constituent highlighted the need for additional crosswalks east of 16th for example in front of the bus stop and 16th. 311 is the way to submit TSI. look at all requests and decide which to tackle. Once a request is in there. Share with commissioners, and me. New system is very helpful for transparency standpoint, because they show how they are selecting projects.
 - A constituent asked if a survey had been done to assess support for street vending
 - Doing a study to figure out how to foster that type of vending? I don't know that my evening is going to be the result. Streamlined. Less chaotic. Have a challenge in Columbia Heights because there is a moratorium vending. Harder to enforce, harder to thrive. What I hear is support for vendors, those trying to build a business, and wanting to see better opportunities for them.

DPW

- DPW representative highlighted that DPW is celebrating Public Works Week and is focusing attention on public works organizations around the country.
- DPW service level message every Friday, to give you an idea on a weekly basis, exactly what we’ll be doing, where our focus is. And any special events or changes. DPW has to be agile and shift resources to where the need is at a moment's notice. Instead of people wondering ‘why didn’t this happen,’ hoping that the Friday message is helping get that info out. Fully into Spring now. Alley cleaning. Very busy in trying to maintain and participate in beautification efforts around the city.
- DPW provided some clarification for the process for installation and removal of public litter cans. What DPW have found, not everywhere, in some places cans are abused with household trash and illegal dumping, and confusion around a process where some neighbors would request a can be removed while others would request the opposite, putting DPW in the middle of

neighborhood disputes. DPW clarified that the can is for the collection of loose litter. The new process now includes ANC representatives - if a can is being requested for installation or removal, a sweep inspector goes out and makes a recommendation, sends a message to ANC to ask for their recommendation. DPW believes it's a more cooperative complimentary process.

- Commissioner Decker noted that a constituent asked how long the process from request to installation should take, and when should people follow up?
 - DPW representative responded that adding the new notice and comment period for ANCs, adds about 30 days. The real determination is going to depend on the resources, whether there is availability, and the type of request (repair, removal, install). Install is taking the longest, because it takes into account resources available.

DC Special Education Hub

- Representative from DC Special Education Hub provided a presentation about their new team which launched Aug 2022 which has assisted schools in all 8 wards, including Pre-k - 12 and adult education.
- The representative presented on the hub's offerings, highlighting 3 main ways they can help:
 - Virtual and in person trainings
 - Virtual and in person peer to peer groups. Family empowerment series of training. Knowledge for all levels. Learn about the eligibility process, how to receive an IEP, what do I do if my school isn't providing the resources they said they would. If you think of a training new haven't, we are willing. And come to you. PTOs, parent groups, community organizations and more.
 - Offer one-on-one support services via hotline and case management.
 - Online resource to support families in 11 languages
 - Have plenty of literature and resources to read more about special ed. What happens to students when they age out of high school, what about discipline etc.
 - Will be at ward 5 physical wellness and mental health fair.

Cardozo

- Cardozo has partnered with DCXQ, national think tank thinking about how to rethink high schools to focus on stakeholder and student engagement
- The representative shared results from a student survey that showed students as not ready to graduate and have careers as soon as they graduate. Those that graduate technical programs graduate to low-wage jobs. Students want to explore coursework aligned with real world career interests, e.g. financial management.
- The representative described an initiative to disrupt disenfranchised students that are often exploited to perform low skill jobs, by creating a community where students have an opportunity to become business owners, develop entrepreneurial mindset and take control of their futures.
 - This year, have been outlining design process and have landed on three pillars: entrepreneurship, students houses, and advisors.
 - The proposal includes "foundation entrepreneurship" for all incoming 9th graders and will embed "e-skills" in academic curriculum.

- The program is going to have several career and technical programs, each house will have a CTE program that students could select, e.g. graphic and media arts, culinary, engineering, teacher education. The program aims to pair students up with a financial advisor, mental health advocate, and academic adviser.
- The expected student outcome includes - increased enrollment, attendance, provide experiential learning, rigorous interdisciplinary learning, and robust options for college and careers.
- The rep noted that half of the Cardozo community identifies as member of immigrant community, majority from Latin America. Many might lack documentation status that would afford them the opportunities to qualify for fed funding, go to college ,or other benefits of citizens. For students who identify black, who are of native Washingtonian families, chances and opportunities are limited.
 - To have students who look forward to a minimum wage job after school is a disservice. We can do better. This is our bold idea that every student will graduate as a business owner.
- Commissioner Parbhoo thanked the representatives for introducing these ideas with such passion and reasserted the importance of getting in front of families so they know what’s going on and can choose Cardozo.

DC Water (not present)

- In lieu of an update from DC Water, Commissioner Parbhoo noted that there has been some confusion around who needs lead replacement service, and that he will follow up with DC Water and interested neighbors.

Old Business

- Dispossession of vacant lots on Oak St. last month path resolution urging DC Board to zone lot owned by DC housing authority that needs to be disposed so all lost can be developed. But the resolution was helpful, the Board passed the resolution. Trinity church working to sell all the lots for development.
- Safe Streets resolution - heard a little from Councilmember Nadeau on traffic safety input process, and prioritization process, and at times we or she may be helpful in prioritizing, but in general the idea is that the idea works well. For the new park, there was a perception of increased foot traffic and unsafe vehicle behavior. Were able to accelerate the process of installing crosswalks. Pleased to see that step taken.
- Grigg - ERAP funds – received update from Councilmember Nadeau. Will not be new fund sin FY23. FY24 funding will match FY23.

New Business

- None

Public Comment

- No questions

Secretary's Report

- Nothing significant to report

Treasurer's Report

- FY23Q2 QFR has been submitted and is under review
- FY23Q1 and FY22 Q3 approved. Allotment will be held until security paperwork approved
- FY22Q4 undergoing final edits with OANC. Grigg will visit bank this week to open account. Allison – changing bank to ensure that we can access account and pay vendors.

Commissioner updates

- Commissioner Willis shares on ribbon cutting on Sunday afternoon.
 - Nadeau, former commissioners and residents present. Process of resource mobilization, but also lengthy process to ensure park fits needs of neighbors. Been open since December or January, but this is the official recognition of all the work and input, and beautiful results. With very few exceptions appreciated and celebrated by residents, including from surrounding ANCS. Noted that anecdotally, nearly constantly filled. Toddler park, coffee meetings, spontaneous neighbor interactions. Heartwarming to see the kids cut the ribbon with Councilmember Nadeau.
- Commissioner Allison presented updates on speed bumps.
 - Have been submitting TSIs through 311 about people speeding through neighborhoods. Prioritize those requests, and reached out to ANC about installation of speed bumps. Were originally supposed to get 9 speed bumps. Advocated for 2 more, so 11 coming in next quarter. All a result of submitting traffic safety input safety requests. Those requests work.
 - Also mentioned that former Commissioner Allinger was advocating to get a bicycle repair station in Lamont, so slated to get that installed this summer. Not sure what it will involve, air, tools, typical things you see.
 - Commissioner Parbhoo offered that it was exciting to see so many approved speed bump requests coming to ANC1d. He expressed that he did want to reiterate the point that the process in place is working as promised, but, also wanted to highlight that as commissioners, if there are speed humps that come into our area, we do try to reach out to neighboring residents to collect input. These aren't done deals, input is not checking the box. Those two extra bumps noted in the meeting were the results of that process. Didn't make sense to only have bumps on Kenyon. So through the comment period, he was able to get back and make the case for more. He also acknowledged that some people who are in the community are not thrilled and those sentiments have also been relayed. Trying to get more clarity on what the humps will look like. Want to be considerate of people's broader concerns.
 - Commissioner Decker asked if there are speed bump any issues raised beyond damage to cars?
 - Commissioner Parbhoo pointed out that some questioned this good a use of tax paper money. Legitimate concern. And the comment period allows us to adjudicate it. Usually there becomes a clear narrative that in certain cases there are real needs for traffic calming.

- Commissioner Parbhoo provided a summary of the Community Public Safety Walkthrough.
 - He highlighted that there was a really helpful community walk that MPD led, including CM Nadeau and her office, Transit Authority Police, District Bridges, HIPS, Mt Pleasant Village, and different agencies providing services to our residents. Including crucial services to those who are unhoused. Walked and talked through some of the spots that are alarming residents. Also talked through how we can support people who are living or spending their time on Mount P in a way that is dignified and supportive while keeping our street safe. Learned about jurisdiction issues, such as bus shelters being under transit authority police. And members of businesses, for example, the manager and district manager of 711, discussed increased crime and drug use in that area and how they can play a role by pruning trees and repairing lights. Headline is that the walk brings the right attention. Forced coordination.
 - Commissioner Willis added that having the behavioral health specialists on the walk and understanding a little bit better about how MPD does make those connection, and understanding better some of the obstacles to connecting some of the people experiencing homelessness to the services that the city can provide, was helpful and hopefully increased understanding and empathy.
 - Commissioner Nunez noted that a key takeaway was that local public safety needs to be beyond the first responder approach. Had only recently learned that someone had actually recently passed away on the block, because a first responder showed up, and then when they needed help later, there wasn't an appropriate person to respond. Importantly seemed that the DC officials were discussing creating some kind of coordination group, acknowledging that there is a gap between them. Very important to do before District Bridges' team goes live in October. Suggested we stay coordinated on this issue.
 - Commissioner Decker noted it's very similar to discussions on strip of Spring to 14th St. so want to make sure as a commission area and maybe beyond that we are pushing on this issue. In his area, there are a lot of overlapping issues. There is a property that has been abandoned for 10 years. Just across the border into ward 4. All the issues affect community members who live near there. Using that property as indicative of some of the broader challenges.
 - Commissioner Decker wanted to raise that point of empty storefronts. Maybe an opportunity to follow up in future meetings, to use our area to talk through some way that coordinated support can be given. Had a new business open recently which was great. But if other challenges aren't faced, they have an impact on the business climate. Following up with Mayor's office to get them committed to interagency task force.

Commissioner Allison announced that ANC1D's next Committee of the Whole meeting will be on June 12 at 7pm on zoom, and monthly meeting will be on June 20 also on zoom and that the meeting agenda will be posted a minimum of 7 days prior.

End of meeting

With no additional comments or questions, Chair Allison requested a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Parbhoo moved to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Decker seconded. The motion passed with 6 votes, all in favor, none opposed.

Commissioner Allison adjourned the meeting at xx pm.
