



Government of the District of Columbia
ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3/4G

Chevy Chase, Barnaby Woods, Hawthorne
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COMMISSIONERS

3/4G-01 - Lisa R. Gore, Chair 3/4G-02 – Bruce Sherman
3/4G-03 – James Nash, Secretary 3/4G-04 - Michael Zeldin 3/4G-05 – Peter Lynch
3/4G-06 - Peter Gosselin, Vice Chair 3/4G-07 – Zachary Ferguson, Treasurer

Minutes

ANC 3/4G Public Meeting
January 9 2023
Zoom Meeting 7:00 – 9:15 pm
Meeting [Link](#)

[00:00:48](#) **Introduction of Commissioners**

Commission Chair Lisa Gore (3/4G-01) called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, opening a new year and new two-year term. Also present were Commissioners Bruce Sherman (3/4G-02), Michael Zeldin (3/4G-04), Peter Lynch (3/4G-05), Peter Gosselin (3/4G-06) and Zach Ferguson (3/4G-07). Commissioner James Lyman Nash (3/4G-03) was traveling and absent. Gore declared a quorum (being four commissioners present).

[00:04:32](#) **Zoom Meeting Procedures and Adoption of Agenda**

Chair Gore described the Commission’s virtual meeting procedures. Gore proposed two changes to the published agenda, correction of the annual amount required for the ANC Security Fund to read \$50 and addition of a discussion about an ANC debit card under

Commission Business. Commissioner Gosselin asked that discussion of new members for the Commission's Zoning, Design and Development Committee (ZDD) be brought forward from its listed time of 8:40 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. The Commission unanimously approved the agenda with the changes.

00:08:01 **Election of Officers and Start-of-Year Votes**

ANC Officers for 2023 -- Chair Gore turned the meeting over to former Commissioner and Chair Randy Speck to conduct the ANC's annual election of officers. A slate was moved and seconded and approved by a vote of 6 yes, 0, no, 0 abstentions.

The new officers for the year are:

	Lisa Gore – Chair
	Peter Gosselin – Vice Chair
	James Nash – Secretary
	Zach Ferguson – Treasurer

Start-of-Year Procedural Issues -- Speck turned the session back to Chair Gore and the Commission dealt with several procedural matters by:

- Unanimously approving ANC Security Fund participation for 2023 and authorizing the payment of a \$50 annual fee; and
- Unanimously approving a 2023 schedule to meet on the second and fourth Mondays of each month, except August and on holidays.

00:15:43 **Commissioner Announcements**

Commissioner Gosselin

ANC-CCCA Surplussing Forum – The Commission and the Chevy Chase Community Association are jointly sponsoring a virtual forum Tuesday, January 10, 2023, from 6:30 p.m. until 8 p.m. to help residents better understand the surplus and disposition process the city proposes to use to develop the Community Center-Library site. Speakers will include Max Tondro, Chief of the Equitable Land Use section of the DC Office of the Attorney General (OAG), Caitlin Cocilova, Legislative Counsel to Councilmember Robert White Jr., and Avram Fechter of EquityPlus LLC, which helps assemble tax-advantaged housing development deals.

Public Hearing on Community Center-Library – The office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED) will conduct a hybrid hearing on Thursday, January

12, 2023, from 6:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. to take public testimony about its proposal to partially surplus and thus make available for sale or lease a portion of the site. The hearing is a legally required step before the agency can advance to the Council a surplus proposal.

Wayside Exhibit at Chevy Chase Circle – On Dec. 20, 2022, the National Park Service (NPS) erected a wayside exhibit next to the sidewalk on the East side of Connecticut Avenue as it enters the Circle to provide historical context about Francis Newlands, who originally developed Chevy Chase and whose name remains on the fountain. The ANC and the Friends of Chevy Chase Circle asked that NPS install the exhibit and, because of his racist views, are seeking to have Newlands’ name removed from the fountain.

Chair Gore

Bingham Drive – Consultants for DCWater, which is rebuilding the road after causing a washout several years ago, has told the ANC that crews will be doing landscaping along the road from January 8 through 13, 2023, but will delay completing the project until temperatures remain high enough to permit final paving and other work.

Maret Task Force – The task force that the Commission has appointed to monitor tree work and construction of athletic fields on a portion of the campus of the Episcopal Center for Children will meet January 18, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. Chair Gore said that she would distribute a link shortly so members of the public can attend.

Northwest Opportunity Partners Proposal – The organization has sent the Commission and members of the Council an alternative to the city’s approach to developing the Community Center-Library site. Gore said she has posted a summary of the proposal on the Commission’s website [here](#). Also on the website are the development ideas of other advocacy groups including those of Washington Interfaith Network, Ward3Vision and the Coalition for Smarter Growth which can be found [here](#).

Commissioner Lynch

Commissioner Sherman

[00:27:48](#)

Community Announcements

Leigh Catherine Miles, Chief of Staff, Ward 3 Councilmember Matt Frumin

Staying in Touch -- Councilmember Frumin's office is open at the Wilson Building and the Councilmember looks forward to engaging with residents on issues of importance to the ward and city more broadly, as well as providing constituent services. There are a variety of ways residents can learn about his work and/or contact the office:

Website: <https://mattfruminward3.com/> (Please subscribe to the newsletter while there)

Phone: 202-724-8062

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/cmfrumin/>

Instagram: @cmfrumin

Twitter: @CMFrumin

Matthew Barclay, Ward Liaison, Ward 3 | Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS)

Staying in Touch – Barclay said he is replacing veteran liaison Emir Gur-Ravantab. Barclay's phone number is: 202-340-7853. His email is matthew.barclay@dc.gov

Joanna Blotner, legislative counsel, Ward 4 Councilmember Janeese Lewis George

Barbara Rogers, community engagement director, Ward 4 Councilmember Janeese Lewis George

Eric Goulet, Ward 3 representative, State Board of Education

[00:46:30](#)

Expanding ANC's Zoning, Design & Development Committee

The new Zoning, Design and Development Committee (ZDD) was formed to advise the ANC on issues involving the built environment. As of this meeting, it had five members. Commissioner Gosselin suggested the Commission take two steps: pass a resolution to expand the maximum size of the panel to nine, then interview eight candidates for the four open slots and vote on a slate.

The resolution expanding the maximum size of the ZDD to nine was approved without discussion on a vote of 6 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions. Gosselin then introduced the eight candidates. They were, in alphabetical order, Jordan Benderly, Rasheen Carbin, Ron Eichner, Jim Feldman, Agnieszka Fryzman, Jonathan Guy, Connor McCarthy and Susanne Slater.

Gosselin asked if commissioners had any questions for the candidates. There were none. Gosselin then proposed a slate of four – Carbin, Feldman, McCarthy and Slater – to become members of the committee. Commissioner Lynch, who co-chairs the panel, praised all of the candidates and said that those not chosen will almost certainly be sought out to help the community on other issues. Gosselin offered to let the candidates speak on their own behalf, but there were no takers.

At this point, Jerry Malitz, a former ANC commissioner attending the meeting as a resident, said that Guy and Eichner have historical knowledge of the issues, strong points of view, and should be on the committee. Malitz was followed shortly by Commissioners Zeldin and Ferguson who proposed that the ANC not vote for the slate proposed by Gosselin, but add eight candidates to the committee, bringing its size to 13, instead of nine.

Gosselin argued that the ANC's experience with its Racial and Social Equity Standing Committee was that it was too big and expressed concern that a 13-member ZDD committee also would be too big. Lynch argued that the single member ANC districts that he and Gosselin represent are likely to be the ones most immediately affected by development in the near future and that other commissioners should defer to his and Gosselin's views on the ZDD. But Chair Gore said she supported Zeldin's and Ferguson's proposal to bring all eight candidates onto the Committee. Given that, Gosselin agreed to accept the addition of the eight as a friendly amendment to his slate proposal. The ANC voted 4 yes (Ferguson, Gore, Gosselin, Zeldin), 2 no (Lynch, Sherman), 0 abstentions. The Commission then voted with the same breakdown to amend its previous vote increasing the number of committee members to nine and further increased it to 13.

[01:33:46](#)

Liquor License Expanded Hours, Opal Restaurant

Commissioner Gosselin said that the newly opened restaurant at 5534 Connecticut Avenue is seeking ANC support for its application to the DC Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration ([ABRA-121767](#)) to transfer the liquor license from the previous restaurant at the location and to expand the hours of service. It is asking that its service hours for Sunday through Thursday, now 10:30 a.m. until 12:00 a.m., be extended from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. After discussion voted unanimously to support the Opal application.

[01:44:06](#)

Zoning Exemption for 6407 31st Street NW

Sarah and John Dick previously sought and won ANC support for a special exception from the Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) to permit an addition on their home at the address. The city's Office of Planning (OP) subsequently required the Dicks to seek an additional exemption (BZA #2294). The Commission voted unanimously to support their application.

[01:49:45](#)

Historic Designation for PNC Bank Branch

Commissioner Gosselin in whose district the building at 5530 Connecticut Avenue NW is located, introduced the issue. The DC Preservation League and Historic Chevy Chase DC have submitted an application for the city's Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB) to designate the bank building historic. The two organizations are seeking ANC support for the application on which there is a HPRB hearing Jan. 26, 2023. Gosselin said a vote on the issue would be put off until the Commission's next meeting January 23, 2023. League staffer Zachery Burt did a presentation on the building and application.

Prior to the ANC meeting, Commissioner Ferguson asked whether the current owners of the structure had been consulted and agreed to the designation. Burt said the League made efforts to contact PNC Bank, but had not gotten a response.

Commissioner Lynch asked whether the designation applied to the building only or to the building and adjacent parking lot. He expressed concern that the designation could result in the parking lot not being able to be developed. Burt said that only the building was listed as "contributing" to the historic nature of the site, but left it unclear whether the designation might limit uses of the parking lot portion of the property. Commissioner Zeldin said that he'd be fine with the designation restricting use of the parking lot as well as the building. The ANC did not vote on the application at this meeting.

[02:20:14](#)

Update on Community Center-Library "Surplus"

Chair Gore encouraged commissioners and residents to attend the January 12, 2023, public hearing on surplussing being put on by the office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED). The in-person session will be at the Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church at One Chevy Chase Circle NW. A virtual link is:

<https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/j.php?MTID=m675f5c5f59818db4519b678b11ea070d>

Chair Gore said that the ANC will jointly sponsor with the Chevy Chase Community Association a virtual forum on the subject January 10, 2023, and that commissioners will meet with DMPED officials to discuss surplussing, probably on January 11, 2023.

Commissioner Gosselin said that residents are being asked to react to a city proposal to make a portion of the Community Center-Library site available for sale or long-term lease to private developers with almost no information about how much or what portion of the site. He said that although DMPED officials have indicated the portion surplussed would be used for housing, they can't present the community with any plans about the housing would look like or how it would fit into the site because DMPED has yet to issue a request for proposal (RFP) to which developers will respond with specific development plans.

[02:26:07](#)

Discussion of Proposed By-Law Changes

Chair Gore said she is proposing a series of changes to the ANC's by-laws. She said that most are routine, for example, updating the description of the community's boundaries to reflect redistricting changes. She said that the existing by laws require both the ANC and its committees make their meetings open to the public and provide seven-day advance notice. She said she was striking these requirements for committees pending responses from the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (OANC) and the Attorney General's office about DC's Open Meetings Act applies to committees.

Chair Gore said that in addition to her proposed changes, Commissioner Sherman has offered a series of proposals. She said that the Commission By-laws require a two-week advance notice for any By-law changes. The ANC could vote on her and Commissioner Sherman's changes at its January 23, 2023, meeting.

[02:37:12](#)

Committee and Task Force Updates

- **Racial and Social Equity** – Upon a motion by Chair Gore, the ANC voted unanimously to appoint the following to the committee for 2023:

Elizabeth Martin
Cal Simone
Carl Lankowski
Maria Sims
Marilee Janssen

Karrenthya Simmons
Maurice Werner
Ron Eichner
Renee Turner-Inman

All but Janssen are returning members of the committee.

Chair Gore said the committee's 2023 meeting schedule is: January 17th; February 21st; March 21st; April 18th; May 16th; June 20th; July 18th; No meetings in August; September 19th; October 17th; November 21st; and December 19th.

[02:43:17](#)

Commission Business

- **Minutes** – On a motion by Commissioner Gosselin, who serves as Secretary, the Commission unanimously approved minutes for the ANC's December 12, 2022, meeting.
- **Zoom Reimbursement** – Commissioner Ferguson, who serves as Treasurer, moved to reimburse former Commissioner Randy Speck for Zoom expenses for \$222.58. Commissioner Gosselin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Debit Cards** – Ferguson said that the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (OANC) is now allowing ANCs to obtain debit cards on the condition they approve this method of payment at a public meeting and that the record reflects that the ANC agrees to adhere to the OANC guidelines on debit card usage. The guidelines can be found here: https://anc.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/anc/release_content/attachments/Charter%20738%20News%20Volume%201%20Issue%205.pdf

Ferguson moved to have the Commission seek to obtain a debit card at the ANC's bank (PNC) and agree to always comply with the OANC guidelines on debit card usage. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Quarterly Financial Report (QFR)** – Ferguson said a QFR is due for the first quarter of Fiscal 2023, which ended in December 2022. He thanked former Commissioner and former Treasurer John Higgins for his help preparing the QFR. Ferguson provided a summary of the report: the ANC started with about \$35,000, received income from the District of about \$10,000, there were about \$1,800 of expenditures by the ANC, and the ending balance was \$43,983.40. Ferguson moved to approve the Quarterly

Financial Report for the first quarter of FY23 and submit to the OANC. Higgins, who was in attendance during the discussion, noted one of the allotments from the District was unexpected and was more than the typical single allotment the ANC received from the District in a quarter. He suggested a trip to the ANC's bank (PNC) with himself and new officers to sort out transition issues. Commissioner Gosselin noted that the ANC's balance was unusually high for the ANC because the Commission did not have any administrative help this past year and therefore made no salary payments. Gosselin seconded the motion to submit the QFR to the OANC, and the motion to approve the QFR for FY23 Q1 and submit to the OANC passed unanimously.

- **Administrative Assistant** – The ANC has been in a long and so far unsuccessful search for an administrative assistant. Two incoming Commissioners – James Nash and Peter Lynch – have said they might have possible candidates for the position. Chair Gore said the Commission has drawn up a position description, but has not yet settled on what pay is necessary to attract a quality candidate.
- **Possible Items for the ANC's January 23, 2023, Meeting** – Update on Maret project task force, possible vote on the 2023 by-laws, possible vote on supporting PNC Bank building historic designation, discussion of District Department of Transportation (DDOT) community advisory board for Connecticut Avenue bike lanes and discussion and possible vote on DMPED's partial surplus proposal for the Community Center-Library site.

[03:06:13](#)

Adjourn

APPROVED at a regular public meeting notice of which was properly given, and at which a quorum of four (4) of seven (7) members was present on February 13, 2023, by a vote of **6** yes, **0** no, **0** abstentions.

Lisa R. Gore

Lisa R Gore, Chair

James Nash

James L. Nash, Secretary