

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

Chevy Chase, Barnaby Woods, Hawthorne 5601 Connecticut Avenue N.W. P.O. Box 6252 Washington, D.C. 20015 3G@anc.dc.gov | http://www.anc3g.org | YouTube: ANC3G

## **COMMISSIONERS**

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

## Regular ANC 3/4G Meeting June 24, 2024 Minutes

00:00:00: Meeting begins.

00:00:37: **Commissioner Introductions**: Commissioners Gosselin, Gore, Nash, Zeldin and Sherman in attendance at start; Commissioner Ferguson joins in progress.

00:02:27: **Discussion of meeting agenda**. Washington Gas discussion dropped as they are unavailable until next meeting. **Meeting agenda approved by vote, 5-0-0**.

00:04:27: **Discussion of consent agenda**. Minutes from June 10 to be adopted in advance of minor edits by Commissioner Gore and Commissioner Nash. Commissioner Sherman will circulate Word version. **Consent agenda approved by vote, 5-0-0**.

00:06:03: **Residents' forum**. Sargent James Koenig MPD reported crime data for May for PSA 201, including eight car break-ins (thefts) and stolen vehicles. On a recent community walk-through, he said, officers noted many people were still leaving items in their cars. He urged reminding neighbors on this. He also reminded that Apple Airtags and Google Tiles were available as well as wheel locks for Honda and Kia owners. Chair Gore asks about notification requirements and acceptable noise levels at protests. Sargent Koenig explains there is no required public notice and noise levels are measured by the Department of Buildings. Protesters notify Special Operations Division (SOD) if they wish to stage a protest. Commissioner Sherman asks Sargent Koenig if he sees any evidence of a new wave of car thefts such as there had been last fall. Sargent Koenig says no, car thefts are down from this time last year.

00:15:27: Remarks by new Lafayette Elementary School principal Katie Prall. She recently served as assistant principal at Hyde-Addison Elementary School and prior to that worked with Wards 2 and 3 in the DCPS Central Office. She earned her BA from Vanderbilt in early childhood education and MA from Stanford in educational policy and leadership. She has three strategic priorities: (1) building trusting relationships, (2) finding opportunities for shared leadership, and (3) leveraging Lafayette's existing strengths. The enrollment aim for Lafayette for the coming year is 946 students. She urges all in-bounds families to enroll as soon as possible. Commissioners ask questions on ANC advocacy and budget issues. A constituent offers to share neighborhood concerns about the Lafayette field.

## 00:31:00: Draft resolution on traffic calming for 3900 and 4100 blocks of Livingston Street.

Commissioner Gosselin introduces the measure and expresses frustration that Legation and McKinley have new speed bumps even though he has been asking for traffic calming for Livingston for three years. He proposes a new strategy going forward: neighbors to report everything, including near misses, to TSI model. Commissioner Gosselin will file a FOIA request to find out how Legation and McKinley got their traffic calming. He asks the ANC to pass his resolution in support of the FOIA request and asking Livingston Street to be moved up in the queue for traffic calming. Several constituents living on the street cite safety concerns and emphasize the need for traffic calming measures. **Resolution approved by vote, 6-0-0**.

00:44:02: Discussion of draft WMATA resolution. Commissioner Nash discusses possible additions to the proposed resolution. He reports ten responses to recent outreach on the issue (not all from our ANC). The majority wishes to keep the status quo, some want bus routes off McKinley. Other items to consider: dangerous left turns at McKinley/Connecticut and Military/Connecticut, the new L2 route bypassing Adams Morgan, and new rules allowing bus stops 600' apart. WMATA proposes the elimination of stops along McKinley Street. The 600-foot spacing between stops ought not to be a blanket rule that applies to every situation. For example, bus lines on major thoroughfares could be spaced farther apart than eastwest crosstown routes that serve neighborhoods. Chevy Chase has an inordinately high proportion of seniors, and so having a bus stop at nearly every corner along the eastern stretch of McKinley makes sense for such a population. It is not clear that eliminating bus stops will reduce travel times significantly on the local bus routes. Community comments: One constituent regrets the loss of the E6 which has led her to drive to work instead of taking the bus. She notes the E6 was regularly full with other commuters. Another notes how the proposed changes make the neighborhood less friendly to the elderly and disabled, which might lead to legal liabilities for the city. Commissioner comments: Chair Gore calls attention not just to the number of stops but also to the condition and size of bus shelters. She notes the mayor's concern the E6 was dropped without public notice or input. She urges residents to attend the Ward 4 WMATA Town Hall on June 27. Commissioner Sherman notes the importance of the E6 route to Knollwood residents and staff. One positive to the new M4 route, he says, is that it will provide access to the new MacArthur High School. Commissioner Sherman also requests that the resolution highlight safety concerns regarding the new transfers envisioned in Better Bus plan at Military and Nebraska, already a dangerous intersection. The intersection is hazardous for pedestrians and is not a safe place to locate a major bus transfer point. Commissioner Nash assures the resolution will reflect Commissioners' concerns about the spacing of bus stops in ANC 3/4G and the safety hazards of making the dangerous intersection of Nebraska and Military Road a major bus transfer point. Accordingly, the Commission approves the resolution by vote, 6-0-0.

01:02:31: Brief presentation on replacing lead pipes in the neighborhood by constituent Allen Seeber.

01:06:41: Update on the Civic Core RFP (Requests for Proposals). Deadline has been extended again.

Commissioner Gosselin believes it likely to be extended a third time. Discussion amongst commissioners considers pursuing one last attempt to take advantage of what appears to be an opening on the part of DOB to consider a compromise on building height.

01:13:38: Discussion of Maret School's proposed use of artificial turf at the Episcopal Center for Children (ECC). Commissioner Sherman has written a draft resolution calling on Maret to use natural grass. He suggests postponing its consideration to the next meeting to allow further consideration and debate. Chair Gore agrees, noting the resolution is too "broad." Commissioners Gore and Nash want Maret to be present when any resolution is discussed. Commissioner Sherman urges other commissioners to watch the expert presentations on the video recordings of the Turf Town Hall series. Chair Gore characterizes the Town Halls as having been done outside the ANC. Commissioner Ferguson asks all commissioners to submit draft resolutions one week ahead so they can be duly considered. He also characterizes the ANC's role as advising government bodies with no authority to advise private entities. Commissioner Sherman discusses the composition of the Town Halls with artificial turf industry representatives as well as are balanced, with participation of not only natural grass specialist, scientists, others. Trey Holloway of Maret asks that any questions about turf be sent to the school in advance of the discussion. Chair Gore says she will watch the old videos concerning the field and communicate her questions to Commissioner Sherman.

01:28:08: Initial discussion of the proposed renovation of the Rock Creek Golf Course (NPS). Commissioners agree to allow one short presentation from each side and address the issue at greater length at a future meeting. Will Smith of National Links Trust, the developer in charge of the project, presents in favor of the renovation. Anne deBuys of Rock Creek Golf Course for All, a coalition of local scientific and environmental groups, presents concerns about the project.

01:39:34: Committee reports: Zoning Design, and Development Committee is in abeyance. Transportation Committee reports efforts to encourage residents to reply to the WMATA Better Bus Survey and notes the safety working group has had 37 replies to its survey, which is live on the ANC website. Maret Field Task Force reports continuing neighbor concerns about vibrations affecting homes adjacent to ECC and outreach to DOB to address the concerns. The Task Force will take up transportation issues at the next meeting on July 10. RASE Committee: Chair Gore clarifies meeting dates and notification for committee meetings. Meetings are on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7 pm on Zoom only. The next meeting is July 16. Chair Gore also notes that committees do not need to provide minutes; videos serve as meeting minutes. RASE Committee co-chair shows a promotional video for the "Undesigning the Redline" Exhibition at the Cleveland Public Library.

01:58:40: **July 8 ANC meeting agenda**. Possible items include Maret field, Washington Gas presentation, follow-on Rock Creek Golf Course discussion. Chair Gore stresses narrowing the agenda to allow fuller discussion of each item, saying Maret and Rock Creek Golf Course issues will each need 30 minutes. Commissioner Gosselin indicates he has contracts for two new hires to discuss.

02:00:42: **End of meeting**.

L'OUR. Gove

\_\_\_\_\_