

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 Meeting May 13, 2024 Minutes

00:00:03: Meeting begins.

00:00:24: Commissioner introductions: Commissioners Gosselin, Sherman, Ferguson, Lynch, Nash and Zeldin in attendance.

00:01:59: Discussion of meeting rules, including time allowances for participants, Racial and Social Equity (RASE) Committee report, prioritizing local issues, etc.

00:06:21: Summary of agenda modifications and vote on agenda, 6-0 in favor.

00:08:04: Consent agenda discussion.

00:08:57: St. John's College High School BZA submission: Commissioners Sherman and Nash. New President of SJCHS, Kevin Haley, Christine Shiker, attorney, and Matt Bell, architect, present plans for 2701 Military Road. There will be no exterior modifications. The building will contain faculty housing and offices. There is ample parking on the site. Vote to support SJCHS application, 6-0 in favor.

00:25:35: RASE co-chair Libby Martin presents committee's views on the designation of Historic Preservation status for Chevy Chase.

00:29:30: DM Albert presentation on FY2025 budget.

00:50:03: Comments and questions on budget. Commissioner Gosselin asks if, considering falling revenues, the Civic Core project is on hold. DM Albert says no and clarifies that the \$24M number is a

placeholder – they will reassess when they see the bids. There is no line item for housing at the site because there are many ways to fund housing. Commissioners Sherman and Zeldin ask about Lafayette budget cuts. DM Albert feels these have been well considered but can't address details – she will get back to the Commission. Commissioner Lynch asks about school overcrowding and whether the city takes school capacity into account when adding housing. He also asks for an update on the future of the Intelsat site. DM Albert asserts the city does take population growth into account. She is surprised by accounts of overcrowding, particularly in Ward 3 which has shown little population increase. She has heard nothing recently about Intelsat. The land is owned by the State Department and the building is privately owned. The city has considered it as a site for a new major employer, but DM Albert recognizes it might be better suited for education. Commissioner Lynch notes Board of Education member Goulet was interested in the site for UDC. Commissioner Nash questions allocations for the Civic Core and cycling. Albert notes the difference between operating and capital costs. Commissioner Zeldin asks whether the demise of Concept C (bike lane plan) will free up monies and whether the District has high school vocational programs. DM Albert notes there are vocational programs both at Phelps and at Cardoza's Construction Trades Academy.

01:12:33: Commissioner Lynch presents resolution supporting DC Statehood. Various supporters make Presentations, including Kelsye Adams of DC Vote, the Reverend Wendy Hamilton, Shelley Tomkin of DC Statehood (PAC), and student Noah Wills. Commission votes on DC Statehood resolution, 6-0 in favor.

01:22:21: Commissioners Gosselin and Sherman report on Zoning Commission hearing on Connecticut Avenue upzoning, which is scheduled to continue on May 23, and further negotiations with OP. **01:27:26:** Commissioner Nash asks for vote on members for the Transportation Committee, and consideration of the city's "Better Bus" proposal. Proposed WMATA changes will further limit bus service to our area. There is a nine-week public comment period. Go to betterbus.wmata.com for details of changes and to offer feedback. The Transportation Committee is planning a survey of the community on transportation issues. Regular meetings are virtual, on the first Thursday of each month at 6:45pm. There is an in person meeting on the Better Bus Proposal on May 25 at 3 pm at the Chevy Chase Library. All are welcome.

01:33:32: Discussion of various Transportation Committee issues. Commissioners Gosselin and Sherman suggest, in the interest of broader community engagement, limiting each constituent to membership on one ANC committee. Commissioner Sherman applauds Nash for surveying the community, and for addressing pressing concerns like the Better Bus initiative. He asks Nash to identify DDOT issues which the ANC could offer resolutions on to effect meaningful input. Commissioner Sherman has proposed past DDOT Director Tom Downs to serve on the committee, as there is currently no representation of SMD 02. Commissioner Nash explains Downs will need to attend meetings and meet other committee members before being allowed to join. Commissioner Gosselin notes the Transportation Committee should not be operating in advance of an ANC vote on membership.

01:45:28: Commissioner Gosselin presents amended proposal – ANC will vote on list of members, with the proviso that Nash will talk to those who serve on more than one committee, and will consider members proposed by other Commissioners. Commissioner Sherman suggests the ANC might want to consider amending the by-laws. One constituent expresses concern the Transportation Committee might act as an advocacy group on an issue (bike lanes on Connecticut Avenue) the community is divided on. She notes advocacy groups have used these committees to further their goals. Other constituents argue in favor of allowing one person to serve on multiple committees.

01:56:17: Commissioner Nash reads list of members and Commission votes, 6-0 in favor.

01:58:13: Commission votes on Transportation Committee mission statement, 6-0 in favor.

01:59:23: Commissioner Sherman gives update on the Maret field project at the Episcopal Center for Children. He notes there is ongoing concern over poor communication by Maret and its contractors. Stormwater continues to plague residents on 28th Street. Construction is shaking neighborhood homes. Better community engagement is needed.

02:01:06: Discussion of future items: DDOT and bioretention beds, ANC meeting format, two potential tech aides, shortening comments and tightening meetings. Commissioner Lynch suggests they might try some meetings in person and some virtual, rather than hybrid. All meetings will still need to be recorded. One constituent argues many other agencies hold virtual meetings successfully, and the ANC should also be able to. Commissioner Gosselin will meet with two applicants, and if things go well, the June meeting could be hybrid. One constituent argues each commissioner should meet separately with their constituents in advance, to make them better prepared for ANC meetings.

02:16:11: Treasurer Ferguson presents quarterly financial report. Discussion of Verizon hotspot, Forum, etc. Treasurer Ferguson moves to approve the Fiscal Year 2024 Quarter 2 Quarterly Financial Report (QFR), the commission votes in favor 6-0 to approve the motion.

02:22:24: End of meeting.