

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

Chevy Chase, Barnaby Woods, Hawthorne
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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 Chevy Chase Community Center and Online October 21, 2024 Minutes

# 00:00:16: Meeting Called to Order.

Commission Chair Lisa Gore (3/4G-01) called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm. Also present at the Chevy Chase Community Center were Commissioners Bruce Sherman (3/4G-02), Michael Zeldin (3/4G-04), Jim Nash (3/4G-03), Peter Gosselin (3/4G-06), and Peter Lynch (3/4G-05). Commissioners Zachary Ferguson (3/4G-07), attended virtually. Chair Gore declared a quorum (being four commissioners present).

## 00:03:17: Meeting Procedures and Adoption of the Agenda:

Chair Gore described the Commission's meeting procedures, including comments are limited to two minutes with 1 minute follow-up for Commissioners and the public alike. Agenda changes: adding Transportation Committee survey results (10 mins), ANC authorities (15 mins); removing DC lead-free water pipes presentation, Quesada St BZA application.

Motion by Commissioners Gosselin and Sherman to table, in the interest of time, (any) two of three draft resolutions proposed by Commissioner Ferguson. **Motion fails (3-4)**: Commissioners Gosselin, Sherman, Lynch in favor; Gore, Ferguson, Nash and Zeldin opposed.

On a motion from Chair Gore, the Commission unanimously adopted the agenda, as amended, **Motion** passes (7-0).

**00:11:39: Consent Agenda Approval**. Minutes from September 23, 2024, to follow.

Reimbursement of \$112.50 to Commissioner Ferguson for payment to meeting assistant Luis Chica; setting aside \$2,000 towards community engagement software. Chair Gore moved to adopt the Consent Agenda. **Motion passes (6-0-1)**. (Commissioner Ferguson abstains.)

**00:13:12: Resident Forum**. Topics: concern over surplussing public land, co-location of public libraries with community centers; updating the ANC map at the website; request for use of ANC funds to improve plantings in public space; further appeal for preserving the Julian Bond memorial bench at the Civic Site; commendation for the work of the ANC; complaints regarding overnight construction on Connecticut Avenue by DC Water.

**00:27:57:** Commissioner Announcements. Commissioner Sherman called attention to the plans by the University of Virginia Medical School to honor resident Dr. Vivian Pinn (Unicorn Lane). Commissioner Nash challenged commissioners to go one week without their cars. Commissioner Ferguson recognized a resident who complained the DC Department of Buildings was refusing to perform the final inspection needed on his house renovation. Chair Gore conveyed announcements by Frazier O'Leary, Ward Four State Board of Education member: residents can participate in education hearings, donate books.

**00:37:21:** Chair Gore Proposes to Join ANCs 3C and 3F in Letter to the District on Tenant Safety Issues. She explains the city is not providing enough social services support as evidenced in the recent, tragic deaths of two children in apartments on Connecticut Avenue. Chair Gore moved to join ANCs 3C and 3F's letter on tenant safety issues and rights. **Motion passes, 7-0.** 

**00:40:16:** Discussion of Ongoing Protests at a Private Residence in Barnaby Woods in Opposition to US policy in Gaza. DC Metropolitan Police Department and US Department of Homeland Security representatives attended. MPD and DHS explained the law and the enforcement protocols in the context of balancing public safety and right to privacy with First Amendment freedom of speech. Rules for demonstrations include restricted hours (10 PM-7 AM), amplification of sound; number of people (three or more require a permit), etc. DHS/MPD observe the protesters know the rules and generally follow them. When they don't, MPD warns them. The protesters have so far amended their behavior accordingly. MPD has recently begun employing spotters who, if three or more protesters show up, deploy officers to the scene to be ready to respond. Several residents explained their concerns about the protests. They pressed on matters of enforcement. One feared the protests could incite violence. One neighbor voiced support for the protesters. MPD further explained they can only respond if rules are broken, or a threat is assessed. For a threat complaint, a specific person must feel in danger of bodily harm, and the protester must seem capable of carrying out the threat. Threats should be reported to 911.

**01:21:35:** Kathy Patterson, DC Auditor, Reports on Recent Audit of MPD - Result of the 2021 Police Reform Commission. Questions included whether patrol service is adequate and how it compares to other major cities, and how officers spend their time. The study indicated there are adequate officers on patrol but about 35 more detectives are needed. More study is needed to fully understand how patrol officers spend their time. In general, their time is divided 40/40/20 on responding to calls, initiating investigations, and performing administrative tasks, respectively. Many patrol officers, however, are called away for special duties, and it is unclear how that affects their work. At issue is what duties really require a sworn officer carrying a gun. Patterson expresses openness to any ANC feedback.

**01:36:48:** Discussion of Possible Special Meeting to cover Transportation Committee reports, ANC authorities, resolutions proposed by Commissioner Ferguson (on protected bike lanes, etc.) – all of which were eclipsed by the preceding discussion of protests.

### 01:37:33: Commission Business.

- Treasurer's Report:
- FY 25 Proposed Budget: Commissioner Ferguson emphasized that the Commission has a significant amount of money available, but strict rules from the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners makes spending funds difficult. Thus, Commissioner Ferguson requested ideas from the community on ways the ANC could issue grants. In discussing the FY 25 proposed budget, he noted the absence of monies allocated to the budget category for "personnel". The ANC does not have any employees, thus no funds have been allocated to this category. In the event the ANC hires staff, money can be moved from other budget categories to cover the costs. Commissioner Ferguson moved to accept the FY 25 proposed budget. Chair Gore seconded. After discussion, the motion was approved (7-0).
- FY24, 4th Quarter Financial Report: During this quarter \$4,500 was spent, reimbursements were made to Commissioner Ferguson for expenses, and the ANC had two deposits.

  Commissioner Ferguson moved to accept the FY24, fourth quarter financial report. Chair Gore seconded. Motion approved (7-0).

01:44:33: Meeting adjourned by Chair Gore at 8:50 PM.

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 December 9, 2024 by a vote of 6 yes, 0 no, 0, abstentions (Commissioner Ferguson absent).

Lisa R. Gore, Chair

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Bruce Sherman, Secretary