

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3A



Minutes of ANC 3A Public Meeting - February 21, 2023 (This was a “hybrid” meeting—virtual on Teams and in-person in Room 109 at the National Presbyterian Church, 4101 Nebraska Avenue, NW.)

Quorum: Thaddeus Bradley-Lewis (3A01), Judy Havemann (3A02), Hans Miller (3A03), Jeremy Del Moral (3A04) and Ann Mladinov (3A05) – all 5 Commissioners – were attending, making a quorum.

Verification of Meeting Notice: Commissioners posted the meeting notice 7 days in advance of the meeting on local listservs in Cleveland Park, Tenleytown, Glover Park, and McLean Gardens and on the Nextdoor Neighborhood e-network, and on the ANC 3A website, which met the notice requirement.

Agenda: The Chair made a motion to vote on the proposed meeting agenda. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 5-0 to approve the agenda as presented.

Resolutions Approved:

1. *Resolution RE Funding for DCPS Schools in Fiscal Year 2024 (School Year 2023-2024)*, urging the Mayor, Council, and DCPS to reverse the preliminary proposal for 5.26% cut in funds in the coming school year for Deal Middle School and the five elementary schools that serve residents of ANC 3A. The Chair made a motion to vote on the proposed resolution. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 5-0 to approve the resolution as presented.

2. *Resolution RE Investment for Expanding Capacity in DCPS schools in Ward 3*, encouraging the Mayor, Council, and DCPS to give priority to school expansion in the capital budget and explore potential options for adding and acquiring space to meet student enrollment, including the Whittle School site. The Chair made a motion to vote on the proposed resolution. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 5-0 to approve the resolution as presented.

3. *Resolution RE Improved Bus Service to New DCPS High School on MacArthur Boulevard*, asking that the Mayor, Council, DCPS, DDOT and WMATA give priority attention to ensuring that needed public transportation is available to the new high school and the necessary funds are in the budget by the start of school year 2023-2024. The Chair made a motion to vote on the proposed resolution. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 5-0 to approve the resolution as presented.

Votes on Administrative Matters

1. *ANC 3A Budget for FY 2023*. The Chair made a motion to vote on the proposed budget. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 5-0 to approve the budget as presented.

2. *Minutes of January 26 Public Meeting*. The Chair made a motion to vote on the proposed minutes. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 5-0 to approve the minutes as presented.

3. *Minutes of February 13 Administrative Meeting*. The Chair made a motion to vote on the proposed minutes. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 5-0 to approve the minutes as presented.

Next monthly public meeting: Tuesday, March 21, 2023

Adjournment: The Chair made a motion to vote on adjourning. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 5-0 to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 9 pm.

FULL SUMMARY

Chair Bradley-Lewis called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm. He made a motion to vote on the proposed meeting agenda. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 5-0 to approve the agenda.

Community Report by MPD Second District Captain Tatjana Savoy

The Chair introduced Captain Savoy for her first ANC meeting as Captain for Sector II in MPD Second District, after extensive service in the First District, as well as the Fourth and Seventh Districts.

- Captain Savoy did not have any trends to report in the area but had checked MPD's crime map <https://crimecards.dc.gov/> to identify reported crimes in the area in 2023, which were mostly thefts. (MPD's database did not yet present crime statistics for ANC 3A and other ANCs launched in 2023.)
- Residents asked about several break-ins at businesses, thefts of vehicle catalytic converters, and shoplifting at businesses in Tenleytown, especially after school hours. Captain Savoy said MPD is meeting with high school administrators about reaching students and also emphasized the importance of reporting incidents of crime at businesses and residences.
- Captain Savoy urged residents not to leave valuables in their vehicles. In addition, she is encouraging businesses not to leave cash in the register overnight, to avert further break-ins and losses.
- She offered to assign traffic safety officers to observe and issue citations for driving infractions on local streets where the ANC and residents report speeding or other traffic safety problems.

Several residents raised concerns about e-scooters using sidewalks and causing injuries and hazards for pedestrians. Though DDOT sets most terms and conditions regulating scooters and other micromobility devices, Captain Savoy and residents shared suggestions about ways to improve safety, including reducing speed limits for scooters, and separating the right-of-way used by scooters and pedestrians.

Presentation by Eric Goulet, DC Board of Education for Ward 3

Mr. Goulet presented his priorities, including:

- reversing the DCPS preliminary proposal released the previous week that would reduce the allocation of funds to many local public schools by 5.26% in the next fiscal year
- adding a third floor to the renovation plan for Stoddert Elementary School
- acquiring the Whittle School campus to provide added capacity for DCPS high school, middle school, and Pre-K 3 and Pre-K 4, accommodate current and expected enrollment, and work with UDC
- finding a site for another elementary school, such as a commercial property in the Tenley area or Friendship Heights, to ease overcrowding at Janney, Murch, and Lafayette
- maintaining funding for School Resource Officers that provide security in DCPS schools
- finding additional funds for schools to keep up with inflation and teacher and principal salaries
- building partnerships between UDC and DCPS to prepare more teachers and social workers

Votes on Resolutions

Resolution RE Funding for DCPS Schools in Fiscal Year 2024 (School Year 2023-2024), urging the Mayor, Council, and DCPS not to adopt the preliminary DCPS proposal to cut the budget allocation for the next school year by 5.26% to Deal Middle School and the five elementary schools that serve residents of ANC 3A, even though the schools are expected to have either small increases in enrollment or drops in enrollment by no more than 30 students. With salary increases for teachers and principals, the proposed effect of the funding reductions will be even greater, likely causing cuts in teaching staff and programs. The Chair made a motion to vote on the proposed resolution. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 5-0 to approve the resolution as presented.

2. *Resolution RE Investment for Expanding Capacity in DCPS schools in Ward 3*, encouraging the Mayor, Council, and DCPS to give priority to school expansion in the capital budget for the coming years and explore potential options to meet expected student enrollment, by adding space at existing schools with overcrowding and investigating opportunities for acquiring additional space for schools, including the Whittle School site. The Chair made a motion to vote on the proposed resolution. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 5-0 to approve the resolution as presented.

3. *Resolution RE Improved Bus Service to New DCPS High School on MacArthur Boulevard*, asking that the Mayor, Council, DCPS, DDOT and WMATA give priority attention to ensuring that needed public transportation is available to the new high school and the necessary funds are in the budget by the start of school year 2023-2024. With only one Metrobus route serving MacArthur Boulevard, operating only every 20 minutes, current public transit options are very limited, and there are not many good connecting buses for students and residents coming from other parts of the ward and other parts of the city. Several Metrobus routes that could potentially be used to get to the new school site are still suspended, after the COVID-19 emergency. The Chair made a motion to vote on the proposed resolution. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 5-0 to approve the resolution as presented.

Presentation by Abigail Demopoulos on Improving Bus Service on Wisconsin Avenue

Ms. Demopoulos, a member of Cleveland Park Smart Growth, outlined the current Metrobus service on Wisconsin, which was reduced during the pandemic. The 33 route is the only Metrobus route that runs from Friendship Heights all the way to downtown/Federal Triangle. The 31 does not operate in the evenings, and ends at Potomac Park by the State Department. The 30N/30S service between Friendship Heights and Southeast Washington has been discontinued. That means current service on Wisconsin Avenue is only scheduled every 20 minutes at minimum, and the buses are inconsistent, sometimes skipped or too crowded. To serve expected growth in population in Northwest, allow residents to rely on public transit and reduce use of private automobiles, especially among younger residents deciding to move into the neighborhood, she is encouraging additional Metrobus service on Wisconsin Avenue.

Several Commissioners and other participants asked questions and offered comments, including suggestions for working with other ANCs, Councilmember Frumin, and WMATA to gather more information and advocate for improved bus service. There was a brief discussion of whether the ANC could establish a task force, potentially across ANCs, to work on this matter. The topic was deferred to another month.

Commissioner Updates

Commissioner Hans Miller reported that Councilmember Frumin had come to Hearst Park January 29 to look at the heritage trees near the pool that have been damaged by poor drainage. He committed to taking up the problem with the DC Department of General Services.

Commissioner Miller announced a fundraiser for Friendship Place on April 1 at National United Methodist Church.

Commissioner Del Moral announced American University's Information Forum on March 2 at 6 pm to discuss AU's proposed Alan and Amy Meltzer Center for Athletic Performance and Sports Center Annex.

Commissioner Mladinov announced that Dr. Harold McCray, the Principal of the new DCPS high school on MacArthur Boulevard opening in fall 2023, would be speaking with residents at the Palisades Library on Wednesday, February 22, from 5:00-6:30 pm.

Presentation by DC Office of Campaign Finance (OCF)

Belinda Perry of OCF gave a description of the options under the Fair Elections law for candidates for elected office in the District (other than candidates for ANC) to make use of public financing.

Open Forum There were no other comments.

Administrative Matters

1. *ANC 3A Budget for FY 2023*. The Chair made a motion to vote on the proposed budget, which had been posted on the ANC 3A website for comments. The final draft added funds to the line items proposed at the January meeting for meeting space and technology and also retained funds for staff expenses if needed in the future. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 5-0 to approve the budget as presented.

2. *Minutes of January 26 Public Meeting.* The Chair made a motion to vote on the proposed minutes that were circulated for the initial ANC 3A public meeting. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 5-0 to approve the minutes as presented.


3. *Minutes of February 13 Administrative Meeting.* The Chair made a motion to vote on the proposed minutes. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 5-0 to approve the minutes as presented.

The Chair announced the ANC would hold its next public meeting on Tuesday, March 21.

The Chair made a motion to vote on adjourning. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 5-0 to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 9 pm.

The Commission voted 4-0 to approve these minutes at a duly-noticed public meeting on March 21, 2023, at which a quorum was participating. (Three of the five Commissioners constitute a quorum.)


Chair


Secretary