

# GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

## ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3A



### ANC 3A PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

**Quorum call:** Commissioners Thaddeus Bradley-Lewis (3A01), Judy Havemann (3A02), Hans Miller (3A03), Jeremy Del Moral (3A04), and Ann Mladinov (3A05) were present, which made a quorum. (Three of the five Commissioners constitute a quorum.)

**Verification of Meeting Notice:** Commissioner Mladinov confirmed that the ANC meeting notice had been posted 7 days in advance of the meeting on the ANC 3A website, local listservs in Cleveland Park, Tenleytown, Glover Park, and McLean Gardens, and the Nextdoor e-network, meeting the requirement.

**Agenda:** Chair Bradley-Lewis 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 Adopted**

The Commission did not adopt any resolutions at the meeting.

#### **Administrative Matters**

*Minutes of February 20 Regular 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.

*Vote to approve ANC 3A Quarterly Financial Report for the First Quarter of FY2024.*

The Chair made a motion to vote on the First Quarter Financial Report. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 5-0 to approve the quarterly report.

**Next monthly public meeting:** Tuesday, April 16, 2024

**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 8:05 pm.

#### **FULL SUMMARY**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm. The meeting was held in “hybrid” format, virtually via Zoom and in-person at the McLean Gardens Ballroom.

The Chair asked for a roll call. Commissioners Bradley-Lewis (3A01), Judy Havemann (3A02), Hans Miller (3A03), Jeremy Del Moral (3A04), and Ann Mladinov (3A05) were present and participating in the meeting. Commissioner Mladinov confirmed that made a quorum. (Three of the five Commissioners constitute a quorum.)

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.

**MPD Community Report**

MPD Lieutenant James VanderMeer (PSA 203) shared a summary of crimes reported during the preceding 30 days in Police Service Area (PSA) 203 and 204, which make up most of ANC 3A. He noted that after the large number of vehicle break-ins at Woodley Park earlier in the winter, the number of vehicle break-ins was down 67% in the most recent month compared to a year ago, though other thefts were a problem including package thefts. He recommended that residents check their porches or vestibules if they are expecting a delivery, and make use of the new Amazon Locker at the Second District Police Station.

Lt. VanderMeer also reported that the reported retail thefts were up 60% in the last 30 days compared to 2023. He said it is not clear if more retailers are reporting thefts this year, or if their threshold for reporting has changed. Some stores have only been reporting a theft to MPD if the value of the stolen items is more than \$100 or \$200. MPD is working with retailers to gather evidence and close cases, and he said the number of reported incidents has dropped considerably. MPD is also encouraging retailers to use “bar notices” to keep a person who has committed previous crimes from returning to their establishments. Some retailers have multiple outlets and issue a “bar notice” for the entire chain.

Since the holiday season, MPD has increased its focus on reducing thefts, using a mixed approach of more foot patrols, moving staff around to address problem areas, and sending more Special Operations into the area. They put together the arrest two days before the meeting of a suspect associated with 14 local thefts, 5 of them over \$100. Lt. VanderMeer said the number of arrests in PSA 203 and 204 had gone up 350% since 2023. He also said that barring notices can be used by residential buildings, and as an example, MPD is working with a large apartment complex to bar individuals involved in illegal drug activity.

Resident David White asked if there were any updates on the carjacking that occurred at 10 am on Saturday, January 13, in the 3000 block of Idaho Avenue, which was committed against an employee of his building. Lt. VanderMeer said that a special unit is working on that case. Third District Commander Tatjana Savoy confirmed that the case had been assigned to MPD’s carjacking task force and she would pursue the question with that unit. Chair Bradley-Lewis asked if the information could be released when cases of that kind are closed.

Commissioner Havemann thanked MPD and Commander Savoy for following through on the concerns of her constituents about people doing drugs in the alley between 38<sup>th</sup> and Wisconsin Avenue that had been subject of discussions at the January and February ANC public meetings. The police had visited the site, spoken to the people involved in the drug activity, and they were no longer there.

David White also reported graffiti tagging along Cathedral Avenue between 4101 Cathedral Avenue (in ANC 3A) and The Towers at 4201 Cathedral Avenue (across Glover Archbold Park in ANC 3B) and asked the MPD representatives how residents should report that. Lt. VanderMeer said that the fastest way to report graffiti is to call the 311/911 system. Calling 911 should get an MPD officer out to see the graffiti and document it. He also suggested that residents take a photo of graffiti in the neighborhood and send it to him at [james.vandermeer@dc.gov](mailto:james.vandermeer@dc.gov) or to his colleague in PSA 204, Lt. Paul Johnson [paul.johnson@dc.gov](mailto:paul.johnson@dc.gov) so they can make sure MPD gets to the site quickly to document the graffiti.

Chairman Bradley-Lewis reported that there is a 311 service request option that can be used to request removal of graffiti. He also suggested it would be helpful if residents observing graffiti contact the ANC at [anc3A@anc.dc.gov](mailto:anc3A@anc.dc.gov) so the Commissioners can work with MPD Second District Community Outreach Coordinator Ms. Kyi Branch to identify any patterns or trends in the area and help them coordinate the response to the graffiti.

**Makers Union Cathedral application for a Substantial Change to the liquor license for longer hours and live indoor entertainment) at the former Matchbox, 3701 Newark Street (ABRA-116777)**

At the February 20 ANC 3A public meeting, the Commission had adopted a resolution to support a draft settlement agreement with the new restaurant, Makers Union Cathedral, and file a protest if a mutual agreement could not be reached. Noise from the patio/“summer garden” was the key concern expressed by residents and Bozzuto, manager of the surrounding apartments. Commissioner Miller reported that the restaurant was not comfortable agreeing to shorter hours for outdoor service. The discussions were not concluded at the time of the protest on March 12 and he did not make the deadline, so the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board was going ahead with granting the application. Makers Union committed to being “good neighbors” and had opened in early March, with no complaints to date. Commissioner Miller said there is no way for an ANC to force an establishment to enter a settlement agreement, but if issues arise, the ANC and residents can take them up when the license is up for renewal in April 2025.

**Presentation of signed settlement agreement with Top Level, LLC, application for a license to operate “Aligned” Medical Cannabis Retailer at 3715 Macomb Street NW (ABCA-129007)**

After the applicants’ presentation of their request to the Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Regulatory Administration (ABCA) at the January 16 ANC 3A public meeting, the ANC and Top Level had negotiated a settlement agreement. The only remaining concern was how to address home deliveries if/when the applicant decided to introduce those services. The applicants agreed to an amendment to provide for additional presentations to the ANC and discussion of their plans for home delivery services. Commissioner Mladinov reported that the ANC and Top Level worked out mutually agreeable language for a proposed amendment, got an initial review by ABCA staff to ensure the agreement could be enforced, and had both signed the final settlement agreement (now posted on [www.anc3a.org](http://www.anc3a.org)). The Chair also noted that in recent weeks ABCA had adopted further requirements for home delivery by licensed medical cannabis retailers, including provisions for screening and registering drivers and courier services, identifying specific locations that deliveries could or could not be made, keeping a log confirming that deliveries were made to the purchasers and recording their cannabis card numbers, and providing for securing products that can’t be delivered as planned. Those provisions also gave more assurance to the ANC in agreeing to the amendment to the settlement agreement covering home deliveries.

**Commissioner Updates**

Commissioner Mladinov reported that ABCA would be reviewing applications for license renewals from local liquor stores and other retailers that sell alcoholic beverages. She announced that ANC 3A had received copies of applications from Wegman’s as well as the Westchester Market at 4000 Cathedral Avenue (across the street from ANC3A). More applications would be submitted in the following month, for review by the public and by ABCA. By law, each ANC is required to share with the public the information about these notices so anyone affected has a chance to participate. Commissioner Miller asked if an ANC would usually get involved in these cases. Commissioners Del Moral and Mladinov observed that in their experience the local ANC would not normally be involved in a liquor license renewal unless there had been serious complaints about a licensed establishment.

Commissioner Mladinov also reported that the Mayor’s proposed District budget for Fiscal Year 2025 (FY2025) would not be released on the expected date of March 20 but was due to be released April 3. The Mayor’s office had committed to send a speaker to present the proposed budget to the ANC after the budget was released.

Commissioner Mladinov mentioned the Pepco rate case before the DC Public Service Commission (PSC) involving a new multi-year approach to utility ratemaking and calling for a rate increase of \$190.7 million over three years. The proposal is receiving strong opposition from the DC Office of the People’s Counsel and other parties. The PSC had scheduled community hearings on the case in late March and early April

and was inviting written comments from ANC members and members of the public by April 26. She suggested it might be another issue the ANC would want to take up at the April meeting.

Commissioner Havemann reported that a 5 to 6-inch deep hole had developed in the artificial turf under the bars at the Newark Street playground which makes a serious hazard for children. She also noted that trash cans around the playground were often overflowing. The Chair said that he would contact the DC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) and the ANC could also submit a 311 request for repairs. Concerns about the facilities at the Newark Street playground had come up to several Commissioners over previous weeks, and CM Frumin's office was working on the issues. Commissioner Del Moral also mentioned that there had been many more dogs at the Newark Street park.

Commissioner Miller reported that he had taken a 33 Metrobus after work at about 4:30 pm. On that run, the driver stopped the bus on Wisconsin Avenue next to The Washington Ballet, south of Porter Street, and also stopped north of Porter Street, in front of The Crestview Condominium (where there is no parking pad, no bus shelter, and no trash can). In the fall, ANC 3A joined Crestview residents in strongly opposing relocation of the bus stop from the south side of the intersection to the north side, with the intention that riders on northbound buses on Wisconsin Avenue can more safely get to the ballet campus or transfer to the eastbound H buses on Porter Street without crossing the intersection of Porter and Wisconsin. Now it appears that Metrobuses often use both the old bus stop and the new bus stop.

### **Community Announcements**

Matthew Barclay, Ward 3 representative from the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS), reported on several programs, including:

- Mayor's Scholars Undergraduate Program
- Drive to fill support positions in the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE)
- Downtown DC 5-year economic development plan to keep the downtown healthy
- Secure DC legislation approved by the Council on March 11 to improve public safety in the District.
- "Summer in the City" event on April 6 sharing information on what the city is offering this summer.
- Biden-Harris Administration's "Clean Energy Connector" to help households that participate in government-run low-income programs to get connected to community solar power.

Joe Dweck, Legislative Fellow in the office of Ward 3 Councilmember Matt Frumin, announced:

- March 28 "Work Day in the Ward" with Councilmember Matt Frumin at Compass in Spring Valley
- CM Frumin's budget letter posted on his website identifying priority issues and hopes for FY2025 District budget, preparing for the Mayor's proposed budget and the Council's budget hearings.
- For Constituent Services in CM Frumin's office, please call 410-724-8062 or file a request at <https://mattfruminward3.com/constituent-service/>
- Sign up for the Councilmember's email newsletter at: <https://mattfruminward3.com>

### **Open Forum**

There were no additional comments.

### **Administrative Matters**

Commissioner Mladinov had prepared draft minutes of the February 20 public meeting. The Chair made a motion to vote on the minutes. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 5-0 to approve the February minutes as presented.

Commissioner Del Moral read the ANC 3A February financial report:

**ANC 3A February Financial Report**

Opening Balance (February 1): \$17,946.18

- Income: None
- Cash Withdrawals: None
- Expenditures: Two checks \$23.17 to GoDaddy for ANC 3A domain name  
\$50.00 for 2024 ANC Security Fund
  - Bank Fees: None
    - Monthly Fee waived

Ending Balance (February 29): \$17,873.01

Commissioner Del Moral reported that the Office of ANCs had provided the data for the ANC 3A Quarterly Financial Report for the First Quarter of FY2024 (Oct. 1-Dec. 31, 2023). The Chair made a motion to take a vote on the report. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 5-0 to approve the quarterly report as provided.

The Chair announced that the next monthly public meeting would be Tuesday, April 16, 2024.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

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These minutes were approved by the Commission by a vote of 4 – 0 at its duly noticed public meeting on April 16, 2024, at which a quorum was present. (Three of the five Commissioners constitute a quorum.)