

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3B
GLOVER PARK AND CATHEDRAL HEIGHTS



ANC 3B Meeting Minutes
February 9th, 2023

Commissioner Blumenthal opened the meeting at 7 pm. Commissioners in attendance were Jackie Blumenthal (ANC 3B02), Kevin Lavezzo (ANC 3B01), Melissa Lane (ANC 3B03), Kevin Carroll (ANC 3B04), Gupi Howie (3B05) and Ben Bergmann (ANC 3B06).

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Blumenthal proposed that a discussion of the neighborhood walkthrough between ANC 3B, DDOT and MPD Second District be added to the agenda. A motion was made to approve the amended agenda. It was seconded and approved.

Police Report

Lt Paul Johnson gave details of a robbery at 42nd and Beecher St. on Sunday, 2/5. The victim, a 14 year old male was robbed of personal property by 3 other juveniles. Asked if a gun was involved, the Lt said that the victim could only say that he felt something “hard.” In addition to this offense, there were 9 thefts and 7 thefts from auto in the past 30 days.

Old Business

Settlement Agreement with Good Guys. Commissioner Blumenthal described the settlement agreement with Good Guys. The agreement, which strengthens security and noise control measures, was approved by the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board. Security will be enhanced in response to recent gun incidents inside Good Guys. ABRA will also make its own upgraded security requirements. Residents who live closest to Good Guys are not protected by noise ordinances pertaining to ABRA licensed establishments because they live in a mixed-use zone (MU-27). The Settlement Agreement protects their interests in peace, order and quiet with a provision stating that no noise from inside Good Guys shall be heard beyond the immediate vicinity of Good Guys' front door. This Agreement is enforceable by ABRA and violations can result in sanctions and/or fines. Residents who are disturbed by noise beyond that perimeter can call either Manager Mike Aloupis (301-641-3344), Manager Jenna Gross (610-730-5453), Owner Mahesh Patel (304-731-5859) or the ABRA Complaint Line (7 pm to 4 am) (202-329-6347).

New Business

Vote on Letter to DC Council Regarding Bus Transportation to New High School. The Commission unanimously approved a letter to Councilmember Frumin that calls for public bus transportation to the new high school on MacArthur Boulevard which opens next school year (August 2023) and will be the

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CATHEDRAL HEIGHTS
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designated public high school for Glover Park students. Currently there is no public transportation with a reasonable travel time available for most of the boundary area assigned to the new high school. The letter asks CM Frumin to include sufficient funding for the creation and operation of a new bus line to serve all Commission areas served by the new high school starting in FY 2024. It is especially critical for Glover Park and Cathedral Heights, neighborhoods that are underserved by public transportation and consequently dependent on private automobiles. Commissioner Blumenthal presented a motion to approve the letter. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

Updates

Status of Stoddert School expansion and boundary issues. Commissioner Howie gave a report on the status of the plans for Stoddert School expansion and the status of the boundary issues. DCPS' initial plan called for a new cafeteria and four classrooms to be added to the east side of the school (the side with the field). Problems have been raised with that plan including having a cafeteria far from the main classroom areas, potential damage to the heritage tree between the athletic field and the school, and loss of athletic space on the field. DCPS will re-consider the plan and look at the option of putting the cafeteria at least on the west side of the school. Per the boundary issues, DCPS will not make any decisions until the Foxhall Elementary School is built.

Update on Glover Park Walkthrough. Commissioner Blumenthal gave an update on the neighborhood walkthrough to assess dark areas identified by residents. On Wednesday, February 8, five Second District MPD officers, DDOT's Ward 3 Community Engagement Specialist, ANC Commissioners Blumenthal and Lavezzo, and resident Aileen Nowlan through the neighborhood looking at dark spots identified by Glover Parkers. In general, the lighting in the neighborhood was good for pedestrian safety, particularly because so many homes leave their porch/front lights on. Alley lighting also appears to be sufficient for those inspected. Several issues, however, were noted:

- Light poles along Tunlaw are too high to adequately light the sidewalks. This issue will be more pronounced once the trees are in bloom.
- On Benton St. between Huidekoper and 39th Street, the sidewalk is dark because there are not enough light poles on that block especially on the north side. One or two additional light poles were discussed.
- The area around Stoddert Elementary School and at the entrance to the school are particularly dark and need to be evaluated to provide more lighting.
- The parkside on 42nd between New Mexico Avenue and Beecher is very dark and an area where thefts from auto are prevalent. DDOT needs to assess the area and propose solutions.
- DDOT should also assess the west side of W Place (towards Tunlaw) at the intersection of Hall Pl which is especially dark and dangerous for pedestrians due to uneven sidewalks.
- A one-way sign is needed on the west side of 37th facing the driveway exit from the Calvert Center/Domino's parking lot to prevent drivers from that parking lot from turning right.
- Softer LED lights will be used to replace the bright white ones when the old ones burn out. To report a burned-out light, residents should contact 311.
- Commissioner Howie mentioned the DC program that offers rebates for installation of outside cameras for homeowners that are connected to MPD. The link to the program is <https://ovsjg.dc.gov/page/private-security-camera-rebate-program>

Open Forum

- Sophie Cohen, Constituent Liaison in the Office of Congresswomen Eleanor Holmes Norton gave a presentation on the services available from their office. They are able to help with an issue involving a federal agency. Walk-in hours are 9 am-5 pm Monday through Thursday or inquiries

can be submitted online at <https://digitalprf.house.gov/AddressAuthentication?id=DC00> or constituents may call the office at 202 408 9041.

- Belinda Perry from the Office of Campaign Finance shared information about both traditional and public financing Fair Elections programs. Public financing is funded by DC residents only. It allows candidates more time to meet directly with constituents without the burden of fundraising. In the 2020 campaigns in DC, 31 candidates used the fair elections program in the primaries and 11 in the general election.
- Janelle Williams from the Department of Buildings gave an overview of the office services. DCDOB used to be part of the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs until October 2022 when it was split into two departments: Department of Buildings and Department of Licensing. DCDOB handles permitting and vacant and blighted buildings as their main focus. The Department of Licensing will present its services to the ANC in April.

Administrative Matters

- Commissioner Blumenthal asked if there were any comments on the draft minutes for January 2023. A motion was made to approve the minutes and it passed unanimously.
- Commissioner Bergmann gave the monthly financial reports for January 2023. There were no transactions in January. The beginning and ending balance is \$29,822.16.
- The Commission voted to approve changes the FY 23 budget to cover expenses for a Zoom account for ANC 3B and to hire a transcriber for meeting recordings.
- The ANC 3B bylaws will be updated to reflect the boundary changes and constitution of the Commission. Updated bylaws will be considered and voted upon at a future meeting.
- ANC 3B will invite DDOT to a future meeting to discuss traffic calming measures.

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 8:04 pm.

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 9, 2023 via Zoom