

Minutes – Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 4A
March 5, 2024 Regular Public Meeting

PLEASE NOTE: *In compliance with Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised, 11th Edition, §48, page 468, the minutes of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4A are a record of the actions taken by the Commission, not a record of what people said during the meeting. Accordingly, comments made by commissioners or members of the public will not be recorded in detail in the minutes.*

The meeting was held in person at Children’s National and virtually through Zoom. Commissioner Nelson called the meeting to order at 7:18 pm. A quorum was present, including the following Commissioners:

- Paula Edwards, 4A01
- Joan Hoyte, 4A02
- Christian Hara, 4A03
- Patience Singleton, 4A04 (joined later in meeting)
- Kimberly Patterson, 4A05
- Candace Tiana Nelson, 4A06
- Zack Bolton, 4A07

1. Approval of Administrative Matters

- a. Approval of the agenda was moved by Commissioner Nelson and seconded by Commissioner Bolton. Approved 6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions.
- b. Approval of February minutes was moved by Commissioner Nelson and seconded by Commissioner Bolton. Approved 6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions

2. Resolutions and Letters:

- a. Nile Ethiopian Settlement Agreement Amendment: Owner/interested parties not on meeting, requested to table to next meeting by Commissioner Edwards
- b. Settlement Agreement for Cork & Bottle: Owner/interested parties not on meeting, requested to table to next meeting by Commissioner Edwards

3. Presentations and Reports

- a. Sophia Tekola, Mayor’s Ward 4 MOCR, updated on public safety, updated on fire in 4A06; 29 residents were displaced, caused by a charging lithium battery, do not plug these into a regular outlet and leave them unattended.

- b. Barbara Rogers, office of Councilmember Lewis George, discussed SNAP benefits, Tacoma fitness center - reopened and updated hours, update on DC Crime Bill.
- c. State Board of Education Ward 4 Representative Frazier O'Leary discussed yesterday's vote to update the school report card, spoke at DGS hearing, passed financial literacy, reminded that teachers have been working without a contract since October, DCPS had 1st meeting with teachers union at 5am last week, State Board business meeting on March 20th, collecting books for pre-K through 8th grade.
- d. Erica Williams - Executive Director of DC Fiscal Policy Institute provided a presentation about their offices work. Commissioner Edwards inquired about budget tools (<https://www.dcfpi.org/all/a-residents-guide-to-the-dc-budget/>). Audience member asked if they look into property tax issues across the city, Erica responded in the affirmative.

4. Commissioner and Community Discussions

- a. DDOT NOI: Speed Reduction 16th St. and Alaska Ave. - Kelly Jeong-Olson: Strategic Communications Manager DDOT
 - i. Kelly presented about the proposed speed reductions from 30 mph to 25 mph
 - ii. Commissioner Bolton inquired about lack of enforcement of tickets for out-of-state offenders (MD and VA). Kelly explained that the Mayor's office is working with MD to try to increase enforcement
 - iii. Commissioner Edwards detailed joint enforcement along DC/MD line; 90+ tickets issued in a 3 hour period on a Tuesday.
 - iv. Community question about expected implementation timeline, Kelly stated that it should be implemented by September.
 - v. Commissioner Edwards moved a resolution for 4A to support the speed reductions in these areas, Commissioner Bolton seconded. VOTE 6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions PASSED

COMMISSIONER SINGLETON JOINED THE MEETING AT THIS POINT (4A04)

- b. BZA Case No. 21077 - Commissioner Hoyte
 - i. Commissioner Hoyte provided background of the case and the BZA special meeting where this issue was discussed.
 - ii. Commissioner Hoyte moved a resolution to support, Commissioner Edwards seconded. VOTE 7 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions PASSED
- c. BZA Case No. 21065 - Commissioner Patterson
 - i. Commissioner Patterson provided background of the case and the BZA case meeting where this was discussed.

- ii. Adam Crain, project architect, gave presentation. Owner Ethan Arnhem spoke
 - iii. Commissioner Singleton asked how this building would maintain the nature of the community
 - iv. Commissioner Patterson expressed that enormous concern about this building exists within the community. Neighbors want a nicely renovated single-family home instead of a large multi-unit apartment complex. Commissioner explained that the nature of the building and it's occupants are unclear and that the developer has not provided answers to numerous questions.
 - v. Ethan replied that the project is for a 9-unit building and that he doesn't expect that the occupants would all be voucher housing recipients.
 - vi. All residents who spoke were opposed to this project
 - vii. Commissioner Patterson moved a resolution that ANC 4A oppose this development. Commissioner Nelson seconded. VOTE 4A01 - aye, 4A02 - aye, 4A03 - aye, 4A04 - aye, 4A05 - aye, 4A06 - aye, 4A07 - aye. 7 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions PASSED
- d. BZA Case No. 20920 - Commissioner Nelson
 - i. Commissioner Nelson explained the background of the case and the BZA meeting where this issue was discussed.
 - ii. Toye Bello provided a presentation on a recent shadow study.
 - iii. Questions from the community were asked/answered
 - iv. Commissioner Nelson moved to 4A to support a letter opposing this BZA application, Commissioner Edwards seconded. VOTE 4A01: aye, 4A02: aye, 4A03: aye, 4A04: aye, 4A05: aye, 4A06: aye, 4A07: aye. 7 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions PASSED
 - e. BZA Case No. 21042 - Commissioner Edwards
 - i. Commissioner Edwards explained the background of the appeal and Mr. Bennett and property owner Jeremy Monteiro presented.
 - ii. Issues concerning the matter were discussed by both parties.
 - iii. Commissioner Edwards recommended that 4A take no action on this issue.

5. Community Concerns

- a. Commissioner Nelson provided updates on last weeks fire which displaced numerous residents.
- b. Commissioner Edwards notified of a blood drive at Shepard Park Christian Church March 14 12pm - 5pm

- c. Commissioner Hoyte updated on having spoken to chief of Tax and Revenue. They will join us at our next meeting to speak about tax lien sales on vacant properties in DC.
- d. Commissioner Bolton notified public about public hearing for Revenue Tax Bond program for National Links Trust on March 13.

The meeting adjourned at 10:03 pm.