



VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 4D January 18, 2023, 6:30 PM

The following is a recap of actions taken at the monthly public meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4D, which took place virtually on Wednesday, January 18, 2023

Commissioner Joy Pinkney (4D01) called the meeting to order at 6:34pm

COMMISSIONERS ROLL CALL

Commissioner Pinkney took roll. Commissioners Pinkney (4D01), Judson (4D02), Lucarelli (4D03), Marencic Jr. (4D05), George (4D06) and Pirrotti (4D08) were all present; Commissioners Courniotes (4D04) and Weigel (4D07) briefly had connection difficulties but were able to join the meeting very shortly after roll call. Quorum for the meeting was met.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner George requested two amendments to the draft agenda: lengthening the discussion of the ABRA permit for Golden Flower from 5 minutes to 10 minutes, and proposing a 10 minute time limit for the discussion of the new alley to be named in SMD 4D06. The Commission took a roll call vote to adopt the agenda as amended, with all 8 Commissioners voting to adopt, no Commissioners opposed.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Commissioner Pinkney opened the floor for nominations for the Commission's executive officers, which proceeded as follows.

- **Chair:** Anthony Pirrotti (4D08), nominated by Commissioner George. No other nominations.
- **Vice-Chair:** Kate Judson (4D02), nominated by Commissioner Courniotes. No other nominations.
- **Secretary:** Aman T. George (4D06), nominated by Commissioner Pirrotti. No other nominations.
- **Treasurer:** Chrystanthe "CC" Courniotes (4D04), nominated by Commissioner George. No other nominations.

As all four executive positions only had one nominee each, the Commission took a roll call vote on the four positions as a slate. All 8 Commissioners voted to elect the slate of nominees, with no Commissioners opposed. Commissioner Pirrotti assumed his new role conducted the rest of the meeting as the Commission's new Chair.

Each Commissioner briefly introduced themselves and described their district boundaries to those in attendance.

SECRETARY MINUTES

Commissioner George moved to finalize the minutes of the prior Commission's December 21, 2022 public meeting. No Commissioner proposed any edits or changes to the draft minutes, and the Commission unanimously consented to adopting and finalizing the draft minutes.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Commissioner Courniotes provided a brief overview of the Commission's FY2023 Q1 Financial Report, noting that the Commission has a current balance of \$9,000, and hopes to continue to be able to provide ongoing funding for various grand projects as we move through the year. Commissioner Courniotes opened the floor to questions from other Commissioners or the public, but no questions were asked. Commissioner Pinkney moved to adopt the FY2023 Q1 Financial Report; Commissioner Marencic seconded the motion. The Commission took a roll call vote, in which all 8 Commissioners voted to adopt the report, with no Commissioners opposed.

Commissioner Courniotes also explained the 2023 ANC Security Fund, which exists to provide security to the District's and ANCs' finances in case of financial malfeasance by any Commission. Participation in the ANC Security Fund requires a \$50 annual payment from each Commission.

Commissioner Pinkney asked whether the fee and participation was required or optional; Commissioner Courniotes confirmed that it is a requirement for all Commissions. Commissioner Pirrotti moved to vote to approve a resolution for Commission 4D to participate in the 2023 ANC Security Fund. The Commission took a roll call vote, in which all 8 Commissioners voted to adopt the resolution, with no Commissioners opposed.

2023 MEETING SCHEDULE FOR ANC 4D AND JANUARY 2024 PUBLIC MEETING DATE FOR ANC 4D

Commissioner Pirrotti proposed a public meeting schedule for the Commission through 2023 and into January 2024. Commissioner Pirrotti's proposal was to continue the prior Commission's practice of holding public meetings on the third Wednesday of every month at 6:30pm, i.e., with public meetings on Feb. 15, Mar. 15, Apr. 19, May 17, June 15, July 19, Sept. 20, Oct. 18, Nov. 15, Dec. 20, and Jan. 18 2024, but no public meeting in the month of August.

Commissioner Pirrotti moved to adopt this meeting schedule; Commissioner Marencic seconded the motion. The Commission took a roll call vote, in which all 8 Commissioners voted to adopt the meeting schedule, with no Commissioners opposed.

CITY OFFICIAL COMMENTS

- a. **MPD:** No representative present
- b. **Ward 4 MOCR:** Mayor Bowser's new Ward 4 Representative for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations (MOCR), Ms. Sophia Tekola, joined the public meeting, provided her contact information, described her role, and took questions from the Commission and the public. Ms. Tekola can be reached at Sophia.tekola@dc.gov, or (202) 436-2087.
 - a. The MOCR Representative's role is to help elevate community issues and concerns to the mayor's team and city agencies as needed, and be liaison between the community and the Mayor in rapid response situations such as fires or homicides.
 - b. Commissioners Lucarelli and George requested an update from the District's agencies concerning public safety projects on Kennedy Street. They noted that during a public safety meeting in March 2022, prior Commissioners, members of the public, and representatives from district agencies agreed to a lengthy list of projects that could be undertaken in the area to try and improve public safety. The prior Commission inquired about the status of these projects in

the Commission's November 16, 2022 meeting, and the new Commission requested an update from Ms. Tekola and District agencies.

- c. A neighborhood resident requested more consistent engagement from DDOT to proactively and regularly undertake parking enforcement in the neighborhood, particularly in the vicinity of known areas of concern for public safety.
 - d. Commissioner Judson asked about the violence interrupters program, and Ms. Tekola noted that she is working on meeting with the representatives of the program focused on areas of concern within 4D.
 - e. Commissioner Courniotes emphasized the need to address additional types of crime that have been a persistent problem, such as vandalism.
- c. **Ward 4 Councilmember's Office:** Two members of Councilmember Lewis-George's office, Eskedar Girmash and Barbara Rogers, the CM's new Community Engagement Director, joined the public meeting.
- a. Ms. Girmash shared her contact information for the community (egirmash@dccouncil.gov, (202) 531-8320) and encouraged the community to sign up to receive the CM's weekly newsletter at www.ward4news.com. She shared that CM Lewis-George will be beginning "Listen as We Climb" sessions, opportunities for community members in a variety of different Ward 4 neighborhoods to share their priorities with the CM. The full list of sessions can be found at <https://janeeseward4.com/listen>; the session for Petworth and Brightwood Park specifically is scheduled for Monday, Jan. 30 at 6:30pm.
 - b. Ms. Rogers introduced herself, and provided her contact information (brogers@dccouncil.gov, (202) 288-9820). Ms. Rogers is a former Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner from what used to be SMD 4B08. She shared CM Lewis-George's new committee assignment as chair of the DC Council's Facilities and Family Services Committee, giving the CM oversight of the Department of General Services, Department of Buildings (formerly part of DCRA), Child & Family Services Agency, and Department of Disability Services. Ward 4 constituents who have particular needs in those agencies may raise concerns to the CM's team directly.
- d. **Ward 4 SBOE:** Invited but no representative was available to attend.

COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Commissioner Pinkney noted that the lottery for DC Public Schools is open, as well as the lottery for educational programming for seniors. She also noted that DC's waiting lists for housing have been opening and beginning to move more residents off the waiting list and into housing.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Comments shared:

- One resident highlighted the ongoing consideration by DC Public Libraries of allocating resources for an additional public library in Ward 4, specifically in Brightwood Park. The resident noted that this community has traditionally been underserved, while the Petworth Library is overcrowded. DC Public Library currently has a survey open to consider feedback from the community about these plans, that can be accessed at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MLZNRMV>, and the resident encouraged community members to participate. Commissioner Israel noted that ANC 4D has previously passed a [resolution](#) supporting a new library in Brightwood Park.
- Another resident shared ongoing concerns about inadequate repaving work in her alley that has left her parking spot inaccessible, with the District unable to commit to timely remediation.

OLD BUSINESS

| MATTER | COMM. | TIME LIMIT |
|--|---------------|-------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ABRA-123562: Application for Retailer’s Class “C” Tavern License for Golden Flour (441 Kennedy St NW) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Commissioner Judson introduced Niesha Williams, owner of Golden Flour, a bakery, coffee shop, and gathering place aiming to bring fresh, locally-sourced, organic food to the neighborhood. ○ Golden Flour is a Class “C” Tavern with a Seating Capacity of 25, Total Occupancy Load of 25, and Sidewalk Café with 10 seats. ○ Golden Flour’s normal hours of operation are 6am-7pm M-F (6am-9pm in the summer), 6am-2pm on Sat, and closed on Sundays. ○ The bakery seeks an ABRA License that covers an expanded range of hours that is intended to allow Golden Flour flexibility for special occasions and events, rather than indicate their intended normal hours of serving alcohol: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Indoors: Su-Thu (10a-2a), Fri-Sa (10a-3a) ▪ Outdoors: Su-Thu (11a-10p), Fri-Sa (11a-11p) ○ Commissioner Lucarelli asked about ingress/egress and capacity management: Ms. Williams explained that the business has two doors which both open out to Kennedy St., with no rear alley entrance. Ms. Williams noted that the door is managed to ensure that the indoor area does not exceed capacity. ○ Protest petition deadline: February 6, 2023 ○ Roll Call hearing date: February 27, 2023 ○ Protest hearing date: April 26, 2023 • Mariachi Grill & Bar, 5217 Georgia Ave – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Given ongoing concerns about the ABRA application (ABRA-122495) for this restaurant and the fact that the proprietor (Mr. Zi Russell) was able to join, Commissioner Pirrotti moved to briefly discuss the proposed hours with the proprietor, and no Commissioners opposed. ○ Mr. Russell noted that while the initial application had requested a closing time of 3am during the week and 4am Friday/Saturday, he is open to closing at 3am on Fri/Sat. ○ Commissioner Pirrotti proposed a full discussion of this ABRA Application at the Commission’s February 2023 meeting to discuss a potential settlement agreement with ABRA and any additional concerns. | <p>Judson</p> | <p>10 minutes</p> |

NEW BUSINESS

| MATTER | COMM. | TIME LIMIT |
|---|--------|------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renaming Alley in SMD 4D06 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Commissioner George introduced a new project in SMD4D06, which seeks to build two new single family homes on vacant lots in the alley between Georgia Ave, 9th St, Buchanan St, and Crittenden St. NW. ○ The architect leading the work, Andrew Linn, joined the public meeting to introduce the project and explain the process of giving the alley an official name. His contact information is andrew@bld.us, (404) 518-2107. ○ An official alley name is needed for government services such as trash pickup and mail; Mr. Linn also noted that in his experience official designations has made it easier to direct city services to address concerns in the District’s alleys. ○ The alley needs to be named after a deceased person, but beyond that is a matter largely of community input. ○ Mr. Linn noted that in the past, his firm has helped name alleys after under-recognized female artists & activists from the District, and has some ideas in that regard, but would be most interested in additional ideas for individuals of special significance to the local community. ○ Mr. Linn asked that community members with ideas for appropriate alley names share them with him in the next month (by Feb. 18). He will then seek input from the neighbors on the alley about their favorite options, and share that input with the ANC and CM Lewis-George’s office. Ultimately, any alley name will be proposed by CM Lewis-George and voted on by the DC Council. ○ In terms of the project itself, the development is by-right, with no plan to seek exemptions from the zoning requirements. ○ The design process for the homes has not yet been completed and design plans have yet to be submitted to the District. ○ The vacant lots in question have periodically attracted illegal dumping in the neighborhood; Mr. Linn asked neighbors to reach out to him when this occurs so he can coordinate cleanup of dumped materials. ○ While the construction is by right, Mr. Linn emphasized a desire to be aware of specific concerns from neighbors to help him ensure that the construction process is as smooth and considerate as reasonably possible. | George | 10 minutes |

ADJOURNMENT

Having reached the end of the agenda, Commissioner Pirrotti moved to adjourn the meeting, which the Commission agreed to by unanimous consent, and adjourned at 8:40pm

2022 – 2023 ANC 4D COMMISSIONERS*

| Single Member District (SMD) | Commissioner | Email | Phone |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|----------------|
| 4D01 | Joy Pinkney | 4D01@anc.dc.gov | (202) 505-1440 |
| 4D02 | Kate Judson | 4D02@anc.dc.gov | (202) 573-9255 |
| 4D03 | Carson Lucarelli | 4D03@anc.dc.gov | (202) 713-5108 |
| 4D04 | Chrysanthe "CC" Courniotes | 4D04@anc.dc.gov | (202) 630-4337 |
| 4D05 | Stephen Marencic Jr. | 4D05@anc.dc.gov | (202) 681-9659 |
| 4D06 | Aman T. George | 4D06@anc.dc.gov | (202) 681-5141 |
| 4D07 | J. Clark Weigel | 4D07@anc.dc.gov | (202) 599-1916 |
| 4D08 | Anthony Pirrotti | 4D08@anc.dc.gov | (202) 753-9949 |