



VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 4D Wednesday, May 17, 2023, 6:30 PM

1. Call to order (Pirrotti)

- a. Started at 6:32pm

2. Roll Call (George)

- a. Present for roll call were Commissioners:

- Judson (4D02)
- Lucarelli (4D03)
- Courniotes (4D04)
- Marencic (4D05)
- George (4D06)
- Weigel (4D07)
- Pirrotti (4D08)

- b. Commissioner Pinkney (4D01) joined shortly thereafter

3. Determination of quorum (Pirrotti)

Quorum was reached

4. Approval of agenda (Pirrotti)

- a. Commissioner Pirrotti moved to approve the agenda, Commissioner Pinkney seconded, and the motion passed unanimously

5. Approval of April 2023 ANC 4D Public Meeting Minutes (George)

- a. Commissioner George moved to adopt the draft meeting minutes from ANC 4D's April 2023 public meeting with no edits
- b. This motion passed by unanimous consent

6. Treasurer's Report (Courniotes)

- Commissioner Courniotes reported that the ANC is able to write checks, and has a balance of \$8,994.42. We intend to begin issuing new grants in Q3 and Q4 of this year.

7. City Official Comments (Pirrotti)

- a. Ward 4 MOCR [5 min. presentation / 5 min. Q&A] – Derek Johnson
 - Derek Johnson from the Mayor's Office of Community Relations informed the community about a variety of upcoming events, and advertised DPR's walking club, targeted at seniors hoping to stay active with a community
 - He reminded the community about DPW's helping hands program, providing an opportunity to clean up the neighborhood; DPW lends cleaning supplies like rakes, trash bags

- Mr. Johnson was asked about more stock of dog waste bags, at Lorenzo Allen Park specifically but also more generally.
- b. DC Smart Street Lighting (Ashley Wells)
- DC's Smart Street Lighting project (<https://streetlights.dc.gov/>) gave a presentation about the rolling modernization of street lights, which will replace almost every light fixture in DC (>76,000 lights)
 - Installation will require emergency no parking so that work crews can install lights. The hope/expectation is that the work on any particular street will take no more than a day to minimize disruption.
 - ANC notification of forthcoming installation will happen 45 days before the start of work.
 - Project team can be reached at info@dcsmartstreetlights.com
- c. CARE Project (Arianna Gard) - arigard@umd.edu
- Professor Gard presented on her research linking geography to health and wellbeing; a version of her presentation can be found [here](#).
 - Her work tries to identify at a very granular level, even block to block, how neighborhoods and communities are feeling and perceiving their well-being. She is happy to share data and talk about findings if community members are interested in putting the data to use.
- d. MPD – Commander Carlos Heraud
- Commander Heraud presented for over an hour and took questions concerning public safety, in part in response to a recent spate of gunfire near Sherman Circle, including a homicide on Decatur St.
 - Homicide on the 900 block of Decatur
 1. MPD doesn't currently have leads on the suspects. They believe they recovered the vehicle that was used, but it was stolen so not that helpful. They do not know whether the victim was the intended target or what the motive for the shooting was.
 2. MPD had not previously been treating this house as "on their radar" as being problematic, as they hadn't had incidents reported at the house in CY 2023.
 - Our neighborhood more broadly
 1. Cmr Heraud agreed that MPD is seeing a worrying uptick in gunfire around 9th and Decatur.
 2. MPD is devoting more resources to this area, at least for now. They currently have patrol cars who are supposed to be basically circling the area a block around 9th & Decatur at all times when they are not on call.
 3. MPD has asked for a new CCTV camera for this area (to replace the current light tower). But they also note that they have heard from some residents that they don't want a CCTV camera. Not sure if/when it will happen; CM Lewis George secured funding for 6 new cameras in Ward 4 in this year's budget, so once the budget is finalized there will be a process of gathering community & ANC feedback about camera locations (along with using MPD's data to inform).
 4. Cmr Heraud not sure about the driver of the recent uptick in violence, but noted his perspective that most violence in our neighborhood is about beefs between gangs (typically Crittenden and Kennedy)
 - Broader policy challenges & responses around public safety
 1. MPD gets the feedback a lot to do more foot patrols and be out of cars more. They are currently piloting this on Kennedy St and are aware it's a priority for the community. Resource constraints make it difficult to dramatically expand this

process because officers on foot patrol & doing community engagement aren't as fast to respond to 911 calls.

2. The lack of an accredited crime lab in DC makes evidence processing slower and more expensive.
 3. MPD resources are strained. 4th District staffing levels are down ~15% (~80 officers) from where they were a few years ago.
 4. Cmr Heraud shared his view that consequences for bad behavior are nonexistent for too many people. He is very concerned that 67% of MPD arrests go uncharged by USAO. He believes there aren't reliable consequences for youths for truancy or for criminal behavior, nor consequences for their parents. He said he would like to see more community service for juveniles that doesn't involve incarceration or crippling financial burdens for their family.
 5. Cmr. Heraud wants citizens to be aware of and engaged with the city's legislative changes around criminal justice policy and weigh in.
- Citizen engagement
 1. Call 911 when you hear gunshots, even if you're not sure exactly where they're coming from
 2. MPD welcomes tips/emails/outreach about problems we see in the neighborhood. Cmr Heraud noted that his emails (carlos.heraud@dc.gov; you can also reach Captain John Terry, john.terry@dc.gov) are open. But he also recommended that neighbors use 911, as those calls more reliably feed into DC's databases about things like nuisance properties, and 911 calls are anonymous (whereas emails to MPD could come out in discovery during a case)
 3. Cmr Heraud discussed environmental factors that may help deter violent crime, residents can play a part in these, such as making sure streetlights are functional, trash is cleared, areas are well-lit, porch lights are on, brushes & hedges are cleared, Ring cameras are installed. He's skeptical of speed bumps making a difference because of how common it is now to use stolen cars in the commission of crimes.

8. Community Comments [limited to 2min each, please] (Pirrotti)

- a. Bryan Weaver, the new director for Petworth Main St. introduced himself, and provided some updates:
 - Starting the Petworth Small Business challenge right now - \$5,000 grants for local small businesses. Grants for upper Petworth & Upshur. He encourages applications for things like beautification, setting up businesses on Kennedy St., sprucing up sidewalk cafes.
 - On June 23, we'll have another Main St and Community movie night – local vendors, Ice Cream, Half Shell French fries. Local mobile library. Around 6pm; movie starts after dark.

9. Committee Updates

- a. Public Safety (Judson & Weigel)
 - Looking to recruit members for public safety committee
 - Goal is to meet weekly or biweekly
- b. Transportation & Vision Zero (Lucarelli & Marencic)
 - Hope to meet in June
- c. Public Facilities

- Funding for Kennedy St library was approved; effective May 30, we will get to see the final budget - \$5 Million for site acquisition
 - Starting 2024, every June 1, the commissions will receive a general update on the acquisition process
 - Working with Library Board
 - DCPL has officially changed the name of the new library project from Ward 4A, it's now just called Ward 4 library project
- d. Environment & Public Health (Courniotes and Weigel)
- Some overlap with public safety
 - Aim to hold first meeting in June
 - Actively recruiting members
 - City rat abatement team is excellent
 - Ward 4 was the first ward to maximize signups for composting

10. Commissioner Announcements (Pirrotti)

- a. Next meetings: Executive meeting June 7, Public meeting June 21
- b. Lucarelli – working on noise complaints re: Mariachi Grill
- c. George:
 - Petworth Arts Fest & Teddy Bear Picnic on Saturday May 20
 - Upcoming community meeting re: pedestrian, bike and traffic safety at the intersection of 8th, Allison and Kansas

11. Old Business

MATTER	COMM.	TIME LIMIT

12. New Business

MATTER	COMM.	TIME LIMIT
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13. Adjournment (Pirrotti)

- a. Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Pirrotti; Commissioner Lucarelli seconded. The motion was approved unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 8:55pm.

2023 – 2024 ANC 4D COMMISSIONERS

Single Member District (SMD)	Commissioner	Email	Phone
4D01	Joy Pinkney	4D01@anc.dc.gov	(202) 505-1440
4D02	Kate Judson (Vice-Chair)	4D02@anc.dc.gov	(202) 573-9255

4D03	Carson Lucarelli	4D03@anc.dc.gov	(202) 713-5108
4D04	Chrysanthe "CC" Courniotes (Treasurer)	4D04@anc.dc.gov	(202) 630-4337
4D05	Stephen Marencic Jr.	4D05@anc.dc.gov	(202) 681-9659
4D06	Aman T. George (Secretary)	4D06@anc.dc.gov	(202) 681-5141
4D07	J. Clark Weigel	4D07@anc.dc.gov	(202) 599-1916
4D08	Anthony Pirrotti (Chair)	4D08@anc.dc.gov	(202) 753-9949