

Monthly Public Meeting

Tuesday, March 11, 2025 at 7:00 pm 371 Morse St. NE, Washington, DC 20002

STANDING REPORTS & ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

Welcome & Reports

Call to Order & Roll Call, Comm. Rhodes

Present: Arbuckle (joined late), Rhodes, Roblin, McCray, McCullum, Green-Campbell

Absent: Sauceda-Guzman, Holsendorf

The single member district seat (SMD) 5D04 in central Trinidad is currently vacant. Any residents of that SMD who are interested in serving as commissioner should contact the OANC. You can use this tool to determine your SMD.

Adoption of the Agenda

Comm. Roblin moved to amend the agenda to add a letter of authorization from the ANC. Second McCullum. Vote: 5-0-0

Comm. Rhodes moved to adopt the agenda as amended. Second McCullum.

Vote:

SMD	Vote
5D01	Absent
5D02	Y
5D03	Y
5D04	Vacant

The next regularly scheduled, public meeting will begin at 7PM on Tuesday, March 11, 2025.

ANC 5D	5D01: Hector Arbuckle	5D02: Sebrena Rhodes	5D03: Anna Roblin
Commissioners	5D04: VACANT	5D05: S. Sauceda-Guzman	5D06: Charquinta McCray
2023-2024	5D07: Juan McCullum	5D08: Juanita Holsendorf	5D09: Crystal Green-Campbell

Treasurer's Reports

February 2025 Monthly Report

The balance at the beginning of February was \$56,482.53. The balance at the end of February was \$56,482.53. There were no expenditures in February.

Committee Reports

Trash & Beautification Committee

There will be a big cleanup and community event on Saturday, April 26, spearheaded by Comm. McCray; the committee is hoping to have a cleanup in every single member district in ANC 5D. Comm. Roblin shared several ways ANC 5D residents can work to keep the neighborhood clean:

- 1. Adopt a Block Anyone can do this, and it just means you work to take care of that block.
- 2. Consider hanging a trash bag from your front gate for folks who are walking by.
- 3. Take care of the area around your house/condo/apartment building. Contact your ANC commissioner if there are ongoing issues with trash around apartment buildings. The commissioner can help build relationships with the building management and DPW to address the problem.

A community member raised the issue of people not picking up dog poop while walking their dogs, as well as issues with trash cans full of regular trash *and* bags of dog poop. Comm. Rhodes agreed that this is a problem and shared that dog poop is also problematic because it attracts rats. She suggested having block captains and communicating directly with people with dogs to ask that they pick up the poop. The ANC can get poop bags from the Mayor's Office and distribute them, but this is a tough issue. Comm. Sauceda-Guzman had previously been working on getting more pet waste receptacles installed in ANC 5D and that effort can be revisited. Comm. Roblin shared that there are also "no dog poop" signs that the ANC can get from the city, though the city has been out of those particular signs.

Committee on Environmental Justice

Comm. Rhodes shared that the committee is working on making sure that everyone is submitting 311 requests for illegal dumping, abandoned cars, and rodent issues. You can contact the Dept. of Health for assistance if you see rats. To prevent mosquitos, please make sure there is no standing water.

Transportation Committee

The first meeting was held in February; there will be more updates to share in future meetings.

At 7:27, there were 15 attendees on Zoom. This was a hybrid meeting; there were also community members attending in-person at the ANC 5D community space at 371 Morse St. NE.

Standing Presentations

Commissioner Reports (3 Minutes Each)

Comm. Arbuckle (5D01 - Union Market): Absent. 5D01@anc.dc.gov

Comm. Rhodes (5D02 – Ivy City): Comm. Rhodes shared that she is working with city officials on the resiliency strategy plan to mitigate historic heat and flooding in Ivy City. The first office hours were on March 11, and the next office hours will be March 22, 12-2 PM and then March 26, 6-7 PM, both days at 1900 Capitol Ave. NE. She also shared that the Community Engagement session with the DC Department of Human Services about the new men's shelter will be March 27, 6-8 PM at 530 Penn St NE. Comm. Rhodes also reminded residents to please pick up their trash. 5D02@anc.dc.gov

Comm. Roblin (5D03 – southern Trinidad): Comm. Roblin shared that the group that worked on the Trinidad History and Future Fest in 2024 is gathering to discuss the community feedback from that event, to work on those issues. Please contact Comm. Roblin if you're interested in joining that group. Comm. Roblin also reminded folks that ANC 5D has cleanup tools that residents can borrow for up to seven days: trash pickers, bags, brooms, rakes, and dustpans. Contact your ANC SMD commissioner to arrange to borrow any of the tools for your own cleanup; the tools are stored in the 5D Community Space at 371 Morse St. NE, and a commissioner can meet you at that location to facilitate access. 5D03@anc.dc.gov

5D04 – central Trinidad: This seat is currently vacant - for any issues in this SMD, reach out to the chair of ANC 5D (Comm. Sauceda-Guzman) until someone is sworn in as 5D04 commissioner. Any residents of that SMD who are interested in serving as commissioner should <u>contact the OANC</u>. You can use <u>this tool</u> to determine your SMD.

Comm. Sauceda-Guzman (5D05 – northern Trinidad): Absent. 5D05@anc.dc.gov

Comm. McCray (5D06 – parts of Trinidad & Carver-Langston): Comm. McCray shared that she held an initial cleanup in the community on March 1st, with the goal of kicking off spring. She hopes to continue those cleanups monthly at a minimum, and there will be a much bigger cleanup event across 5D on April 26. She will share more in March about that event, and more information will be sent out via the 5D email list.

The plan is to have a community day with local organizations after the cleanup activities, in the parking lot of the former CVS on Bladensburg. Comm. McCray shared that she has heard lots of concerts around trash, illegal dumping, and rats from her neighbors, so she is working to connect with DPW and others to get the situation under control given that the weather is warming up which will make things worse. Commissioner Charquinta (Char) McCray for ANC5D06 | Linktree. 5D06@anc.dc.gov (202) 569-8417

Comm. McCullum (5D07 – parts of Trinidad & Carver-Langston): Comm. McCullum shared that he is working with city officials on resolving issues of illegal dumping in alleyways and will be working with other commissioners to ensure this problem doesn't simply move around to different areas of 5D. He is also concerned about dog waste in the community and echoed that this is a big issue in our community and he is happy to take this issue to DPW and DC council members. Comm. McCullum also shared that there have been ongoing issues with construction vehicles being parked where they are not allowed to park (in public spaces without proper permits). He requested that community members who see this taking place - particularly on H St. NE between 17th and 19th Sts. - call, email, or text him to make him aware so he can take action to stop this from happening. He has already worked with Council Member McDuffie's office on this issue recently. 5D07@anc.dc.gov

Comm. Holsendorf (5D08 – northern Carver-Langston): Absent. 5D08@anc.dc.gov

Comm. Green-Campbell (5D09 – eastern Carver-Langston): Comm. Green-Campbell shared that while illegal dumping hasn't been an issue lately in her district, she is dealing with rats. She shared that she will be doing the walk on Education Hill at the end of March - there are ongoing issues with workers and teachers in the area taking resident parking. Even when there are signs posted, Parking Enforcement has not come out to give tickets. Comm. Green-Campbell also shared that she will be working with Comm. Sauceda-Guzman on the Safety Committee regarding ways to get information from city officials, MPD, first responders, and others so that information can be passed onto residents when events like shootings or fires occur. 5D09@anc.dc.gov

Public Safety Report: Lieutenant Reinaldo Otero, MPD

Lieutenant Otero shared that compared to the same period last year, in the past month property crimes have gone up. In the last two weeks, however, MPD has made multiple arrests, including arresting two out of the three members of a crew going around in the black Hyundai committing burglaries, robberies, and theft from autos. Violent crime has gone down. The lieutenant shared that he is aware that there have been many issues on Okie St in Ivy City; MPD is trying to get lights and cameras up so they can monitor and identify suspects.

Lieutenant Otero stated that MPD will issue citations for not picking up dog waste, if they are able to identify the perpetrator. He recommended that residents contact 311 if they see dog waste, as 311 can help direct them appropriately. He shared that the process of these calls being transferred from 311 operators to MPD is complicated - the calls don't always get transferred - but he is going to seek clarification because MPD is able to issue fines for illegal dumping and dog waste.

Executive Office of the Mayor: Christian Starghill, Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS)

Ms. Starghill shared that MOCRS is working with Comm. Rhodes to assess concerns and provide assistance around 1850-1854 Kendall St. NE and security issues at the Crummell School. If you see someone entering the gate of the school, please contact MPD, MOCRS, and/or Comm. Rhodes to let them know. DCHR will be holding a federal employee resources and hiring fair for recently laid off federal workers and federal contractors, and the Mayor has prepared resources available online as well. Also, Ms. Starghill is available Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays to meet with commissioners and residents regarding issues in the community.

Ward 5 Councilmember's Office: Oliver Stoute, Constituent Services Director

Mr. Stoute introduced Ms. Adrianna Lovelace, the new Constituent Services Coordinator for Ward 5 Councilmember Zachary Parker. Ms. Lovelace is currently shadowing Mr. Stoute as she comes on-board, and she actually grew up in - and lives in - ANC 5D, in Trinidad! Mr. Stoute shared updates on the national political situation and how it is affecting DC due to cuts that would need to be made if Congress does not act. Councilmember Parker's office encouraged residents to call senators from across the country to press them to act on this issue. The office also has resources, including scripts, available online that can be used for those calls. The Ward 5 Awards Ceremony will be at Ivy City Smokehouse tomorrow evening at 7 PM - this event recognizes community members who have gone above and beyond for residents.

Mr. Stoute also shared that he serves as a key resource around public safety issues, and if commissioners are having any issues getting information about events that have occurred or are occurring in their neighborhood, they can contact him for assistance.

COMMISSION ACTIONS

Requested Presentations

DPR Spring and Summer Programming, Christopher Dyer (DPR)

Mr. Dyer is the community engagement manager for the DC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) and a primary point of contact at the agency. Mr. Dyer shared general information about DPR as well as resources, including websites.

- DPR provides reduced rates on fee-based programs for qualifying families.
- The summer camp lottery has been completed.
- If you see issues at parks, dog parks, playgrounds, or any other DPR space, please submit a request through 311! If the issue is at a recreation center, you can also notify the staff at the facility.
- There is a survey residents can complete about the park that will be going in at 19th and L Sts. NE. It's very important for residents to complete the survey so their voices are heard regarding what they would like at the park.
- Comm. McCullum raised an ongoing issue regarding children visiting from out of state and their access to DPR facilities and camps. If possible, families should add children to the DC resident's account. If this is an issue, please contact Mr. Dyer.

Mr. Dyer can be reached at Christopher. Dyer@dc.gov or (202)702-9453 (mobile).

National Arboretum Connector Project, Rayisha Quarrie

Mr. David Balick with DDOT and colleagues shared updates on the Anacostia River Trail: Arboretum Bridge to Maryland Avenue Connector Feasibility Study. The study is assessing the area around the Langston Golf Course and the National Arboretum, to assess the possibility of connecting Maryland Ave. at M St. NE in Carver-Langston with the future Anacostia River Trail bridge that will be built starting in 2026 (to connect the Anacostia River Trail to the National Arboretum). A major challenge is land ownership where the proposed trail would be: the National Arboretum land is owned by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, while the Langston Golf Course land is owned by the National Park Service. The study team presented several options for the trail and is still seeking feedback to guide the ongoing feasibility study and design development. More information here.

Consent Calendar Items

There were three consent calendar items:

- 1. <u>Internet & Correspondence Payment</u> to fund Verizon, MailChimp, and GoDaddy annual expenses.
- Admin Personnel Timesheet Approval to pay the administrative personnel for work completed in February.
- 3. <u>Community Storage Organizers Purchase</u> to purchase equipment to organize the trash pick-up tools within the ANC 5D community space.

For consent calendar items, if all commissioners agree, the items can all be approved with a single vote. Comm. Rhodes motioned to accept all three of the consent calendar items. Second Roblin.

Vote:

SMD	Vote
5D01	Absent
5D02	Y
5D03	Y
5D04	Vacant
5D05	Absent
5D06	Y
5D07	Y
5D08	Absent
5D09	Y
Tally	5-0-0

Voting Actions

Resolution: Reduction in Gun Violence

Comm. McCray brought this resolution to the floor. It is a letter to DC leaders urging the DC City Council to address gun violence through a coordinated, comprehensive, evidence-based, health-centered, equitable approach. The letter was first written by ANC 5F, and they have passed the resolution; this would provide further backing for the resolution and overall approach to addressing gun violence.

Comm. McCray moved that ANC 5D pass the resolution. Second Roblin.

Vote:

SMD	Vote
5D01	Absent
5D02	Y
5D03	Y
5D04	Vacant
5D05	Absent
5D06	Y
5D07	Y
5D08	Absent
5D09	Y
Tally	5-0-0

Letter of Authorization

Comm. Roblin moved that the ANC allow her February 26 testimony on BZA #21220 (1154 Morse St NE) to represent the Commission. Second Rhodes.

This BZA matter came before the ANC at the February public meeting, and the commissioners voted to oppose the zoning relief that the developers were seeking. Comm. Roblin spoke in February, and she was instructed by the BZA to get formal approval to speak on behalf of the ANC, since the matter was under a

continuance. Comm. Roblin testified that the community is completely against the development, in large part because the developers plan on turning the property into three condos, in addition to the issues with garage encroachment. The community - and Comm. Roblin - would also like the BZA to consider gentrification as a factor when reviewing zoning matters.

Comm. McCullum stated that he doesn't believe this has to be a voting matter; if Comm. Rhodes is comfortable with it then she can sign off on it.

Comm. Arbuckle arrived at the meeting and was present for the following items.

Hire: ANC 5D Administrative Personnel

During the February Committee of the Whole (COW) meeting, commissioners discussed applicants for the administrative assistant position. The 2024 administrative assistant, Andie Vaught, had applied for the position again, and there was another applicant, Rob Hofmann. Because there are a variety of administrative tasks, including a lot of ongoing communications needs, the commissioners discussed hiring Rob as a social media project manager in addition to rehiring Andie administrative assistant. ANC 5D does have the funds to support both positions. More information is included in the proposal: https://example.com/hiring-andieam-needs/, the commissioners discussed hiring Rob as a social media project manager in addition to rehiring Andie administrative assistant. ANC 5D does have the funds to support both positions. More information is included in the proposal: Hire: ANC 5D Administrative

The commissioners discussed increasing the hourly rate for the social media project manager, which had been listed in the proposal as \$25 per hour, to \$27 per hour to be equal to the hourly rate for the administrative assistant.

Comm. Roblin moved to change the \$25 hourly rate to \$27 for Rob Hofmann. Second Rhodes.

Vote:

SMD	Vote
5D01	N
5D02	Y
5D03	Y
5D04	Vacant
5D05	Absent
5D06	Y
5D07	N
5D08	Absent
5D09	Y

Tally	4-2-0

With the proposal amended, the commissioners then voted on the overall hire proposal.

Comm. McCray moved to rehire Andie Vaught as the administrative assistant at the hourly rate of \$27 and monthly salary cap of \$750, and also hire Rob Hofmann as a social media project manager at the hourly rate of \$27 and monthly salary cap of \$750. Second Arbuckle.

Vote:

SMD	Vote
5D01	Y
5D02	Y
5D03	Y
5D04	Vacant
5D05	Absent
5D06	Y
5D07	Y
5D08	Absent
5D09	Y
Tally	6-0-0

Adoption of the Minutes

Comm. Arbuckle moved to adopt the draft meeting minutes, drafted by Andie Vaught and attached to the agenda, as the official meeting minutes for February 2025. Second McCullum.

Vote:

SMD	Vote
5D01	Y
5D02	Y
5D03	Y
5D04	Vacant

5D05	Absent
5D06	Y
5D07	Y
5D08	Absent
5D09	Y
Tally	6-0-0

Community Feedback & Questions

A community member shared that a pizza shop on Benning Rd. was on fire. Commissioners planned to investigate what was occurring.

9:48 Adjournment

Comm. McCray moved to adjourn the meeting. Second Rhodes. Vote 6-0-0.