



**THE MINUTES OF THE
MARCH 19, 2025 REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSION**

Call to Order

The meeting was held virtually via Zoom. Commissioner Jeremy Sherman called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM. In accordance with D.C. Official Code §§ 1-207.42 and 1-309.11(c) the meeting was properly noticed in advance and open to the public.

Roll Call & Determination of Quorum

Commissioner Jaspal Bhatia was designated as Acting Secretary in the absence of the Secretary. He then proceeded with the roll call

The following Commissioners were marked as “present”:

- SMD 1A01 – Jaspal Bhatia
- SMD 1A02 – Dieter Lehmann Morales
- SMD 1A04 – Jeremy Sherman
- SMD 1A05 – Christine Miller
- SMD 1A06 – Anthony Thomas-Davis
- SMD 1A08 – Shira Davidson
- SMD 1A09 – Jake Knoll

Commissioner Sherman moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Thomas-Davis raised a parliamentary inquiry noting that minutes may not be included in the consent agenda and must be approved separately.

Commissioner Miller moved to add a letter to keep the PKEEP program to the agenda under new business. Motion was approved my unanimous consent.

Commissioner Knoll moved to strike R25-0011 from New Business on the agenda on the grounds that changes he proposed were not included in the pending measure. Commissioner Thomas-Davis raised a Point of Order regarding the motion made by Commissioner Knoll, noting that the measure was timely filed, properly circulated for placement on the agenda, and any proposed changes were the responsibility of the Secretary to place on the agenda. The Chair refused to rule on the Point of Order against the motion to strike, so Commissioner Thomas-Davis withdrew the measure as he was the sponsoring member for reintroduction at a later meeting.



Commissioner Lehmann Morales moved to approve the agenda. This was seconded by Commissioner Knoll.

Yea votes: Bhatia, Lehmann Morales, Sherman, Miller, Davidson, Knoll
Nay votes: Thomas-Davis

The motion passed 6-1.

Secretary Report: Commissioner Miller provides an update on behalf of the Secretary. The Commission has received responses to 2026 budgetary letters sent to the Department of Public Works and DC Public School System. These will be posted on the ANC1A website. The Commission also received a biannual report from the Special Committee on Public Life, which will also be published on the website.

Treasurer Report: \$51,866.49 cash balance in the ANC 1A Checking Account reported by Commissioner Lehmann Morales. There are no major transactions since the last public meeting in February; all spending has been on administrative tasks, website, social media, and the like. The Commission remains in good financial standing.

Public Comments and Announcements:

- Commissioner Miller: The Deputy Mayor for Education has updated the out of school time activities page. There's a new website that you can go to search for programs: more.dc.gov.
- Commissioner Sherman: There is a public meeting on March 20th to discuss the Park Road Stabilization Center at 6:30pm hosted by the Department of Behavioral Health via Zoom. Commissioner Thomas-Davis serves as the point of contact.
- Constituent from 1A10: Commented on the need for pavement repairs between 11th and 12th Streets on Girard, as there are massive potholes on the block presenting danger to cars and multimodal transport users.
- Jordan Smith: Constituents who live across from Harriett Tubman Elementary have concerns about the impact of the demolition of the school on their properties (physical impact to properties and air quality degradation). Constituent asked for a point of contact and about the timing of the project.
- Richard Dubaster: Constituent raised concerns for ANC 1A's methodology for ABCA approval process, suggesting that a placard went up before a renegotiated agreement was in place. Constituent also asked if and how the water can get turned back on at the park located at 11th and Monroe Streets, noting that one resident has been improving the garden but that it needs water to sustain. Commissioner Thomas-Davis asked to be looped into this effort as he is working with DPR and DPW on this issue. Constituent also inquired about streeteries on 11th street. Commissioner Knoll states that the Transportation Committee is working on this and that each structure is actively permitted and cannot be changed, even



if it is unused. Commissioner Knoll asks to be contacted if there is a problem with a structure.

- Reina Johnson Pugh, Community Engagement Specialist, Columbia Heights Family Success Center provides a brief introduction of the Center. Specialists at the Center are service navigators, not case managers and provide referrals to DC residents. On March 31 and April 1, the Center is hosting Painting for Peace. They are also looking for community advocates for their CAC. The Center needs nine individuals on that committee and they're down 5 people. Please reach out to reina.pugh@innercitycdc.org.
- Donnetta Baker, Community Engagement Specialist, Collaborative Solutions for Communities in Columbia Heights. They have youth programs and are looking for funding for youth programs. Commissioner Sherman points the Constituent to the ANC 1A website where she may find out more information about our grants: ANC1A.org > community resources > community grants. Commissioner Miller suggest that DC has a website for partnerships and grants through the Mayor's Office of Community Affairs and offers to connect.

Presentations:

- Councilmember Brianne Nadeau discusses current matters facing DC and Ward 1.
 - o \$1B dollar cut from Congress will in effect be \$2B given our current expenditures. The Council is lobbying the House to pass the Senate's legislative fix.
 - o DC is a sanctuary city. There's a bill to repeal this in Congress and CM Nadeau is thinking about how to ensure residents' safety.
 - o Police action at the Institute for Peace. The Council has received wildly conflicting stories of what happened, and what role MPD officers in cooperating with federal agencies. Investigating further.
 - o Park Morton is moving forward! CM has been in the building, which is built to spec for the families that are returning. This one will be available for current and former Park Morton residents to move back into.
 - o April is Earth Month and the CM's office will be reaching out to coordinate cleanups. April 26 cleanups in partnership with DC Watershed. Mayor is doing cleanups the week before.
 - o Legislative action: Bottle bill to add \$0.10 to return bottles in an effort to help with recycling and cleanliness in DC.
 - o 30 smart compost bins have been placed around the city. Closest one is 16th and Park. There's an app that allows unlocking and can deposit 24/7. Reducing food waste in green trash cans also helps reduce the rat population.
 - o The next Brianne On Your Block will be April 8. Time TBA.
 - o Legislative Action: CM has introduced the Neighborhood Management Authority legislation to create a body in Columbia Heights and on U Street.



- Geoff Gilbert. Beloved Community Incubator has been working with street vendors and was instrumental in getting the Street Vending Act passed. Raised concern about the process and wants to be collaborative to help make the vending zone possible.
- Sean Moore, Lead Free DC. This is DC Water's program to remove all lead service lines in the city. So far, 8,880 service lines have been replaced out of a total 42,000 that they are working to replace. Go to [DCwater.com/lead](https://dcwater.com/lead) to view dashboard on lead pipe removal progress.

Committee Reports: Chair Sherman shares screen with recap of each of ANC 1A's six committees' report.

Consent Agenda: Chair Sherman moved to approve the consent agenda by unanimous consent. The following three items were approved through the consent agenda by unanimous consent.

- [R25-0008](#) - Resolution in Support of Vacant to Vibrant Amendment Act of 2025; *Sponsor:* Commissioner Jeremy Sherman
- [LTR25-0004](#) - Letter of Support for BZA Special Exception at 2710 Sherman Ave NW; *Sponsor:* Commissioner Billy Easley
- [LTR25-0005](#) - Letter of Support for Alley Naming at 1016 Harvard St NW; *Sponsor:* Commissioner Billy Easley
- [A25-0001](#) - Voluntary Agreement between ANC 1A and Jadi Goose LLC t/a Queen's English; *Sponsor:* Commissioner Jeremy Sherman

Commissioner Easley joined the meeting at this time.

New Business: Commissioner Lehmann Morales moved to approve the Quarterly Financial Report of Q1. Commissioner Easley seconded. The motion was approved by voice vote.

- [MIN25-0002](#) – Minutes of the February 19, 2025 Public Meeting of the Commission
 - o Chair Sherman moves to approve the minutes. Commissioner Bhatia seconds. Approved by unanimous consent.
- [LTR25-0006](#) - Letter on Gun Violence Reduction Strategic Plan; **Sponsor:** Commissioner Billy Easley
 - o Secretary Easley moves to approve the letter. Commissioner Lehmann Morales seconds. Commissioner Thomas-Davis requests to be marked as Present for the vote. The motion passed.
- [R25-0009](#) - A Resolution Concerning Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1A; **Sponsor:** Commissioner Anthony Thomas-Davis
 - o Commissioner Thomas-Davis moves to approve the measure, which was not seconded. The Motion failed.

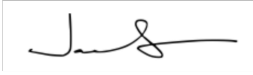


- [R25-0010](#) - A Resolution Concerning Amendments to the Bylaws of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1A; **Sponsor:** Commissioner Anthony Thomas-Davis
 - o Commissioner Thomas-Davis moves to adopt the resolution. Commissioner Lehmann Morales moves to call the question. Motion passed by voice vote.
- [R25-0011](#) - A Resolution Concerning Strategic Parking Enforcement and Transportation Improvements; **Sponsor:** Commissioner Anthony Thomas-Davis
 - o Withdrawn by Commissioner Thomas-Davis.
- [R25-0012](#) - A Resolution Concerning Accelerating Small Business Success and Revitalizing the Local Economic Development Landscape in Columbia Heights; **Sponsor:** Commissioner Anthony Thomas-Davis
 - o Commissioner Thomas-Davis moves the measure for consideration. Commissioner Lehmann Morales moves to refer the motion to SBED, which was seconded. Commissioner Thomas Davis demands roll call vote and the Acting Secretary called the roll.
 - Yea: Bhatia, Sherman, Miller, Lehmann Morales, Davidson
 - Nay: Thomas-Davis, Knoll, Easley
 - Motion passed. Resolution is referred to SBED.
- [R25-0013](#) - A Resolution to Declare the Sense of the Commission Concerning Columbia Heights Neighborhood Investment and Revitalization; **Sponsor:** Commissioner Anthony Thomas-Davis
 - o Commissioner Thomas-Davis withdrew the measure

Other Business:

- R25-0014. A Resolution Concerning Ensuring Equitable Funding for Pre-K Enhancement and Expansion Program (PKEEP)
 - o Commissioner Miller moves to adopt the resolution, which was seconded. Commissioner Lehmann Morales moved to call the question. Motion passes by voice vote.

Adjournment


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Jaspal Bhatia

Acting Secretary