

# Government of the District of Columbia ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3/4G

Chevy Chase, Barnaby Woods, Hawthorne

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#### COMMISSIONERS

3/4G-01 - Lisa R. Gore, Chair 3/4G-02 - Bruce Sherman, Vice Chair 3/4G-03 - Carol Grunewald 3/4G-04 - Laura Phinizy 3/4G-05 - Karrenthya Simmons, Treasurer 3/4G-06 - Peter Gosselin 3/4G-07 - Elizabeth Nagy, Secretary

## Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3/4G Meeting Minutes

May 12, 2025, 6:30 PM – Virtual via Zoom

#### COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

- Commissioner Lisa Gore (ANC 3/4G-01, Chair)
- Commissioner Bruce Sherman (ANC 3/4G-02, Vice Chair)
- Commissioner Carol Grunewald (ANC 3/4G-03)
- Commissioner Laura Phinizy (ANC 3/4G-04)
- Commissioner Karrenthya Simmons (ANC 3/4G-05, Treasurer)
- Commissioner Peter Gosselin (ANC 3/4G-06)
- Commissioner Elizabeth Nagy (ANC 3/4G-07, Secretary)

#### Number of participants online: Approximately 54, including Commissioners

#### CALL TO ORDER

Chair Gore called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM.

#### I. OPENING BUSINESS

#### A. MEETING PROCEDURES

Chair Gore outlined virtual meeting procedures.

## **B. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

The agenda was amended as follows:

- Commissioner Simmons proposed adding a letter of support for Lafayette Elementary as the first agenda item
- Commissioner Sherman proposed adding consideration of a draft resolution concerning reversible lanes policy on Rock Creek Park Parkway
- Commissioner Grunewald's agenda item was removed from the agenda

The motion to approve the agenda as amended was adopted unanimously (7-0-0).

#### C. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Commissioner Nagy moved that the minutes of April 7th be adopted with leave to make technical corrections. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gosselin and adopted unanimously (7-0-0).

#### **II. MAIN TOPICS OF DISCUSSION**

#### A. RESIDENT FORUM

The Commission heard from the following community members:

- **Claudia Russell (5860 Nebraska Avenue NW)** Reported ongoing property damage from Maret School construction, including cracking in her home. Requested the issue be added to the June agenda.
- **Carol Zachary** Complained about construction activity beginning before 5:00 AM at the Maret field, violating noise regulations.

#### **B. PRESENTATIONS**

#### **1. LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWALS**

Commissioner Gosselin presented five liquor license renewals:

- Little Beast
- Opal Restaurant
- Parthenon Restaurant and Chevy Chase Lounge
- The Avalon
- Skip's on the Avenue

All establishments confirmed no expansion of hours and no resident complaints. Commissioner Gosselin moved to approve all five liquor licenses. The motion was seconded and adopted unanimously (7-0-0).

## 2. LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR LAFAYETTE ELEMENTARY

Commissioner Simmons presented a draft letter supporting Lafayette Elementary's HSA statement regarding a racist incident. After extensive discussion about wording and defamation concerns, particularly regarding the word "adjacent," a compromise was reached. Shannon Wulf Tregar (HSA Belonging Committee co-chair) offered to revise the HSA statement to change "adjacent" to "nearby" to address community concerns.

Commissioner Simmons moved to issue a resolution with revisions by Commissioner Gore, including a statement that the HSA plans to revise their statement to clarify the word "adjacent." The motion was seconded and adopted unanimously (7-0-0).

#### 3. ROCK CREEK PARK REVERSIBLE LANES RESOLUTION

Commissioner Sherman presented a draft resolution opposing the National Park Service's plan to eliminate reversible lanes on Rock Creek Park Parkway. He reported that:

- DDOT assessment found Rock Creek reversible lanes do not present same safety problems as former Connecticut Avenue reversible lanes
- Community survey of nearly 220 responses showed approximately 80% opposition to ending reverse lanes
- Technology solutions exist to address NPS safety concerns

Commissioner Sherman moved to adopt the resolution with amendments to include other affected commissioners and clarify language in the resolved section. The motion was seconded and adopted unanimously (7-0-0).

## 4. CIVIC CORE SURVEY DISCUSSION

Commissioner Sherman presented the revised civic core survey following extensive committee work. Key discussion points included:

- Commissioner Gosselin proposed moving question 17 (number of units) earlier and asking both "yes" and "no" respondents to provide additional information
- Commissioner Grunewald raised concerns about not addressing surplusing and building height issues from 2023 survey
- Community members expressed urgency to move the process forward

After debate, Commissioner Gore moved to adopt the survey as presented in his current version. The motion was seconded and adopted 6-0-1 (Commissioners Phinizy, Nagy, Gore, Grunewald, Gosselin and Sherman voted in favor. Commissioner Simmons abstained.)

#### 5. SURVEY IMPLEMENTATION FUNDING

The Commission has previously approved obtaining a subscription for SurveyMonkey in order to move forward with the Civic Core Survey. The survey will run on the ANC's SurveyMonkey account.

Commissioner Gore moved to expend up to \$15,000 on an ANC-wide survey mailer to households. The motion was seconded and adopted unanimously (7-0-0).

The commission agreed to request a 45-day extension from the city for public comment period to allow time for survey implementation and response collection.

## 6. MAYOR BOWSER MEETING UPDATE

Commissioners Gore and Phinizy reported on their meeting with Mayor Bowser regarding:

**Lafayette Fields:** Presented case for field improvements including cost information and potential funding sources. While no major project was committed, recent improvements were made including:

- Weekend bathroom reopening
- Water fountain repairs
- Broken light fixes
- Working on top swing installation

**Kindergarten Enrollment:** They also discussed age restriction concerns with DCPS policy. The Mayor's team offered early assessments and potential placement changes for families who enroll children in first grade but find placement inappropriate.

Commissioner Simmons requested that Commissioner Phinizy send a document to HSA for distribution to Lafayette parents. The document would inform parents about the discussion with the Mayor and her team regarding potential early assessments and placement changes, if appropriate. Commissioner Phinizy agreed to this request.

## 7. COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Ward 3 Office Hours: Kendall Gibson (MOCRS office) announced Saturday office hours at Cleveland Park Library (10:30 AM 12:15 PM) in Meeting Room 2 and upcoming June office hours at the Chevy Chase Library, date TBD. She also announced a call to action to support DC's hospital systems and federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP). She placed a petition calling on Congress to maintain the District's FMAP and her email and contact information in the chat.
- Fire Response: Commissioner Nagy reported on apartment fire at 5200 block of Connecticut Avenue. All residents were safely housed temporarily, however one resident's cat perished. She praised Ward 3 liaison Owen Cox's response to the fire. He is also from the MOCRS office.

• **DCPS Capacity Concerns:** Commissioner Phinizy reported ongoing issues getting information from DCPS about Lafayette Elementary capacity calculations and classroom conditions, including concerns about windowless basement classrooms.

## 8. TREASURER'S REPORT

Commissioner Simmons presented corrections to quarterly financial reports due to software errors:

- **FY24 Q4 QFR Correction:** Beginning balance corrected to \$50,491.16. Motion to approve corrected report adopted unanimously (7-0-0).
- **FY25 Q1 QFR Correction:** Beginning balance corrected to \$47,677.82, ending balance \$59,310.30. Motion to approve corrected report adopted unanimously (7-0-0).
- FY25 Q2 QFR: Motion to approve adopted unanimously (7-0-0).

The corrected reports will be circulated for signature to the appropriate ANC officers.

**9. CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET UPDATE:** Barbara Rogers from Councilmember Lewis George's office reported on DC Local Funds Act status and mayor's budget previews, including preservation of pre-K programs.

## ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:57 PM.

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Lisa R. Gore, Chair

Jun 26, 2025

Date

Elizabeth A. Nagy

box SIGN 4ZRVL67X-4QZQR2LP Elizabeth A. Nagy, Secretary

Jun 26, 2025

Date