

# **Monthly Meeting Minutes**

May 27, 2025

Via Zoom

#### Call To Order

Roll was taken and all commissioners were present; quorum was established and noted.

# **Administrative Actions**

The agenda that was circulated in advance of the meeting was approved.

The April 29, 2025 meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

Commissioner Micone moved that ANC 4E request \$2,700 in funding from the Technical Assistance Fund for the purpose of purchasing hybrid meeting equipment. Commissioner Barry provided a second. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Jones, ANC 4E Treasurer, moved to reallocate up to \$500 from the office space budget line to obtain a P.O. box, which would satisfy the requirement that the Commission have a physical mailing address. This follows the Commission's March decision to cease renting office space. Commissioner McAdams provided a second. The motion carried unanimously.

# **Regulatory Items**

Commissioner Micone noted that the Commission's meeting agenda will include ABC license renewals. He noted that the Commission may not take action on renewals unless there are significant concerns about the operations of the ABCA-licensed establishments. This will be a standing item on meeting agendas.

ABCA Application: Three Whistles, 5832 Georgia Avenue, NW (4E01)

The applicant, Ramzy Azar, is seeking ANC support for interim relief / stipulated license in advance of its full opening. The location will be a coffee house / work space, a concept that he

has already piloted in Northern Virginia. The stipulated license would allow the owner to open and serve alcohol during the 45-day public comment period. Commissioner Jones has spoken with the residents of the condominium building in which the business would operate, as well as to the building's board, and they are in support. Mr. Azar stated his commitment to being part of the community, and noted that he partners with other businesses that operate under Three Whistles brand. Commissioner Barry noted that the neighborhood needs more buildings with ground-floor retail and commended this effort. Corey Larrea, President of CBENA, noted that the business falls within this association's boundaries and he is excited to see it open in a historic building. Taalib-Din Uqdah inquired about the time frame between stipulated and full ABCA license. Mr. Azar responded that once the license is issued, there is a 45-day public protest period; then a full license can be issued.

Commissioner Jones moved to adopt a resolution to issue letter of support; second was provided by Commissioner Zmuda. The motion carried unanimously.

ABCA Renewal: Atxondo (fka Las Placitas Café), 4724 14<sup>th</sup> St, NW, ABRA-094559 (4E04) No action

ABCA Renewal: Chimalli (El Don), 4401 14<sup>th</sup> St, NW, ABRA-088757 (4E05)

Commissioner McAdams shared that some residents have spoken to her about the fact that the business goes well beyond its posted business hours, playing music late into the night in its outdoor space. The ABCA renewal placard is not visible to the community, so no objections have been submitted to ABCA. Commissioner Micone has drafted a letter of protest, which allows the Commission to bring forward concerns and it can then be withdrawn prior to the renewal hearing. Commissioner McAdams will also reach out to Uptown Main Street. Leticia Acosta offered that she and Yami Escobar can assist in approaching business because they speak fluent Spanish.

Commissioner McAdams moved to protest the license renewal; Commissioner Jones provided a second. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner McAdams noted that she will work with the establishment to address the community's concerns through a voluntary agreement.

ABCA Renewal: Catrachitos, 4608 14th St, NW, ABRA-095465 (4E05)

No action

ABCA Renewal: Knollwood Apartments (Army Distaff Foundation), 6200 Oregon Ave, NW, ABRA-096716 (Adjacent to 4E, 3/4G02)

No action

# **D.C. Government Updates**

Barbara Rogers, office of Ward 4 Councilmember Janeese Lewis George

Mayor Bowser released her proposed budget today, which now goes to the D.C. Council for review. She encouraged commissioners and neighbors to get involved, including by testifying in budget oversight hearings.

Leticia Acosta, Ward 4 Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS)

Ms. Acosta also noted the Mayor's FY 26 budget. Yamileth (Yami) Escobar, also from MOCRS, said that she is inviting someone from the Citi Open tennis tournament to come to the next ANC meeting. Finally, Ms. Acosta mentioned the community walk taking place tomorrow.

Shannah Cumberbatch, DOEE RiverSmart Homes Program

Homes with four units or fewer are eligible. Ms. Cumberbatch discussed rain barrels, shade trees, bayscape and rain garden options, and permeable pavers that are available through the program. Several commissioners noted their support of the program.

https://doee.dc.gov/service/riversmart-homes

For questions, residents may email shannah.cumberbatch@dc.gov OR you can call/text her at 202-253-4489.

# **Community Matters**

Neighborhood Associations Within ANC 4E (Commissioner McAdams)

- There are four neighborhood associations within ANC 4E. Commissioner McAdams noted that this is a benefit of being in an active and engaged community.
- The purpose of this agenda item is to have each association leader describe the organization and its activities and how residents can get involved.
- Commissioner McAdams encouraged each association representative to create a onepager that can be posted on the ANC 4E web site.

- There are some places within ANC 4E that aren't covered by any of these four associations – want to find way to engage folks there.
- Caitlin Clark, President, Crestwood Citizens Association (CCA)
  - Website: https://www.crestwooddc.org/
  - o 300 homes in CCA, closer to 800 in neighborhood
  - Purpose is to create community, keep the neighborhood clean, facilitate raising concerns with the neighborhood's ANC Commissioner, and organize social events (next one is Juneteenth 6/19 4-8pm)
  - The CCA maintains an email list of members which is separate from the Crestwood list-serve
- Corey Larrea, President, Carter Barron East Neighborhood Association (CBENA)
  - Established in 1968
  - Went dormant for a while, reactivated 3 years ago to engage with portion of community that wasn't covered under other associations
  - Happy to engage those in and not inside boundaries
- Richard Fried, President, Sixteenth Street Heights Civic Association (SSHCA)
  - Website: https://groups.io/g/sshcadc
  - o 300 homes
  - Successor to 1<sup>st</sup> civic association in the area that started in 1920
  - Have various speakers at meetings to keep members informed
  - Border Rock Creek Park on west, so great interest in keeping the park green and natural
  - o 501c4 organization
- Cassandra Jessee, Chair, 16<sup>th</sup> Street Neighborhood Association (SSNA)
  - Website: https://www.ssna-dc.org/
  - Share one block with ass'n to the north
  - Block captains, senior committee
  - Looking at potential for senior village
  - Social and beautification focus for events
  - Must be in boundaries to join
  - Have list-serve but not directly managed by SSNA
  - Block party September 3



#### **Public Comment**

Gabriela Mossi of Uptown Main Street shared announcements of upcoming events. There was a discussion of who can request permits for the new plaza at 14<sup>th</sup> & Colorado.

Umi Umi raised the issue of parking at the Dollar Tree and rats nearby. 311 requests have been met with no response. At the Ethiopian Church churchgoers park everywhere, which is dangerous; DDOT punts because there is no parking enforcement on Sunday; help is needed from the Mayor and Councilmember.

Taalib-Din Uqdah with Northern Bus Barn Neighbors noted that the bus barn has been closed for 6 years and is not going to reopen in 2027. Request to ANC: invite DDOT to answer specific concerns about the Kennedy St. renovation (a plaza is not what the community asked for as it has limited use without shade, electricity, etc.). There is a need to address the pedestrian crossing at 14<sup>th</sup> & Kennedy as well as other various intersection failures. The Office of the Attorney General (OAG) needs to address the community regarding what they are doing with regard to data breach notices; people are getting too long after the fact. Someone from behavioral health needs to come to the community to address a notable increase in people with mental health issues engaging in objectionable behavior in public. Commissioner McAdams responded that she has invited DDOT to come to the next ANC meeting, and that she hopes to collect all issues before then. She has met with Kornelius Anderson regarding various intersections. Commissioner Jones thanked Commissioner McAdams for her attention to DDOT issues, and added that she has talked to OAG about housing and mental health issues.

Rev. Scott Bostic of Simpson-Hamline United Methodist Church stated that today is his final ANC meeting, as he has been reassigned to Baltimore. He thanked the community, which has been a joy to be part of.

# **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Prepared by: Julianna Gonen

Approved on: June 24, 2025

Attested by:

XSIGN 4L698RL9-4PXV37PY