



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

Chevy Chase, Barnaby Woods, Hawthorne
5601 Connecticut Avenue N.W. P.O. Box 6252 Washington, D.C. 20015
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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
Special Meeting Minutes
July 7, 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) (participating first by phone, then zoom)
- Commissioner Karrenthya Simmons (ANC 3/4G-05, Treasurer)
- Commissioner Peter Gosselin (ANC 3/4G-06)
- Commissioner Elizabeth Nagy (ANC 3/4G-07, Secretary)

Approximately 87 participants online, including Commissioners and community members

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Gore called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM.

I. OPENING BUSINESS

A. MEETING PROCEDURES

Commissioner Gore outlined virtual meeting procedures. Different time limits were established from regular ANC meetings: 1 minute for community members during the 45-minute feedback period, and 2-minute rounds for commissioners. A timer will be used.

B. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The agenda was presented without amendments. The motion to approve the agenda was adopted unanimously.

C. Adoption of Minutes

No previous minutes were presented for adoption at this special meeting.

II. MAIN TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

A. DMPED RFP PROCESS OVERVIEW

Commissioner Gore provided an overview of the DMPED Request for Proposals process for the Civic Core site, noting:

- Eight proposals were received for redevelopment of the community center and library with addition of housing
- A disposition hearing was held at Chevy Chase Community Center where some of the information on the proposals was presented
- The comment period was extended from 30 to 60 days, with an additional extension to July 10th to allow for survey completion at the request of the ANC

B. SURVEY RESULTS PRESENTATION

Commissioners Sherman presented highlights from the community survey, including a slide presentation:

- Quality checks were performed to determine whether the responses were in keeping with what we would expect to see given patterns of response by single member district in response to certain questions taking all of the data as a whole into account
- 79 survey responses were significantly outside the norm of the response patterns otherwise seen in the survey results
- Commission decided to remove those 79 from the dataset
- That left 2,126 responses were received
- A solid response (comparable to the 2023 survey which had 2297 responses)
- 51% opposed housing at the civic core, 44% supported it, 5% had no preference
- Of those opposing housing, 86% preferred newly constructed or renovated community center/library facilities
- Underscored that this was a voluntary response survey, not a random sample
- Everyone in the community was sent a mailer giving information on how to access the survey
- Survey produced a large number of comments - 4,800
- We do not know anything about the people in the ANC who did not take the survey

C. RESOLUTION PRESENTATIONS

1. RESOLUTION OFFERED BY COMMISSIONER GOSSELIN

Commissioner Gosselin presented his resolution saying that the Community Center/Library/Civic Core site can and should support some affordable housing with conditions:

- Argued that none of the eight current proposals are appropriate for the site
- Called for the city to return to the drawing board with reduced housing units
- Emphasized the need to elevate public facilities and address community preferences for ground-level green space
- Proposed exploring alternative means such as community land trust rather than surplussing public land

2. RESOLUTION OFFERED BY COMMISSIONER SHERMAN

Commissioner Sherman presented his resolution calling for DMPED to abandon housing plans at the civic core:

- Cited survey results showing community opposition (51% to 44%)
- Emphasized the ANC's role as representative of community views
- Noted that affordable housing is coming to the Avenue through upzoning and development already in progress
- Advocated for preserving the Civic Core as genuine public space for community gathering

D. RESIDENT FORUM

The Commission heard from the following community members during a 45-minute public comment period:

- Several speakers emphasized the importance of preserving public space
- Concerns raised about parking, school capacity, traffic, and infrastructure impacts
- Some speakers advocated for affordable housing as a moral imperative
- Comments addressed survey methodology and representativeness
- Speakers discussed the need for community gathering spaces and green areas

E. COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioners engaged in extensive discussion regarding:

- The role of the ANC in representing community views
- The ineffectiveness of working with DMPED based on past experience
- The interpretation of survey results and community division
- The importance of preserving public space versus providing minimal affordable housing
- Concerns about school capacity at Lafayette Elementary
- The distinction between voluntary response surveys and representative samples

III. VOTING

First Motion - Gosselin Resolution

Commissioner Gosselin moved to approve his draft resolution (version two). Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion. **Vote Result: FAILED 3-3-1**

- In favor: Commissioners Gosselin, Simmons, Gore
- Opposed: Commissioners Nagy, Grunewald, Sherman
- Abstaining: Commissioner Phinizy

Second Motion - Sherman Resolution

Commissioner Sherman moved to adopt his resolution, version 2, with the survey results appended to it. Commissioner Nagy seconded the motion. Following discussion about including additional survey analysis beyond raw results, Commissioner Sherman agreed to work with Commissioner Phinizy to incorporate specific community preferences for public space features.

Vote Result: PASSED 4-2-1


- In favor: Commissioners Sherman, Nagy, Grunewald, Phinizy
- Opposed: Commissioners Gosselin, Simmons
- Abstaining: Commissioner Gore

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Gore invited commissioners who did not vote in favor of the adopted resolution to submit minority reports. The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:30 PM.

Approved on July 14, 2025

Attested by:


box SIGN 187YZ365-4ZZXYP3Z
Lisa R. Gore, Chair


box SIGN 4ZRVL67X-4ZZXYP3Z
Elizabeth A. Nagy, Secretary

Jul 28, 2025
Date

Jul 28, 2025
Date