



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 8A
Anacostia, Fairlawn, Hillside, Sheridan

Monthly General Body Meeting
Tuesday, May 13, 2025 | 7:00 pm

Public Meeting Minutes – Detailed Summary
Virtual Meeting (access found at website oanc.dc.gov)

Opening

- Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 7:06 PM
- Roll Call: Cmr. Donohue, Cmr. Davis, Cmr. Foreman, Cmr. Redman, Cmr. Moore, Cmr. White, Cmr. McKinney present.
- Approval of Agenda: Passed with no objections

Agenda

- Welcome, Roll Call, and Agenda
- Community Announcements and Commissioner Updates
- MPD Community Open Discussion
- Presentations:
 - Poplar Point Redevelopment
 - House of Ruth Affordable Housing Project
 - Zoning & BZA Requests (including Shannon Place)
- MOCRS and Council Updates
- Commission Votes

Commission Announcements and Community Discussion

- Commissioner Davis 8A03
 - Problem-solving efforts with J&D Convenience Store (rodent issue, storage container removed).
 - Worked with Minnesota Liquors to install a fence to cordon off trash cans (rodent mitigation ongoing).
 - Collaborated with Galilee Church on new wrought-iron gate (aimed at reducing illegal activity).
 - Encouraged residents to communicate additional concerns via chat or phone.
- Commissioner Foreman 8A02: Noted an uptick in plant thefts, often valuable household plants. MPD involved; working to improve park maintenance, especially triangle parks along Minnesota Ave (overgrown, jurisdiction clarified).
- Commissioner Redman 8A07: Working with National Park Service on Fort Stanton clean-up, focusing on a deteriorating historic wall on Marion Barry Avenue, considered a safety concern. National Park Service lacks staff capacity (brick/mortar repair); assistance requested.
 - There has been an increased helicopter noise/vibration, a contributing factor to wall's decay.
 - Coordination ongoing with Boy Scouts, DPR, Councilmember Henderson's office, and Ward 8 Woods for various property issues.
 - Plans for a local SMD meeting at 2300 Marion Barry Ave in June.

- Commissioner Donahue 8A01: Progress reported on problem properties at 1507/1511 19th St SE DOB/AG involved, owner engaged, plans for renovation and expansion underway.
 - Recent multiple break-ins at Boone Elementary over Easter and subsequent weekends (fencing cut, police response delayed). Video evidence exists; working with MPD and DCPS.
 - Recommendation made to involve State Board of Education and relevant councilmembers. A draft resolution on property security/fencing is being prepared.
 - School principal requests playground remain off-limits after hours.
 - Encouraged increased coordination with SBOE and council.

Community

- Anacostia Coordinating Council ACC | Phil Pannell
 - ACC secured its first permanent home at 1916 13th St SE (in the Historic District/ANC 8A)
 - Hosting an Open House on Thursday, May 22nd at 5:00 PM
 - Reminder monthly ACC Luncheons: Last Tuesday each month (except December) at Martha's Table, 2375 Elvans Rd SE; the May meeting will feature Mayor Bowser on May 27, 11:30 AM.
 - ANC recognized for past support on related zoning changes to enable ACC's location.
- DC CareLink Project | Arrington Dixon
 - Announced dccarelink.org, a city-sponsored referral platform for connecting social service referrals to providers, especially in Wards 7 and 8.
 - Encouraged ANCs to use the platform to refer neighbors directly (for health, addiction, or social needs).
 - Will provide further information and seek recurring opportunities to inform commissioners and the public.
- HABA Historic Anacostia Block Association | Jarrett Powell
 - Monthly Neighborhood Cleanup: Saturday, May 17, 2025, at 10 AM, 13th & V St, supplies provided.
 - Hosting Ward 8 Special Election Candidate Forum: Monday, June 2nd at 6:30 PM at Union Temple Baptist Church; Tom Sherwood moderating; several organizational sponsors.
- There is also a Youth-Led Candidate Council Candidate Forum this week

Community Concerns

- Vegetation and Sidewalk Access: Overgrown sidewalks on Morris Rd SE (service request submitted; need for DDOT/DPW follow-up). Persistent rat infestation and five-week trash pick-up delays due to non-functional alleys and DPW directives.
- Alley Trash (various): Challenges include rolling trash cans down deteriorated alleys (craters, with non-native English speakers often missing instructions. Multiple uncollected trash cans are attracting rodents. DPW is aware and advocates for a swift remedy and ongoing rat abatement.
- Zoning/Special Exception Concern at 2413 Shannon Place SE from two-family residential to a proposed 32-bed medical rehab facility by GAH Development LLC. Concerns: violation of affordable/green space covenant, proximity to elementary school, adequacy of facilities ADA, elevator), traffic, and lack of demonstrable need given Cedar Hill Medical Center.
 - Developer has twice failed to present at scheduled meetings

- Kitchen Savages- a car ran into the light pole in front of Kitchen Savages, which destroyed some of the windows and forced the restaurant to close for a few days.
- Cmr. Patricia Stamper asked the Commission to consider a resolution supporting her proposed legislation for the OANC to provide childcare at ANC meetings and extended an invitation to a community meeting to discuss RFK stadium development.
- Comprehensive Development Plan updates will start soon- vital community to engage in the process.

MPD Updates | MPD 6D and 7D Lt. Roberts & Lt. Barnes

- 7D and 6D provided crime stats updates. Stats can be found here: <https://crimecards.dc.gov/>
- Increased enforcement in Fairlawn: motor vehicle/parking, pedestrian safety, presence at Minnesota Liquors, and Boone Elementary (after increased vandalism/break-ins).
 - Response time commended; community officers praised for professionalism.
- Noted homicide on Benning Rd (unrelated jurisdiction), ongoing investigations at Boone ES, focus on school/pedestrian safety.
- 7D reports 26% decrease in crime over past 60 days (all major categories), receiving city-wide crime reduction award for 2025.
- Recent transformer incident at MLK/Marion Barry (power outages, security coordinated).
- Emphasis on summer foot patrols, bike patrols, and cross-district coordination. Community reminders: Call 911/text 50411 for tips.
- Request from Chair that MPD resume contacting SMD Commissioners after major incidents.

PRESENTATIONS

House of Ruth

- House of Ruth 49 years in the district and operates 12 supportive housing programs for survivors of domestic violence (including three in Ward 8).
- Proposed 40-unit affordable apartment building at 815 Minnesota Ave SE AMI 30 50%.
 - Supportive services and some on-site staffing/security planned.
- Extensive community outreach conducted; strong community support
- Project positioned as necessary to fill affordable housing gaps for program graduates and local families.
- Seeking a support letter from the ANC noting that the previous ANC did not agree to support this development

DDOT (Transportation) | Preston Jutte Project Manager, MLK/Marion Barry Safety Study

- Announced publication of the NOI for "Historic Integrity Neighborhood Safety Improvements."
- Community engagement ongoing; planned pedestrian/traffic safety improvements, resident feedback being processed.
- Further NOIs distributed for various Fairlawn neighborhood projects.
- Contact info provided for follow-ups.

Poplar Point Redevelopment Update | DMPED Representatives

- Purpose: Facilitate land transfer from NPS to DC, guide master planning, initiate rezoning, and open opportunity for long-term development on 110-acre site. The statutory obligations are:
 - 70+ acres must be retained for park use
 - Relocate Park Police/NPS facilities.
 - At least two commemorative sites required.
 - Must align ("to the greatest extent practical") with Anacostia Waterfront Initiative plan.
- Development Process:
 - Environmental Assessment to identify preferred (and alternative) land use plans.
 - Emphasis: expansion/protection of wetlands, open space, park integration, historical commemoration, pedestrian/neighborhood connectivity, and economic development.
 - Over 1,000 community "touchpoints" to date; ongoing solicitations for comment, June public comment on final draft environmental assessment.
 - Anchor Tenant Therme Group has been identified
- The community and commission noted the controversy and recent NYT investigation; multiple community concerns about vetting and process transparency. DMPED describes the process as parallel (land transfer/environmental assessment, and anchor tenant due diligence) and states that the project is still in the early stages, allowing for community input.
 - Community input raised concerns and confusion about DMPED's "early in process" language, after the Mayor had already announced Therme as the anchor tenant; thus, trying to understand if this is the project coming or if there is still an opportunity for something else.
- DMPED clarified that any final agreement/disposition will require Council approval and future community input.
- Several community members and commissioners stressed the need for transparency and real opportunity to shape outcomes alongside anchor tenant decisions.

1535 25th Street SE Zoning Variance

- Long-term residents need accessible bathrooms on main and upper levels (senior safety).
- No expansion beyond property envelope; strong neighborhood support documented.

Councilmember Office Updates

- Councilmember Kenya McDuffie's Office was in attendance
- Chairperson Phil Mendelson's Office was in attendance – subscribe to monthly newsletter. The Ward 8 constituents remain open, and please get in touch with me and other at-large councilmembers for assistance. Monique Diop is the only remaining Ward 8 office.
- Councilmember Henderson's Office was in attendance – Still waiting for the mayor's FY26 budget. It's critical to hear from residents on their priorities, and their office will engage with Ward 8 once the budget is released. Please also reach out to their office for behavioral health issues.

Commission Votes

- Cmr. McKinney moved a motion to oppose the BZA application for 2413 Shannon Place SE, seconded by Cmr. Forman. Vote passed unanimously.
- Cmr. Davis moved a motion to support the BZA variance application to construct two bathrooms at 1535 25th Street SE, seconded by Cmr. Forman. Vote passed unanimously.

- Cmr. Davis moved a motion to approve the FY2025 QTR 2 Finance Report, seconded by Cmr. McKinney. Vote passed 6-0-1 (one abstention).
- Cmr. Foreman moved a motion for the ANC to apply for a debit card for use within the statute, seconded by Cmr. McKinney. Vote passed unanimously.
- Cmr. Davis moved a motion that ANC 8A support the construction of a 40-unit affordable building at 815 Minnesota Ave SE in partnership with House of Ruth, to address the urgent need for affordable housing in our community, seconded by Cmr. Foreman. Vote passed unanimously.

Adjournment: Cmr. White moved to close, and motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:33 PM. The Next regular ANC8A meeting is scheduled for the first Tuesday in June.

Approved on: JULY 1, 2025

Attested by:


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