



ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 1A

SMD 1A01 – Layla Bonnot
SMD 1A04 – Chris Hall
SMD 1A07 – Mukta Ghorpadey
SMD 1A10 – Rashida Brown

SMD 1A02 – Dieter Lehmann Morales
SMD 1A05 – Christine Miller
SMD 1A08 – Kent C. Boese
SMD 1A11 – Dotti Love Wade

SMD 1A03 – Zach Rybarczyk
SMD 1A06 – Judson Wood
SMD 1A09 – Michael Wray
SMD 1A12 – Jason Clock

Year in Review - 2020

In 2020, Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 1A was pleased to return all twelve Commissioners from the previous year. The first three meetings of the year were held at Tubman Elementary School in Columbia Heights, where about 40-50 community members attended each meeting. Following the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, meetings were moved online and held via Zoom webinar. Virtual attendance decreased slightly to about 30 community members per meeting. The average length of the year's public meetings was just over two hours.

In 2020, ANC 1A continued to operate its robust committee structure, with committees made up of both elected Commissioners and volunteer members of the community. The Commission has four committees: Education, Public Safety, Transportation, and Zoning, Planning, and Parks. Each committee generally meets monthly, and gives the full Commission regular updates on its activities and focus areas. The committees also give their input on relevant actions, legislation, or regulations that the Commission comments on through letters, resolutions, or in any other form. Examples are listed below, and links to each document can be found on our website at anc1a.org.

The most frequent official business that was discussed at public meetings were requests for special exceptions and variances from zoning ordinances. ANC 1A weighed in on many zoning cases in the neighborhood over the course of the year, always with an eye toward preserving neighborhood aesthetics and maximizing affordable housing and density while maintaining good parking availability for everyone. Most Commissioners recognize the need to create additional housing stock while recognizing the wants and needs of residents who already live in the neighborhood, and made sure that developers were taking both factors into account in their plans.

- The Commission submitted many Form 129s to the Board of Zoning Adjustment, which allow the Commission to support or oppose a specific applicant's request for a zoning variance or special exception.
- The Commission submitted recommendations to the Office of Planning regarding proposed amendments to fifteen different elements of the Comprehensive Plan.
- Zoning Case 16-11: ANC 1A Response to Procedural Order Reflecting the Zoning Commission's Oral Request for Parties' Responses to Court of Appeals' Remand (July 2020)

The ANC also oversaw the finalization of several Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration (ABRA) Settlement Agreements for local eateries and stores. Noise, garbage, and cleanliness are always concerns when neighborhood shops are seeking ABRA licenses, so Commissioners worked

diligently with businesses to come to agreements about abating those concerns. The volume of ABRA license requests decreased significantly during the COVID-19 pandemic, so the Commission did not have many to consider during 2020.

- Buho's Restaurant – 3521 14th Street NW
- Tabla – 3227 Georgia Avenue NW

The Commission also weighed in on a substantial number of transportation related issues this year, which are overseen by the District Department of Transportation (DDOT). Issues overseen by DDOT are not just infrastructure related, but also involve traffic safety measures, public transit options, and broader strategic planning about transportation. Because of ANC 1A's central location in the District, its voice and the voices of all its constituents are very important to hear on these matters.

- Letter opposing WMATA's proposed elimination of the 54 Metrobus line in the FY2021 Metro budget (January 2020)
- Letter to DDOT requesting pedestrian walk timers with full countdowns remain at all signaled intersections (January 2020)
- Recommendations for the FY21 Metro budget (February 2020)
- Letter to DDOT regarding moveDC transportation priority network 2021 updates and curbside management needs (November 2020)

In addition to coordinating with DC agencies regarding applications and licenses, the ANC also conducted a large amount of other business, weighing in on proposed Council legislation, reaching out to the Mayor's office on issues of public concern, and bringing many other issues such as trash collection, utilization of public space, and public safety initiatives to the attention of the appropriate agencies.

- Letter to Mayor Bowser highlighting education funding priorities for FY21 (January 2020)
- ANC 1A Support for Securing Building Site and Construction of New DC Archives and Office of Public Records Facility (February 2020)
- Letter of Support for Families and Youth Community Needs in FY21 District Budget (May 2020)
- Resolution requesting hearing for B23-0875, "Street Vending Decriminalization Amendment Act of 2020" (September 2020)


Lastly, the Commission allocated a substantial portion of its funds to local organizations and residents in the form of grants. In a normal year, these grants are used to fund public events that benefit the entire ANC 1A community, and would include functions such as block parties, arts enrichment programs, and events helping the needy. However, the COVID-19 pandemic has substantially limited opportunities for public gatherings, and most of ANC 1A's 2020 grant funds were used to purchase protective equipment that was then given out to the public.

After a strange and eventful 2020, the Commission is thankful to all Commissioners for their patience and service as we've adapted to a virtual environment. Eight incumbent Commissioners were re-elected in November 2020, and will be joined by four new Commissioners for the term beginning in 2021. The Commission looks forward to another productive year and a hopeful return to in-person meetings as soon as is practicable.

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Certification:

At a regularly scheduled and publicly noticed meeting held on January 13, 2021 Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1A considered the above resolution. With a quorum of 12 Commissioners present, the Commission voted with 12 yeas, 0 nos, and 0 abstentions to adopt the above resolution.



Kent Boese
ANC 1A Chair



Zach Rybarczyk
ANC 1A Secretary