

Minutes – Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 4A February 3, 2026 Regular Public Meeting

PLEASE NOTE: In compliance with Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised, 11th Edition, §48, page 468, the minutes of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4A are a record of the actions taken by the Commission, not a record of what people said during the meeting. Accordingly, comments made by commissioners or members of the public will not be recorded in detail in the minutes.

The meeting was held virtually through Zoom. Commissioner Edwards called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm. A quorum was present, and included the following Commissioners:

- Paula Edwards, 4A01 (Chair)
- Joan Hoyte, 4A02 (Vice Chair)
- Christian Hara, 4A03
- Patience Singleton, 4A04 (Treasurer)
- Jeffrey Holliday, 4A05 (Secretary)
- Akex Akalu, 4A06 (Second Vice Chair)

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS (10 minutes)

1. Approval of the Agenda
 - a. Amendments
 - i. Remove Hive Impact
 - b. Commr. Holliday Moves to approve as amended
 - c. Commr. Hara seconds
 - d. Vote: 6-0-0; PASSED
2. Approval of the January 2026 Meeting Minutes
 - a. Commr. Holliday moves to TABLE until March Meeting
 - b. Commr. Hoyte seconds
 - c. Vote: 6-0-0; PASSED
3. Approval of the Q1 2026 Quarterly Financial Report
 - a. Commr. Singleton presents
 - b. Discussion:
 - i. What is the quarterly allotment? A: \$4,000
 - ii. Have we had any allotments withheld? A: No
 - iii. Need to get the previous quarters minutes uploaded into the QFR Portal
 - c. Commr. Singleton Motions to Approve as Presented
 - d. Commr. Hara seconds
 - e. Vote: 5-0-1 with Commr. Singleton Abstaining; PASSED

4. Approval of the new contract with Verizon for new cell phones for ANC 4A
 - a. Discussion:
 - i. Contract details: same as our current contract (same price, new phones, includes two year extension)
 - ii. How do we get the new phones? Commr. Edwards will facilitate with the help of Verizon, including wiping the previous phones and helping to set-up the new phones
 - b. Commr. Edwards moves that we approve, pending approval from OANC General Counsel
 - c. Commr. Hoyte seconds
 - d. Vote (voice vote): 6-0-0; PASSED

REPORTS (15 minutes)

1. Mayor's Office of Community Relations (5 minutes)
 - a. Yamileth Escobar Presents
 - i. SNOW
 1. DPW – all Monday front side routes complete; Tuesday in progress and will be complete tomorrow. Wednesday front collections will start tomorrow. Alley collections are a day or two behind. Working on clearing alleys. If your collection is via Alley and your collection day is Mon / Tues, please flag for the Mayors Office
 2. DPW – Snow Removal on sidewalks. Reminders going out. Going to start doing enforcement. Prioritizing areas around public facilities. Help your neighbors out. Salt stations were opened.
 3. DPW – Clear snow from your car before driving
 4. DPW – Beware of falling snow / ice from roofs
 - ii. Questions from Commr.
 1. Commr. Hara – who is responsible for clearing bus stops
 - a. A: a combination of DDOT and WMATA; making progress. If there are stations that need attention, please flag for the Mayor's office
 2. Commr. Singleton – DPW has not been responsive to community concerns in Brightwood. Many 311 requests have been submitted for plowing of side streets, some of which have still not been plowed
 - a. Commr. Akalu has experienced similar issues. Has not received any responses from DPW

- b. A: Mayor's office has been escalating, has raised this issue with DPW
 - c. Commr. Edwards reminds the group that Performance Oversight Hearings are coming up and that we should testify about our concerns
 - d. Commr. Hoyte: neighbors in Shep Park also experiencing issues with alleys, trash collection, as well as bus stops
 - iii. Community Questions
 - 1. Trash and Alley concerns – many areas in 4A remain uncleared and trash remains unpicked up
 - 2. School Closures – who makes the decisions?
 - a. Done by committee – community member to reach out to Mayor's office to get more details on process
- 2. Councilmember Lewis-George staff (5 minutes)
 - a. Barbara Rodgers Presents:
 - i. Snow
 - 1. Tewkesbury – have been escalating
 - 2. Shared PDF from DPW
 - ii. Ward 4 Budget Forum
 - 1. Tuesday Feb 10; 2PM and 7PM
 - 2. For the Councilmember's office to hear what community members' priorities are for the next year's budget process
 - 3. Shared link to RSVP in the chat
 - iii. Performance Oversight
 - 1. Opportunity to raise issues directly with Agency leadership
 - iv. DC Health Link Open Enrollment
 - 1. Deadline extended to tomorrow at midnight
 - v. GA Ave Revitalization Report
 - 1. Released and included some recommendations; will incorporate these recommendations in the next budget cycle
 - vi. Office Hours
 - 1. Ft. Stevens Rec Ctr / Hattie Homes Sr Ctr every Wednesday – please stop by to talk with the Councilmember's staff
 - vii. Newsletter – sign-up for updates
- 3. Dr. T. Michelle Colson, Ward 4 State Board of Education Rep. (5 minutes)
 - a. DCPS – what factors are being considered when making the decision to open?
 - i. Ability for staff members to make it to schools is heavily considered

- ii. Requested that absences from snow days were not held against students and their regular unexcused absence quotas
- iii. Chronic absenteeism – have plans that are crafted at one school be able to transfer to their new school. Dr. Colson working to pass a resolution on the issue. 4A willing to support, if Dr. Colson is able to share resolution, we can pass one of our own
- iv. Building conditions – making sure that the heat is sufficient at all schools, another factor

COMMISSIONER/COMMUNITY DISCUSSIONS

1. Update: Deset Ethiopian Restaurant ABCA agreement (Commr. Akalu, Edwards) 5 minutes
 - a. Previous Settlement Agreement expired in 2019
 - b. New Agreement is the same as the old one, except that the only two parties are Deset and 4A (not the Rittenhouse Condominium Association)
 - c. Pending legal advisement, will use vote from last month's meeting to approve the Settlement Agreement, as it is functionally identical except for the parties to the agreement
 - d. No concerns from Commrs.
2. Update: 1415 Tuckerman St NW (Commr. Singleton) 5 minutes
 - a. A 66-unit apartment building was purchased last year, there were some issues regarding construction, safety issues, rodent issues. Working with DOB to have tenants submit complaints. Many seniors in the building – there are concerns that individuals are going to be displaced. 4A working with DOB and Office of the Tenant Advocate and the OAG. Just an update for the community that 4A is working with tenants, especially since we supported a recent request to convert some parking into additional units.
3. Public Service Commission: Utility rate setting process and opportunities for Community input Maurice Smith, Director Consumer Service (Commr. Edwards) 10 minutes
 - a. PSC is regulatory authority in DC. Only sets rates for distribution portion of your bill. Utilities will come to the PSC and make a request to change rates. Process can take up to 11-months.
 - b. Generation portion and transmission portion of bills are not set by the PSC. These rates are responsible for more recent increases in your bill. These are more reflective of regional market conditions.
 - c. PEPCO has no power generating capacity – purchases power regionally, as part of a 13-state group. Conducts auctions to purchase electricity that is generated by other suppliers.

- d. Historically, prices were steady. However, many older plants have recently been retired and demand is increasing and supply is not keeping up.
 - e. Managing price: decrease usage, increase efficiency, or seek assistance. PSC has assistance which can provide discounts, as well as there are Federal programs that can provide some relief. Not necessarily low-income programs.
 - f. Forecast: prices are not going to drop anytime soon
 - g. PSC or Office of People Counsel can help with complaints or if you find you are having issues paying your bill
 - h. Provided contact information for how to make comments and contact the PSC' currently in the midst of a rate case
 - i. Commr Edwards: 42% of PGM auctions are being allocated to Data Centers. A bit of history: Former, late, Commr. Whatley had worked to have some tax or fee removed from bill, so you can make a difference!
4. BZA Case #21437 Special Exception Application for Fast Food Restaurant 1155 Dahlia St NW Zachary Willims, Venable LP/Jason Bottcher, Wonder (Commr. Hara) 10 minutes
- a. Presented on what the Wonder concept is
 - b. Presented on proposed location and tenant space
 - c. Proposed hours 10AM – Midnight
 - d. Interior seating for 10-15 guests
 - e. Requires BZA relief because WR-3 requires a special exception for “fast food”
 - f. Commr. Holliday – delivery drivers, where will they queue?
 - i. 60% of work would be pick-up and delivery
 - ii. Wonder will work to manage the volume of delivery drivers
 - g. Commr. Hara – what is the interior going to be like? Will there be any issues for a wheelchair user?
 - i. Interior is at grade
 - ii. Will the doors have an automatic button? Not able to answer at this time, will look into it and get back to
 - h. Commr. Edwards – what about the food specifically qualifies it as fast food?
 - i. That not all food will be prepared on site
 - i. Commr. Singleton – Deliveries? When do you expect them?
 - i. Early morning, pre-rush hour
 - j. Commr Edwards – Late hours, delivery until late?
 - i. Yes
 - k. Commr. Edwards – Alcohol?
 - i. No
 - l. Community Member: Opening Date?
 - i. Mid-July

- m. Community Member: Nearest Location?
 - i. College Park, MD
- n. Commr. Edwards – can we have a special meeting to present to 4A03 specifically to see if there are any community concerns and then vote at the March meeting. Will do a joint meeting with 4B.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS (other than issues already on the agenda) (15 minutes)

- 1. Commr. Hoyte - earlier today there were several backpacks in the alley behind houses and it looked someone had dumped them by the trash
 - a. 311 – potential ICE operation? Called MPD – did not remove them
 - b. San Miguel school nearby – no students missing or have stuff unaccounted for
 - c. Very troubling – raising it to the community for input
 - d. Commr. Edwards to try to find some resources
- 2. Georgia Avenue Thrift Closing (5 minutes)
 - a. Dollar General is also closing down the street
- 3. Upcoming Performance Hearings, how to community members can participate (Commr. Edwards;10 minutes)
 - a. Many resources available, this is your chance to testify!
- 4. Inadequate Storm Drains in North Portal Estates
 - a. What can be done? How does this work get prioritized as it has been elsewhere?
 - i. Commr. Edwards – it's a cross-jurisdictional issue, has been working with MD
 - b. Not just a MD issue
 - c. Chair Edwards will assist and

ADJOURN

- 1. Commr. Holliday motions to Adjourn
- 2. Commr. Hara seconds
- 3. Vote: 6-0-0; PASSED

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:03 PM

Meeting Minutes Prepared by Comm. Jeffrey Holliday, 4A05, Secretary

s/ JEFFREY HOLLIDAY 5/29/2026

Approved at the March 2026 Meeting