

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C**  
**Adams Morgan**  
**Minutes of December 5, 2018**

**I. Call to Order and Introduction of the Commissioners**

A regularly scheduled meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C was held on December 5, 2018 at Mary's Center. Commissioner Huezo called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm. Over 40 members of the public attended. In attendance were Commissioners Amir Irani (1C01), Hector Huezo (1C02), Ted Guthrie (1C03), Wilson Reynolds (1C07), Amanda Fox Perry (1C08).

**II. Officers' Reports**

**a. Chair's Report**

Commissioner Huezo introduced incoming Commissioners Michaela Wright (1C06), Doug Ely (1C04), and Bridget Pooley (1C02) and presented them with symbolic keys to Adams Morgan. Commissioner Huezo then thanked all current, future, and past Commissioners for their service.

**b. Secretary's Report**

**i. Minutes for November 7, 2018 Meeting**

Commissioner Guthrie moved to approve the minutes of the November 7, 2018 monthly ANC 1C meeting. Commissioner Irani seconded the motion which then passed by a vote of 5 to 0.

**III. Commissioner Announcements**

- Commissioner Irani announced that there was a robbery on 18<sup>th</sup> Street and that information about it is posted on the ANC 1C website. He also announced that the ABC and Public Safety Committee would meet on Wednesday December 12<sup>th</sup> and the agenda would include information about boundary changes for the 3<sup>rd</sup> police districts and consideration of a new license request for Reveler's Hour.
- Commissioner Guthrie expressed his affection for the three Commissioners who would be leaving at the end of the year. He mentioned that he worked with Commissioner Reynolds for 11 years and also mentioned the spirit of inclusiveness and warmth that Commissioner Huezo brought as Chair. He added that the new group of Commissioners looks sharp and energized.
- Commissioner Reynolds reminded the public about how to recycle properly noting that waste increases over the holiday season. He also said people should protect their houses and apartments if they are travelling during the holidays by having their mail held, putting timers on their lights, and asking a neighbor to check on their place.
- Commissioner Guthrie reported that the Planning, Zoning, and Transportation Committee would have a combined meeting with the ABC Committee on December 12. He noted that the Public Services and the Environment Committee would probably not be meeting in December since there is nothing on the agenda. He also announced that the next full meeting of ANC 1C would be January 9, 2019 (not January 2).

**IV. Public Announcements / Comments**

- Reuben Forman, the Ward 1 Liaison from the Mayor's Office, commented on how much he enjoys working with the current ANC 1C Commissioners and is looking forward to working with the new Commissioners. He announced that the Mayor has made two recent appointments: Dr.

Lewis Ferebee as the new Chancellor for DC Public Schools; and Shawn Townsend as the Director of the Office of Nightlife and Culture. Mr. Forman also announced that it is open enrollment time for health insurance at [dcheathlink.com](http://dcheathlink.com); and that the DC2me initiative has been launched to provide a website and community engagement events for sharing visions and ideas for DC. Mr. Forman provided his contact information and said he would get back to a member of the public who asked about DCRA reorganization.

- Denis James announced that about 50 vendors would be at Unity Park, SunTrust Plaza, and BB&T Plaza for a holiday market on December 8 and 9, in part to make up for a rainy Adams Morgan Day. He said there would also be singing on steps of the Line Hotel that day.
- Paige Warner, Development Coordinator for Mary's Center, announced that they would be holding a toy drive for children in the community on December 21. She provided flyers with more information.
- Alan Roth thanked the departing Commissioners for their service. He also raised an issue about a change to help nonprofits with their water bills that treats religious groups more favorably than other nonprofits. He suggested that if people are concerned about this issue, they write to Tommy Wells, the Director of the Department of Energy and Environment.
- Carolina Geraldo from Councilmember Nadeau's office provided contact information and encouraged everyone to contact her with any issues.
- Crawford Sherman from the Line Hotel announced that the hotel has been opened one year and in order to celebrate they would invite the public in for coffee and cookies on December 20 from 7 to 10 am. He also said that during the holidays Ward 1 residents could use a special rate of \$109 a night with complimentary parking. Mr. Sherman also announced that a manager position was open for their Community Center and that they are asking that applicants for the job be Ward 1 residents.

## **V. Scheduled Business**

### **a. Public Services and the Environment Committee**

#### **i. Night of 1000 Fridas**

Theodore Carter presented plans for a Night of 1000 Fridas, a large-scale public art project to be held on January 25 featuring various depictions of Frida Kahlo. He said they will use artwork from community artists and asked for ANC 1C support for holding the event at Unity Park.

Commissioner Huezo moved that ANC 1C support the use of Unity Park on January 25 for a Night of 1000 Fridas. Commissioner Guthrie seconded the motion that passed by a vote of 5 to 0.

### **b. Planning, Zoning, and Transportation Committee**

#### **i. Jubilee Housing project**

Jim Knight, Executive Director of Jubilee Housing, provided background on their existing buildings and services and plans for their new building at 1724 Kalorama Road. He said the goal is to provide 25 family-sized affordable apartments on three levels of housing, and an additional top floor for their headquarters. Maureen Dwyer, Executive Director of Sitar Arts Center, described how they will be able to expand their programs on the ground floor of the building. Mr. Knight said the height and density of the proposal are matter of right, but they are asking the Board of Zoning Adjustment for relief from the requirement that they include 10 parking spaces on site, and are seeking ANC 1C support for that request.

Jim Knight, along with a traffic consultant, a land use attorney, and an architect, described plans for the building and for parking. He said three spots on the street can be provided by filling in curb

cuts and Jubilee staff will park elsewhere. Marty Mellett of Jubilee Housing said that in order to address parking and congestion issues that had been raised, they met with the District Department of Transportation to discuss removing some meters near the building and allowing designated spots for drop-off and pick-up hours for Sitar classes.

Members of the public asked how the new affordable apartments will be allotted; whether the trash will be picked up from the alley; whether allowing exceptions for this project would create a precedent for future developers seeking special exceptions; how pick-up of students from Sitar classes will be handled; how many of the new residents will need parking; whether Mary's Center has been consulted about parking; and, the likelihood that DDOT will grant the requested parking changes.

Other members of the public, including a neighbor from Kalorama Lofts next door, spoke in support of providing low-income housing and expanding the programs at Sitar, and expressed support for granting special exceptions when standards are properly met and the community approves.

Commissioners spoke in favor of Jubilee Housing's mission and proposal; and thanked Jubilee Housing and Sitar directors for taking to time to meet and work with the public on this.

Jim Knight raised the issue of DDOT's opposition to Jubilee's subsidy to their employees to offset transportation, and asked for ANC 1C's support in keeping the subsidy.

Commissioner Fox Perry moved a resolution expressing ANC1C support for Jubilee Housing's proposal for 1724 Kalorama Road NW and the relief they are seeking from the Board of Zoning Adjustment. Commissioner Huezo seconded the motion. Commissioner Fox Perry then amended the resolution by adding an expression of support for the existing transportation subsidy provided to Jubilee Housing employees. The amendment was adopted without objection. Commissioners then voted 5 to 0 to pass the resolution as amended.

## **ii. Rock and Roll Marathon**

Diane Thomas, representing the Rock "n" Roll Marathon, presented plans for the race to be held on Saturday, March 9, 2019. She said the proposed route will again come up from Rock Creek Park and continue on Calvert Street, Adams Mill Road, and Columbia Road and that the Metropolitan Police Department wants all streets on the route cleared of parked cars during the race.

Commissioner Guthrie said that he could not support the race if it involves asking people to move cars off the street. He suggested sending a letter similar to the one ANC 1C sent last year that was supportive of the race but not supportive of the clean sweep of vehicles which includes towing cars. Commissioner Huezo urged Ms. Thomas to work to ensure cars in Adams Morgan will not have to be moved off the route and to circulate ANC 1C's letter to the MPD and Councilmembers. She said she could come back to the ANC with an update in February. Commissioner Guthrie urged neighbors to contact the members of the DC Council about this.

Commissioner Guthrie moved that ANC 1C send a letter of support for the Rock "n" Roll Marathon provided that MPD's request to move, tow, or ticket vehicles in Adams Morgan be reversed. Commissioner Fox Perry seconded the motion that then passed by a vote of 5 to 0.

**iii. 2910 18<sup>th</sup> Street construction permit**

Guillermo Rueda, an architect who has lived in Lanier Heights for 25 years, presented background on a construction permit for 2910 18<sup>th</sup> Street. He owns adjoining property at 2912 18<sup>th</sup> Street and had to vacate his property for two months during demolition at 2910. Mr. Rueda asked for ANC 1C support for an appeal of this permit based on several zoning violations.

Commissioner Guthrie moved that the matter involving 2910 18<sup>th</sup> Street be added to the agenda without the usual ten days' notice on the basis that failure to do so would be adverse to the community. He explained that the deadline to file an appeal falls before the January ANC meeting. Commissioner Huezo seconded the procedural motion that then passed by a vote of 5 to 0.

Commissioner Guthrie then moved a resolution authorizing an appeal of the construction permit for 2910 18<sup>th</sup> Street NW, with any ANC 1C Commissioner. Commissioner Irani seconded the motion.

The original resolution was amended without objection to name Alan Gambrell rather than Guillermo Rueda as an expert authorized to act on behalf of ANC 1C in this matter. Commissioners then passed the resolution as amended by a vote of 5 to 0.

**iv. 2920 18<sup>th</sup> Street construction permit**

Guillermo Rueda provided background information on a construction permit for 2920 18<sup>th</sup> Street explaining that the developer altered the grade measurement in order to get a favorable ruling on additional stories, which would otherwise be a zoning violation.

Commissioner Guthrie moved that the matter involving 2920 18<sup>th</sup> Street be added to the agenda without the usual ten days' notice on the basis that failure to do so would be adverse to the community. He explained that the deadline to file an appeal falls before the January ANC meeting. Commissioner Huezo seconded the procedural motion that then passed by a vote of 5 to 0.

Commissioner Guthrie then moved a resolution authorizing an appeal of the construction permit for 2920 18<sup>th</sup> Street NW, with any ANC 1C Commissioner and Guillermo Rueda authorized to act on behalf of ANC 1C on this matter. Commissioner Irani seconded the motion that then passed by a vote of 5 to 0.

**VI. Adjournment**

Commissioner Huezo moved to adjourn at 9:21 pm. Commissioner Reynolds seconded the motion which passed unanimously.