

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C**  
**Adams Morgan**  
**Minutes of April 7, 2021**

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

A meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C was held electronically on April 7, 2021. Commissioner Irani called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm. Members of the public joined electronically. In attendance were Commissioners Amir Irani (1C01), Celeste Carano (1C02), Peter Wood (1C03), Meghan Faulkner (1C04), Zack Gold (1C05), Benjamin Hart Butz (1C06), Japer Bowles (1C07), and Fiona Clem (1C08).

**II. Officers' Reports**

**A. Chair's Report**

Commissioner Irani announced that all DC residents ages 16 and older would be eligible to receive the COVID vaccine beginning on April 19 and that pre-registration can be done at [vaccinate.dc.gov](https://vaccinate.dc.gov) or by calling on website or by calling 1-855-363-0333.

He also announced that Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton's office would accept applications for fiscal year 2022 community project funding until April 12. He posted links in the chat for more information: [Appropriations Requests | House Committee on Appropriations](#) and where to send requests: [NortonCommunityProjectFunding@mail.house.gov](mailto:NortonCommunityProjectFunding@mail.house.gov).

**B. Secretary's Report**

Commissioner Clem had no updates.

**C. Treasurer's Report**

Commissioner Faulkner gave an update on ANC 1C finances. She said the quarterly financial report would be ready for review at the May meeting.

**III. Commissioner Announcements/Committee Meeting Agendas**

- Commissioner Clem reminded everyone to cover plants in anticipation of the coming cicadas.
- Commissioner Bowles announced that the agenda for the April 7 ABC and Public Safety Committee meeting would include the police report, a possible settlement agreement with Air, and consideration of license renewals for liquor stores.
- Commissioner Bowles noted that the DC budget process has been postponed for another month adding that he would like the ANC to consider supporting budget requests such as funding for the Way Home Campaign to address homelessness.
- Commissioner Butz noted that contrary to some reports, COVID vaccines are not available at Harris Teeter. He urged everyone to go through the DC vaccine process mentioned earlier.
- Commissioner Butz also reported that the new pedestrian crossing lights are now installed at 16<sup>th</sup> Street and Kalorama Road.

- Commissioner Gold said that the Kalorama Pharmacy will carry the vaccine, and that DC residents now will be able to receive the vaccine in Maryland.
- Commissioner Gold announced that Congresswoman Norton would be holding a public event on April 8 on improving transportation in DC and provided an RSVP address: [NortonEvents@mail.house.gov](mailto:NortonEvents@mail.house.gov).
- Commissioner Gold reported that the DC Office of Planning had requested limited public access to the café planned for 1630 Columbia Road. He noted that he had been contacted by constituents who want access to the café; that ANC 1C had previously approved plans that included public access; and that he and Commissioners Irani and Butz submitted testimony to the BZA on this issue.
- Commissioner Gold reported that the March meeting of the Planning, Zoning, and Transportation Committee included a discussion of the DC Future Land Use Map; and a proposal for tree plantings at BB&T plaza that would be voted on at this meeting. He said the agenda for the PZT April 21 meeting would be posted on the website and would include consideration of street art projects and traffic safety assessments for the southern part of Columbia Road.
- Commissioner Faulkner announced that the dog park in Walter Pierce Park now has new gravel.
- Commissioner Wood reported on a clean-up of Unity Park in March and announced that there would be a ceremony in Kalorama Park on April 18 to receive a flag donated by the Daughters of the American Revolution.
- Commissioner Wood also said he is working on an event for Earth Day possibly with other ANCs and would announce the details when finalized.
- Commissioner Carano said the Public Services and the Environment Committee will consider adjustments to the grant application process at its April meeting.
- Commissioner Carano said anyone who wants to receive her newsletter should contact her. She also provided a link in the chat for the Greenbelt, Maryland vaccination site that Commissioner Gold mentioned: <https://onestop.md.gov/preregistration>.

#### **IV. Ward 1 Councilmember Brienne Nadeau will share important updates from the DC Council.**

Councilmember Brienne Nadeau reported that [budget proceedings](#) are on pause to incorporate \$2.3 billion from the federal government and provided a link to her [budget requests](#). She said her oversight hearings this year included issues related to the public health emergency including opening hotels for those experiencing homelessness. She spoke about vaccine availability in DC and efforts by her staff to get seniors vaccinated including a clinic in Columbia Heights. She reported on improved oversight of efforts to house those experiencing homelessness; school budget cuts; and the Building Blocks DC program which offers interagency services in high-crime blocks.

Councilmember Nadeau also discussed conversations with Truist Bank regarding use of the plaza; efforts to move the farmers market to Unity Park; improving trash pick-up at Kalorama Park; and plans for a possible weekend pedestrian zone on 18<sup>th</sup> Street. She said her next telephone chat would be on April 19<sup>th</sup> and she looks forward to returning to in-person meetings when safe.

Commissioners and members of the public asked the Councilmember about the proposed sugary beverage tax; the [Harmonious Living bill](#) to address sound levels in residential neighborhoods while

protecting local music culture; the lag in distribution of unemployment benefits; rental assistance; and thanked her for supporting safe streets initiatives.

#### **V. Pepco update on the Capital Grid project and the Champlain substation**

Travis Culpepper and Tim Bugh from Pepco provided an update on the [Capital Grid project](#). They said cable replacement in Adams Morgan is expected to continue through the summer with brief power outages; the upgrade of the [Champlain Substation](#) will involve construction for transmission lines in 2022; and construction on the substation itself from 2023 to 2026. Commissioners and members of the public asked about the cable project in Lanier Heights and repair of outlets in Unity Park. Mr. Culpepper said they would like to start a community advisory group once construction starts and provided the following contact information: 1-833-CAP-GRID (227-4743); [www.pepco.com/CapitalGrid](http://www.pepco.com/CapitalGrid); Email: [CapitalGrid@Pepco.com](mailto:CapitalGrid@Pepco.com); Social Media: use #CapGrid.

#### **VI. Public Announcements/Comments**

- Kristen Barden of the Adams Morgan BID thanked Councilmember Nadeau for help in relocating the farmers market and a possible 18<sup>th</sup> pedestrian zone. She noted that the cherry blossom sculpture will stay until early May and that an [AdMo Art Walk](#) will run through May 14 as well as a murals walking tour. She announced that Embrace Yoga will hold outdoor yoga classes at Truist/BB&T plaza this spring; there will be a pit stop at Unity Park on Bike to Work Day, May 21; a book festival in late May; and possibly drag story time in Unity Park this spring and summer. Finally, she said they hope to resume movie nights in June or July.
- Nick Roland of the Reed-Cooke Neighborhood Association thanked everyone who came to the March 20 community clean-up. He announced that RCNA and the DC Department of Parks and Recreation have an agreement for RCNA to adopt Unity Park and said they hope to bring vendors to that space and beautify it.
- KJ Hughes said he felt he was not provided adequate time to speak at the March meeting. He said ANC 1C said took an adverse position on his business and asked that a discussion of the settlement agreement process and how to make it more transparent and equitable be added to the ANC 1C agenda. Commissioner Irani said that would be appropriate for the ABC Committee agenda.

#### **VII. Consent Agenda**

Commissioner Irani moved for approval of the Consent Agenda which consisted of [minutes](#) from the March 2021 ANC meeting. Commissioners then passed the consent agenda by a vote of 8 to 0.

#### **VIII. Regular Agenda**

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

##### **1. Resolution in support of a tree plantings plan**

Commissioner Irani moved to consider a [resolution](#) in support of a tree plantings [plan](#) by DDOT's Urban Forestry division for the public space at the northeast intersection of 18th Street / Adams Mill Road and Columbia Road. Commissioner Gold seconded the resolution.

Commissioner Gold said the PZT Committee discussed this plan for a tree canopy to provide shade at that corner and noted that the plan previously approved by ANC 1C was rejected by DDOT. He added

that this plan would also move and enlarge the existing bike station. Commissioners discussed whether any developments are planned for that space; whether there would still be room for events there; any concerns of adjacent businesses; possible future additions to the plaza; and making use of the available tree funding for now. An amendment to add designated commissioners as contacts was accepted without objection. Commissioners then passed the resolution by a vote of 8 to 0.

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

### **1. Grant application submitted by Momentum Health**

Commissioner Irani moved for approval of a [grant request](#) from [Momentum Health](#) which came out of the Public Services and the Environment Committee with an affirmative vote. Commissioner Carano provided background on the grant request of \$4,000 submitted by Momentum Health for its Healthy Brothers program for queer and unhoused youth of color and for an emergency meals program.

Sammi Nesbit, CEO of Momentum Health, answered Commissioners questions about the origin of the program and how it came to DC, how meal recipients are found, how many meals the ANC funds would provide, plans for long-term funding, provisions of wrap-around services with cohorts, and whether the request fits within the Office of ANCs grant rules. Commissioner Carano said she had confirmed with Gottlieb Simon of OANC that this would be approved under health emergency guidelines for grants. Commissioners then approved the grant by a vote of 8 to 0.

### **2. Grant application submitted by Marie Reed Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)**

Commissioner Carano moved to table a grant application submitted by the Marie Reed Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) to get more clarity on the request. Commissioner Irani second the motion to table that passed by a vote of 8 to 0.

### **3. Grant application submitted by Marie Reed Community Support Fund**

Commissioner Carano moved to table a grant application submitted by the Marie Reed Community Support Fund to get more clarity on the request. Commissioner Irani seconded the motion that passed by a vote of 8 to 0.

### **4. Grant application submitted by Fund for Kalorama Park**

Commissioner Carano moved to table a grant application submitted by the Fund for Kalorama Park noting that they may be withdrawing the request. Commissioner Irani seconded the motion that passed by a vote of 8 to 0.

## **IX. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:07 pm.