

**ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 1C
MINUTES OF APRIL 4, 2001 MEETING**

A meeting of the Commissioners of Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 1C was held at Marie Reed Learning Center on April 4, 2001. Chairperson Miscuk called the meeting to order as scheduled at 7:00 pm.

1. ATTENDANCE

Commissioners present: Roth, Wright, Miscuk, Schott, Jovanka, Johnson, Gibson, Brody, and Klempay. Approximately 10 members of the public attended.

2. NOTICE

Notice of the meeting was duly provided to Commissioners and the community.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

Chairperson Miscuk called the consent agenda and, by unanimous consent, the following items were approved by the ANC:

-- Reimbursements to Commissioner Miscuk for the following expenses incurred prior to approval of the ANC's budget: \$6.00 for parking at ABC hearing, \$4.97 for agenda meeting photocopying, \$14.72 for agenda meeting photocopying.

-- A resolution submitted by Commissioner Wright requesting the installation of a stop sign at 19th Street and Belmont Road, as follows:

WHEREAS, citizens have expressed concern about pedestrian safety and traffic speeds in the intersection of 19th Street NW and Belmont Road, NW; and

WHEREAS, the crosswalk at that intersection is located at the foot of frequently used steps and a walkway into Kalorama Park from 19th Street; and

WHEREAS, the Kalorama Park basketball courts--which attract many users (especially children and young adults) from surrounding neighborhoods--are also located adjacent to said intersection and the walkway; and

WHEREAS, residences surround the intersection on all other sides, and the intersection is a well-used "crossroads" both for pedestrians and motorists through the neighborhood, especially during fair-weather months;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that ANC 1C requests that a two-way stop sign be installed on 19th Street at the intersection with Belmont Road, NW as soon as possible by the DC Department of Public Works or other appropriate agency.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Roth submitted the minutes of the ANC's February 26, 2001 meeting. Commissioner Wright moved that the minutes be approved as submitted (seconded by Commissioner Gibson). Motion approved by voice vote.

5. REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Chairperson Miscuk -- 1) ANC's office lease expires in approximately 2 months. Letter to Mayor's office requesting space under the new ANC statute has not been answered; the possibility of city-provided office space is being further explored through informal channels. Chairperson Miscuk does not intend to propose renewing the lease at the current office or entering into a commercial lease for other space.

2) ANC has received notice from the Zoning Commission of a May 7, 2001 hearing on a proposed rule governing Electronics Equipment Facilities in the event we wish to comment. The matter was referred to the Committee on Public Works and Regulatory Affairs for consideration.

3) The community room at the Third District police station is still under renovation but will be made available to the ANC for its meetings once renovations are completed.

Treasurer Gibson -- 1) As of April 2, 2001, the ANC's account balance is \$21,719.12. Receipt of the ANC's quarterly allotment from the District government has been delayed by the Auditor due to their request for verification of certain year 2000 transactions and grants. Chairperson Miscuk noted that the Auditor's office does in fact have the grant materials they requested because the ANC always sends these materials to the Auditor for review before a grant is disbursed.

2) Verizon has not as yet set up the multi-box voice mail system on the ANC's telephone.

Commissioner Johnson moved to approve the payment of up to \$100 to the Marie Reed Learning Center's custodian for overtime in order to facilitate the ANC's scheduled meeting on April 16, 2001 (a school holiday) (seconded by Commissioner Gibson). Motion approved by voice vote.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Grants – Commissioner Wright reported that the committee had met and approved recommended changes in the ANC grant guidelines to be submitted for full ANC approval later in the meeting.

Public Safety – Community Senior Advisor Lisa Duperier informed the ANC and the community of the committee's tentative plan to meet on the 4th Monday of each month, to coincide with the Third District's Citizens Advisory Committee meeting. She also distributed a copy of the committee's monthly public safety update. Lt. Bill O'Connor was recognized to give the Third

District's monthly report on crime in Adams Morgan. He also answered questions from Commissioners and community members.

ABC – Commissioner Brody announced that there were no outstanding issues pending, and that a committee meeting would be scheduled for later in April.

Public Works and Regulatory Affairs – Commissioner Schott announced that a meeting of the committee would be held the following evening, Thursday, April 5th, at 7:00 pm, but that the regular monthly meeting of the committee is scheduled for the second Monday of each month. The April 5th agenda includes looking at the Zoning Commission's EEF proceeding and reviewing progress on the SMD punchlists.

Communications – Commissioner Gibson announced that the next meeting of the committee would be held on Tuesday, April 10th, at 7:30 am at The Diner, 2451 18th St., NW, and that the committee's regular monthly meeting occurs on the second Tuesday of each month at that time and location.

Quality of Life – Commissioner Johnson reported that no standard meeting time had yet been established for the committee. The committee is also looking for volunteers, including a pro bono attorney, to guide a local family through a housing dispute arising out of the recent death of a family member.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Commending Former Commissioners – Commissioner Schott (seconded by Commissioner Wright) moved that the ANC send letters to its former Commissioners (Softli, Faith, Llorente, Letsinger, and Mason) thanking them for their service. Approved by voice vote.

Pub Crawls – Chairperson Miscuk (seconded by Commissioner Roth) moved that the ANC send a letter to the 25 ABC establishments that have signed voluntary agreements promising not to participate in pub crawls, advising them that the ANC will consider participation in Lindy Promotions' so-called "pub tour" to be a violation of their voluntary agreements that would be pursued with ABC Board. Approved by voice vote.

Kokopolis Voluntary Agreement – Chairperson Miscuk (seconded by Commissioner Brody) moved to approve an out-of-cycle voluntary agreement in which Kokopolis agrees not to participate in pub crawls. (Commissioner Schott requested that a letter be sent to the ABC Board requesting incorporation of the voluntary agreement into the establishment's ABC license.) Approved by voice vote.

PN Hoffman Billboards – Commissioner Gibson (seconded by Commissioner Wright) offered a resolution requesting PN Hoffman not to place any large advertisements for its mixed

use project between 18th and Champlain Streets without prior consultation with the ANC, and opposing permitting for such signs if no such consultation takes place. After discussion of the resolution, Chairperson Miscuk moved (seconded by Commissioner Johnson) that the matter be referred to the Committee on Public Works and Regulatory Affairs and that it be considered further at the ANC's Open Forum meeting on April 16. Approved by voice vote.

Pocket Park Water Turn-On – Commissioner Wright (seconded by Commissioner Schott) offered a resolution requesting the Department of Public Works or other appropriate agency to restore the public water supply at the garden at 20th and Biltmore Streets, NW. Commissioner Johnson offered an amendment (adopted by unanimous consent) to additionally advise DPW of the importance of keeping public water supplies available to other public parks and gardens. The resolution, as amended, was approved by voice vote, as follows:

WHEREAS, the garden at 20th Street, NW and Biltmore Street, NW has been used by residents in the surrounding neighborhood for many years; and

WHEREAS, the public water supply at the garden became unavailable as an apparently unintended consequence of nearby road work; and

WHEREAS, a private supply of water from a nearby apartment building has been used by gardeners on an informal basis, but that water is private property not meant for public access; and

WHEREAS, the spring and summer gardening season is gearing up and a reliable supply of public water is needed for this public space;

NOW, THEREFORE, ANC 1C requests that the DC Department of Public Works or other appropriate agency restore the public water supply to said garden as soon as possible; and further, to advise DPW and other relevant agencies of the importance of keeping water open to other public parks and gardens during road repairs and similar projects.

Fire Safety Education – Commissioner Wright offered the following resolution (seconded by Commissioner Gibson), which was approved by voice vote:

WHEREAS, ANC 1C recognizes that fire prevention and safety is important to the health and welfare of residents, businesses, and visitors in this community; and

WHEREAS, ANC 1C is in a position to advance fire prevention and safety suggestions in this community by means of its public meetings and by bringing recommendations to the attention of the D.C. Government; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner representing ANC 1C single member district 02 has reviewed the recommendations outlined herein with the DC Fire & EMS Public Affairs Office;

NOW, THEREFORE, ANC 1C recommends that the following steps be taken by the D.C. Government to enhance fire safety education within this community:

- A. Notify each residence of the availability of a free home fire safety inspection by Fire & EMS.*
- B. Notify each residence that Fire & EMS will provide a free smoke detector to any D.C. resident who requests one.*
- C. Distribute a fire safety checklist (bilingual) to all ANC 1C residents.*
- D. Hold an ANC 1C community forum on the topic of fire safety for residences and businesses.*
- E. Include a link on the ANC 1C Web site to the D.C. Department of Fire & EMS (<http://fems.washingtondc.gov/main.shtml>) and the United States Fire Administration (<http://www.usfa.fema.gov/safety/safety.htm>) sites, which provide fire safety information.*
- F. Include fire safety in the mission of the ANC 1C Public Safety Committee.*

Fire Safety Enforcement – Commissioner Wright offered a resolution (seconded by Commissioner Roth) recommending the doubling of fines and vigorous enforcement for parking at fire hydrants in ANC 1C. Commissioner Schott offered an amendment (accepted by unanimous consent) striking “parking at a fire hydrant” and inserting “blocking a fire hydrant.” Commissioner Roth (seconded by Commissioner Wright) offered an amendment to add a specific call for towing of vehicles blocking fire hydrants. Following debate, the Roth amendment was approved by a vote of 6-2. Chairperson Miscuk moved to call the question on the resolution as amended (seconded by Commissioner Brody). Approved 7-0. The resolution, as amended, was then approved by a vote of 6-2, as follows:

WHEREAS, parking in front of a fire hydrant prevents or inhibits free and unobstructed access to the hydrant in the event emergency personnel require such access; and

WHEREAS, parking in front of a fire hydrant is illegal under D.C. law; and

WHEREAS, some individuals nevertheless park in front of hydrants, thus threatening public safety;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT ANC 1C recommends that the fine for blocking a fire hydrant within the District of Columbia be doubled, and that vehicles blocking a hydrant be towed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT ANC 1C hereby, and in a letter to be sent for this purpose, request that the MPD (3rd District) and DPW Parking Enforcement make the vigorous enforcement of parking restrictions at fire hydrants a priority within ANC 1C seven days a week, 24 hours a day.

Fire Safety Engineering – Commissioner Wright offered a resolution (seconded by Commissioner Johnson) recommending that various engineering measures be undertaken by the appropriate agencies to ensure fire hydrants are working and accessible. Commissioner Gibson

asked unanimous consent to include language regarding the placement of signage at hydrants, but objection was heard. Following debate, Chairperson Miscuk moved to call the question on the resolution (seconded by Commissioner Johnson). Approved by voice vote. The resolution was then approved by a vote of 8-0, as follows:

WHEREAS, ANC 1C would like to receive periodic information from DC Fire & EMS about the number and causes of fires within the ANC's boundaries; and

WHEREAS, ANC 1C is concerned that all fire hydrants serving this community be maintained for constant readiness, and that any out of service hydrants quickly be returned to working order; and

WHEREAS, some motorists might be confused about or unaware of parking restrictions at fire hydrants due to conflicting signage or other causes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT ANC 1C recommends that the appropriate agency of the DC Government apply reflective paint to the curb beneath each fire hydrant to show the legal parking limit; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT ANC 1C requests that the appropriate department(s) review zone parking signage located at fire hydrants, and remove those signs that might confuse motorists by appearing to permit parking at the hydrant. (Example: 2025 Kalorama Rd. NW); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT ANC 1C requests a quarterly report to from Fire & EMS on the number and cause of fires within this ANC; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT ANC 1C requests a quarterly report to from WASA or other applicable entities identifying out-of-service hydrants within this ANC and the steps planned to return them to service.

Grant Guidelines – Commissioner Wright moved (seconded by Commissioner Johnson) that the revisions to ANC 1C’s Grant Guidelines and Policy Statement recommended by the Grants Committee be accepted and enacted; and that a final copy be made available on the ANC’s website and be provided to each ANC 1C Commissioner (either electronically or on paper, depending on each Commissioner’s preference) by or at the next regular meeting of the ANC. Chairperson Miscuk offered an amendment (accepted by unanimous consent) to strike “Two-thirds of the Commission” and insert “Two-thirds of the serving Commissioners” in draft paragraph 9, pertaining to waiving the grant policy. The Grant Guidelines and Policy Statement, as amended, were then approved by a vote of 8-0, with Commissioner Schott abstaining.

Replacement of Trees – Chairperson Miscuk moved (seconded by Commissioner Roth) that ANC 1C request that DPW replace the trees that were removed by the District government from the following locations: 1 tree in median in front of 2711 Adams Mill Road, and 3 trees on the sidewalk between 2711 and 2727 Adams Mill Road. Following debate, Chairperson Miscuk

moved to call the question on the motion (seconded by Commissioner Johnson). Approved by voice vote. The motion was then approved by a vote of 8-1.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Johnson – (1) A rental housing meeting sponsored by the Coalition for Housing Justice will be held on April 10th at 1634 14th Street, NW. (2) An SMD 1C06 meeting will be held on April 28th, from 7 to 8 pm, at the Dorchester.

Commissioner Jovanka – A walk-through is planned for Saturday, April 7th at noon in the alley behind Chief Ike's to examine complaints regarding the need for alley repairs and cleaning.

Commissioner Roth – (1) Mary's Center for Maternal and Child Care is conducting its first annual Art Exhibition and Charitable Auction in their new space at 1711 Kalorama Road, NW. There will be a reception and silent auction on Friday, April 6th from 6 to 8 pm, and an exhibit and silent auction on Saturday and Sunday, April 7th and 8th, from noon to 8 pm. (2) The hours at the 18th St./Kalorama Road post office will reportedly be cut back on account of staffing shortages. We should consider what if any steps to take if these reports turn out to be accurate.

Commissioner Miscuk – The ANC's April 16th Open Forum meeting will take place at Marie Reed Learning Center, subject to complications arising from the school holiday or the possible availability of the community room at the 3rd District MPD station.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Johnson moved (seconded by Commissioner Klempay) that the meeting be adjourned. Approved by voice vote. Whereupon, at approximately 9:05 p.m., the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Roth, SMD 1C01