

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 1B

Government of the District of Columbia

Columbia Heights / LeDroit Park / Shaw / University Heights

7 October 2004, True Reformer Building, 1200 U Street NW

Attending: Commissioners Spalding, Hammonds, Butler, Skinner, Esters, Wright

Absent: Commissioners Guyot, Thomas, Houston, Wilson

Quorum was late in arriving, and meeting began with Community Announcements at 7:14PM. Warren Graves from Washington Sports & Entertainment spoke about the major league baseball decision. Mr. Graves gave details about the projected site of a new baseball stadium and an explanation on the funding for building the stadium. A quorum was achieved at 7:20. Mr. Graves was asked if the stadium allowed use by other District groups like schools, and Mr. Graves stated that it was his understanding that six days would be made available for District use. Commissioner Skinner asked about Councilmember Fenty's proposal to adapt RFK, and Mr. Graves responded that the business community would be unlikely to support the upgrade of RFK as a substitution for the new stadium. Constituent Paul Robertson asked about the participation of businesses with gross receipts over \$3 million, and Mr. Graves stated that this is the agreement that has been reached. Mr. Robertson stated that his business has receipts over three million and no one had asked his opinion, and Mr. Graves responded that business groups and associations representing the businesses had signed on to the agreement. Commissioner Esters asked about the naming rights for the new stadium and who would control the monies generated from the naming rights, and Mr. Graves responded that it had been agreed that the revenues from the naming rights would go to the new owners. Mr. Graves stated that they are building a web site to answer questions about the team, stadium, process and financing.

In the Secretary's report Commissioner Spalding reported that two zoning issues had been decided including support for the interim use of the building on 7th Street by Howard University, and the back deck in the 1200 block of Clifton Street by Pablo Martinez was allowed. ABRA protest negotiations are ongoing regarding the applications of Tena Café and Arena Liquor. Minutes of the September meeting were moved, seconded and adopted unanimously (6-0-0). In the Treasurer's report Commissioner Esters reported that we have an estimated \$70,791.67 currently in our account, but the monthly statement has not arrived and the figure is our best estimate of the current balance based on known activity. In the past month checks were written for: CK#1550, History of Rhythm & Blues grant for \$4,000, CK#1551 Arts of Youth grant,

\$4,000, CK#1552 Secretarial expenses \$56.72, CK#1553 to Faircliff Plaza grant \$2,000, CK# 1554 to #10 Parent Assoc. \$3,500, for a total of \$13,556.72. Treasurer's report was moved, seconded and adopted unanimously (6-0-0). Submitted secretarial expenses for September in the amount of \$135.15 was moved, seconded and adopted unanimously (6-0-0). Treasurer's expense for preparation of the Quarterly Report of \$261.82 was moved, seconded and adopted unanimously (6-0-0). ANC1B's 3rd Quarter Report of Financial Activity was presented to the Commission, and it was moved, seconded and adopted unanimously (6-0-0).

Continuing with Community Events and Announcements Karyn Good LeBlanc from DDOT IPMA spoke to the ongoing work in LeDroit Park. Phase 2 of the LeDroit Streetscape project will be underway soon, and meetings have been held with the LeDroit Park Civic Association. Ms. LeBlanc stated that she wanted to keep all of the neighbors and local groups apprised of the schedules for work that would be occurring, and will come back to the ANC to report on specifics as they develop in the work schedule. Ms. LeBlanc can be reached at Karyn.leblanc@dc.gov. Commissioner Skinner asked if they had arranged for other methods of reaching the community, and Ms. LeBlanc said that they have asked those with email connections to print copies of current status and details and to share with their neighbors. Craig MacIvor of the CSNA announced that on October 16th the median on Vermont Avenue would be holding a tree planting. This project spearheaded by the Eastenders Neighborhood Assoc. asked DDOT to remove the concrete from the median and replace it with soil, and in cooperation with DC Greenworks will be planting trees and next spring perennials in the median strip. The regular meeting of CSNA will be held at the True Reformer next Thursday the 14th at 7PM. Ernest Springs announced the formation of the Meridian Hill Neighborhood Association, which is an expansion of the well known Florida Avenue Watch. They are doing a neighborhood cleanup on the 16th, and will come back to ANC1B for support for future neighborhood cleanups. Commissioner Spalding asked about their meetings, and Mr. Springs stated that they would be meeting on third Tuesdays. Roland Roebuck announced that the Hispanic Festival would be having an activity at Cardozo High School Stadium on Sunday, October 10th from 11 AM to 6 PM. Information is available from fiestadc@univision.com or www.consejo.org. Commissioner Skinner requested that they alert the residential neighbors to the event, and Mr. Roebuck agreed that they would do so. William Jordan with the Columbia Heights Development Task Force stated that their organization is trying to form a Main Streets bid. Mr. Jordan also announced that in conjunction with the Casey Trees Endowment they would be planting trees on Saturday, October 23rd from 9 AM to noon, and more information is available at 202-833-4010 or at www.caseytrees.org. Myla Moss, President of the LeDroit Park Civic Assoc. announced that they would be holding their community day's festival on October 23rd, and that they had launched their website at www.ledroitparkdc.com.

In the presentations portion of the agenda the Department of Parks and Recreation were not present, and we will invite them to participate on the November calendar. Janet Phoenix representing the Howard University Center for Urban Progress announced that they would be holding a lead poisoning prevention festival from 11 AM to 3 PM on Saturday, October 9th at

Banneker Park. Ms. Phoenix requested a letter of support from the ANC to present to the Dept. of Parks and Recreation required for their use of the park, and the Commission voted unanimously (6-0-0) to draft and send the required letter.

Dan Driscoll and Lezlie Downing from Easter Seals appeared before the Commission seeking support for their application for a grant from DHCD for improvements to their building. Commissioner Spalding reminded the Commission that we had supported an earlier grant application to DHCD that Easter Seals did not win. Mr. Driscoll explained that the previous grant application was well received, but technicalities prevent the award. They have continued with the work on their building, and now are asking for support for a grant from DHCD to address both interior and exterior work to make the Child Development Center safer and more functional, and hopefully to increase the number of children that they are able to serve. Mr. Driscoll ran through the list of improvements that would be covered by the new grant application. Information on the grant application is available from ddriscoll@eseal.org. Ms. Downing added that over 60% of the children served are physically challenged with wheel chairs and braces, and that the grant would help Easter Seals comply with ADA guidelines and ease of use for those facing physical difficulties using the programs. Commissioner Skinner referenced the difficulties with gentrification displacing other community serving agencies and asked if they planned on staying in the community, and Mr. Driscoll responded that they have been serving the community from this facility since 1955 and planned on staying with this facility for the foreseeable future. Motion to support Easter Seals grant application to DHCD was moved, seconded and adopted unanimously (6-0-0).

Members of the team composed of the Development Corp. of Columbia Heights, Roadside Development, and Metropolis Development introduced the Commission to their design for development of Parcel 34. Shelore Williams from DCCH explained that their organization had been working with the community and development projects for many years including their participation in the development of the Nehemiah Project prior to the installation of the green line. Robert Moore, CEO of DCCH, described the development of Parcel 34 as a 'new front door' for 14th Street. Our desire at DCCH has been to attract a stellar development team that covered retail development, housing specialists and our own history and knowledge of the community. Merrick Malone, a principal at Metropolis Development Co., described their current projects on 14th Street developing both retail and residential properties. Our projections for Parcel 34's development include 12,000 feet of retail, fifty-eight parking spaces serving both the retail and residential components, and fifty-five residential units. Mr. Merrick described the history of development in this area when the only participants were DCCH and Manna, and now that everyone is interested it's time to include those who bring their rich history of involvement in the neighborhood. David Gennerone of Roadside Development described their history in placing retail components of development projects. The current projection is for one anchor tenant and space for some smaller local businesses. They are partnered with the Madison Retail Group and focus on destination retail clients. Mr. Moore stressed DCCH's commitment to LSDBE programs as a core focus of their proposal. Dale Stuart represented the architects from

CORE who will be designing the building. Mr. Stuart pointed out that they designed the Minority Aids Building on 13th, and the new building over the Metro entrance at 13th and U. Mr. Stuart explained that because the site impacts both residential streets and the more commercial 14th Street, they have tried to reflect the buildings on each of the designs facades. Because the site is on a grade, the parking entrance will be off Florida Avenue, and the entrance to the residential units will be one level higher and enter off Belmont. Commissioner Butler asked whether NCRC has made their short list of developers, and applicant responded that they haven't and are also not sure of the date that the short list will be announced. Commissioner Butler suggested that the parking entrance off Florida Avenue might present a hazardous situation, and suggested that the architects consider having the entrance use the alley on the west side of the project. Commissioner Skinner introduced the possibility of a special meeting of ANC1B to review the bidder's designs for Parcel 34, and suggested that Commission Houston's recommendation of a meeting on Wednesday, October 27th at 7PM here at the True Reformer be discussed by the Commission. The Commission voted to attempt to arrange a special meeting of ANC1B and it carried (6-0-0).

Gene Jones, District Executive Director, introduced himself to the community, and described the programs currently available at the Anthony Bowen Y located in the 1300 block of W Street. Information of the Y is available at www.ymcawashdc.org. Dee Hunter from Harrison Square mentioned that his neighbors in Harrison Square have a great deal of interest in the Y, and may have expertise to share with the Y's programs and development.

Commissioner Spalding introduced review of BZA application 17233 of York Van Nixon IV, who is requesting variances to allow a third floor addition to an existing nonconforming two storey single family row house at 2237 10th Street. Marlene Jefferson, architect, stated that the property is nonconforming due to the rear yard, and they are proposing to add an additional floor in order to provide an additional bedroom to the property. Commissioner Spalding pointed out that the property is not located in the historic district, and is not subject to design review. Commissioner Spalding asked the architects to consider tilting the third storey addition back slightly and changing the three façade windows to dormers and surfacing with imitation slate. This might lessen the impact of the massing of the building in a predominately two storey row of houses. The benefit is in lessening the impact of increasing the height to three storeys, with the additional storey resembling a roof structure rather than a full three storey façade. Architects agreed to consider the suggestion. Commissioner Spalding moved support for the application for variances to 2001.3 (a&b), 402.4 & 33103.2, and additionally requested that he be designated ANC1B's representative before the BZA on this application, and it was seconded and adopted unanimously (6-0-0).

Commissioner Spalding stated that DDOT has been planning to commence a detailed study of the U Street corridor for many years, and they have now initiated the process. The area covered

has been expanded to include portions of 7th and 9th Streets impacted by Office of Planning's Uptown Destination District work. The first public meeting was held just a week ago, and everyone is encouraged to attend future public meetings. The next meeting will be held on October 20th. Commissioner Skinner questioned the name of the project, feeling that 'U St.' was not inclusive enough to encourage people on Georgia Avenue to participate. Motion was made to ask DDOT if the title of the study could be expanded to better involve the affected communities, and it was seconded and adopted (6-0-0).

Commissioner Spalding addressed Mayor's Agent case HPA 03-155 which involves the Office of Historic Preservation requiring replacement of vinyl windows in 1425 W St. Commissioner Spalding explained that notice of the hearing was received after our September meeting, and the hearing occurred prior to our October meeting, but that the Judge allowed us to consider the case and report our vote by next Monday. Commissioner Spalding detailed that the building was purchased for \$112,000 in 1996, and the six front façade windows were replaced without permit and in vinyl in 2002. The Office of Historic Preservation cited the illegal work and required that the windows be replaced with conforming wood sash. The defendant protested the decision to the Mayor's Agent claiming that the decision will result in unreasonable economic hardship for the owner. At the hearing the defendant's financial status was examined, but Commissioner Spalding asked to withhold the particulars from discussion in the ANC's very public format. The applicant is employed by the Justice Department, and has a great deal of available equity in the property to finance replacement of the six windows. Commissioner Spalding stated that ANC1B has consistently supported the Office of Historic Preservation's requirements on window replacement in the historic district, and we have done so three times already in this ANC term. Chairperson Thomas has indicated her support for OHP's decision. Commissioner Spalding offered a motion to support the position of the Office of Historic Preservation requiring the replacement of six front façade windows in 1425 W Street with conforming wood windows. Commissioner Skinner asked if the owner had been invited to the meeting, and Commissioner Spalding responded that he had spoken with her personally and had given her a copy of tonight's agenda. Motion was moved, seconded and adopted on a vote of (5-0-1).

Commissioner Spalding introduced Historic Preservation Review Board case 03-448 which is a new building on a vacant corner lot located at the northwest corner of 11th and T Streets. This was tabled at our last meeting when the applicant was not present, and when the project appeared on the HPRB September calendar Commissioner Spalding requested that they delay consideration until ANC1B had a chance to review the project. This used to be a gas station at one point, and recently the owner began the process of remediation including removal of the underground tanks, and this turned out to be more extensive than expected. Dr. Sahr Bockai and his architect presented their design for the new building.

The architect stated that when Dr. Bockai purchased the property he thought it was zoned C-2-A, and had planned to build eight units on the site. When they discovered that it was actually R-4 they went back to design a three unit building. They have used comments from Steve Callcott to

refine their design including a bay. Currently the design reflects three three bedroom units. Commissioner Spalding requested a clarification on the number of units and cited the zoning regulations for R-4 zoning which allows flats, and when the underlying lot is large enough (900 square feet of lot per unit). Commissioner Spalding asked for the dimensions of the lot, and the architect responded that the lot was approximately 22 x 93 feet. Commissioner Spalding stated that this would give 2046 square feet of lot, and that they would need 2700 square feet of lot in order to satisfy the zoning requirements for the third unit. The architect continued that they have incorporated the bay projection and tower unit often seen in corner properties. Commissioner Spalding asked if they had any renderings which showed abutting properties to see if the cornice lines match, and the streetscape rendering showed the new building's cornice line above the abutting properties cornice line. Developer Paul Robertson stated that in his knowledge of the zoning regulations new construction in R-4 is limited to two units, and the expansion clause with the 900 square foot lot per unit rule only applies to renovation of existing properties. Architect responded that the basement unit would not be counted in the FAR of the design, which would in turn allow the building to incorporate three units. Commissioner Spalding asked Dr. Bockai if he would be occupying the new building, and Dr. Bockai stated that he would be occupying one of the units. Commissioner Spalding questioned the extensive fenestration in the bay projection facing 11th Street which do not match the surrounding properties, and also noted that there was no entrance on the 11th Street façade. Commissioner Spalding asked the applicant to review the bay windows along 11th Street and reduce the size of the windows on this façade to better reflect the historic patterns in neighboring properties. Commissioner Spalding asked to see the design for the T Street façade, and questioned the garden level window wells which are inconsistent with traditional fenestration in the community, and that they should be changed to eliminate the wells. Commissioner Spalding also questioned the arrangement for parking, and the architect first responded that there would be three surface parking spaces entered from the rear alley, and then stated that they would be entered off T Street. Commissioner Spalding asked them to rethink the parking arrangement since a wide curb cut along the street would be inconsistent and objected to by the neighboring residents. Commissioner Spalding asked about the height and lot occupancy, and the architect responded that they would be under the 60% allowance on lot occupancy, and that the height of the building would be eighteen to twenty feet. Commissioner Spalding responded that the height appeared to be more than twenty feet, and the architect responded that it would be under thirty feet. Commissioner Spalding asked if the owner and architect were aware that this lot had been the subject of a large competition sponsored by the DC chapter of the American Institute of Architects, and that a number of designs for this lot had been featured at the National Building Museum, and applicant said that he was unaware of the competition. Commissioner Skinner stated that they could still avail themselves of the work, and Commissioner Spalding volunteered to provide information of the DC AIA if requested. Commissioner Spalding stated that the neighbors are concerned about the compatibility of the design, and that the current design would have difficulties passing the scrutiny of HPRB. The community does want to see a building on this corner and wants to support your effort to fill in this very obvious missing tooth. The question of allowable units under the zoning regulations must be addressed as soon as possible. Commissioner Spalding moved support of the project to HPRB with the reservations expressed at our meeting attached, and delegating himself to represent this application before the HPRB. Motion was seconded and adopted unanimously (6-0-0).

Maybelle Bennett with the Howard University Community Association presented designs for adaptive reuse of the Gage School. Howard University purchased the property in 2002 from the Peoples Involvement Corporation, and the school building has been vacant for about thirty years. The property is located in ANC5C, but does border ANC1B. ANC5C has petitioned HPRB for historic status for the school building, and HPRB will be hearing both the application for landmark status and the plans for adaptive reuse at their October meeting. Bill Herman described the project as residential reuse of an abandoned school totaling 28 units, and additional condominiums will be added to the sites in a row house vernacular style. Parking for all of the units will be underground beneath the new construction minimizing the impact on the nearby residential streets. There will be a total of 86 or 87 residential units in the entire project, and they will be market rate. The addition to the school will be slightly widened, but no change is projected for the main body of the original Gage School building. Windows will be retained in their original configuration. Dormers will be added to the roof to capture additional useable space in the school building. The limited space along Flagler St. will be constructed as townhouses turned on their sides. Ms. Bennett indicated that they have received support from the SMD Commissioner in whose territory the project lies, however, ANC5C failed to get a quorum and can not give their endorsement at this time. Commissioner Wright indicated that he lives across the street from the project and that he does support the design. Commissioner Spalding stated that he had heard from Commissioner Guyot whose SMD is near the project that it has his full support. A Howard University student asked if the units would be available to Howard students, and Ms. Bennett stated that one third of the developed units would be set aside for the Howard University family, however, they are going to be market rate units and may be out of the financial reach of students. Clyde Howard stated that he remembers the day when you were not allowed to step foot on the grounds of the Gage School due to segregation, and questioned the nomination for landmark status. The black students went to Mott and the white students went to Gage, that's the history. Ms. Bennett explained that the neighbors were concerned that Howard would tear down the school, and rushed an application for landmark status to the HPRB. Both the landmark status and the plans for adaptive reuse will be before the HPRB on the 28th of October. Commissioner Esters asked about the parking allowance, and the architect responded that they were currently planning seventy-five parking spaces for the eighty-seven units. Commissioner Spalding asked Ms. Bennett if they preferred ANC1B vote on both the landmark and the adaptive reuse, or just the adaptive reuse, and Ms. Bennett replied that it made more sense for ANC1B to address the adaptive reuse and allow the neighbors to argue the landmark status. Commissioner Wright moved support for the adaptive reuse of the development including Gage School in designs presented, and it was seconded and adopted unanimously (6-0-0).

Commissioner Spalding reported on HPRB's review of the development plans for the site including the First African New Church. The Board dismissed CSNA and ANC1B's concerns with parking as not germane to their design considerations. The Board did have a number of criticisms of the current iteration of the design of the new building, and ended by rejecting the plans and requesting that the developer return with new designs minus one storey in the new

building. The architect and developer are not sure what they will do with this rejection, but they do have options including subdividing the property. I haven't heard that a decision has been made yet, and will report back when I hear of their new plans for the site. If they return to HPRB review, then ANC1B will get another opportunity to comment on the revised designs.

Consideration of BZA 17218 was to be considered next, however, Commissioner Spalding indicated that the applicants were present this evening prior to the meeting and asked that consideration be tabled. There is a motion before the BZA from WNA that notification was incomplete, and applicants stated that they would accede to another round of notifications. Commissioner Spalding moved that consideration of BZA 17218 be tabled to the November agenda, and it was seconded and adopted unanimously (6-0-0).

Commissioner Spalding introduced a raze permit for Jennings Auto Body. ANC1B has previously supported the raze permit for the Thomas Lunch building at the corner of 11th and V, and this is an abutting one story garage structure. Commissioner Spalding stated that he has solicited comments on any possible historic value to the building from historian Paul Williams, Steve Callcott at Office of Historic Preservation, and other concerned community members. No one has responded with any historical value to the property, and nearby residents expressed enthusiasm for seeing the business leave.

Commissioner Spalding offered a motion to support the raze permit for 2112 11th Street (Jennings Auto Body), and it was seconded and adopted unanimously (6-0-0).

Commissioner Skinner introduced support for HPRB conceptual review of renovations at 511 U Street, and indicated that he had received support from both the SMD Commissioner Guyot and the President of the LeDroit Park Civic Association Myla Moss. Commissioner Spalding read suggestions included in the Office of Historic Preservation's review of the project, and asked if these suggestions were acceptable to the applicant. Myla Moss indicated that the LeDroit Park Civic Assoc. had reviewed these OHP suggestions with the applicant, and that he was amenable to the suggestions. Commissioner Skinner moved support for the design before HPRB, and it was seconded and adopted unanimously (6-0-0).

ABRA application 33619 for renewal of a CR license for Café Nema was introduced by Commissioner Spalding. This is a popular restaurant with no known violations and wide community support. Owner of Café Nema was present. Commissioner Spalding asked the owner if they were considering occupying the space above their restaurant being vacated by another restaurant, and the owner said that they are considering expansion into the space above.

Commissioner Spalding moved support of the renewal of the CR restaurant license for Café Nema, and it was seconded and adopted unanimously (6-0-0).

ABRA application 50228 for renewal of a CR license for Mocha Lounge was introduced by Commissioner Spalding. Owner was not present to answer Commission questions. Commissioner Spalding indicated that he has had no complaints about this license, and moved support for the renewal, and it was seconded and adopted on a vote of (5-0-1).

ABRA application 29303 for renewal of a CR license for Chuck & Bill Bison Lounge was introduced by Commissioner Skinner. Applicant was present to answer any Commission questions. Commissioner Skinner indicated that the restaurant is used for community meetings, and that the owner has been an active participant in community events. Commissioner Skinner moved support for renewal of the CR license for Chuck & Bill Bison Lounge, and it was seconded and adopted unanimously (6-0-0).

ABRA application 33112 for renewal of a CN nightclub license for Bar Nun was introduced by Commissioner Spalding. There was a history of complaints from the residents of Wallach Place, however, in the past two years these appear to have receded and there have been no complaints about the operations of Bar Nun. Commissioner Skinner indicated that he goes there every Saturday night & that it's the place to go. Applicant was present, and said that they've been in the same location for eight years. Commissioner Spalding asked the owner to consider working with the 14th and U Main Streets group on their façade. Applicant stated that they are considering changes to make the façade more inviting. Commissioner Spalding moved support for renewal of the CN nightclub license for Bar Nun, and it was seconded and adopted (6-0-0).

ABRA application 36085 for renewal of a CN nightclub license for the Black Cat was introduced by Commissioner Spalding. Applicant was present to answer Commission questions. Commissioner Spalding indicated that this license has been in this location for a long time, is extraordinarily popular, and there are no know violations or complaints. Commissioner Spalding again raised the issue of the façade, and applicant stated that they are working with 14th & U Main Streets, but that it is a long process. Commissioner Spalding also asked the owner to participate in the work currently underway with the Responsible Hospitality Institute. Commissioner Spalding moved support of renewal of the CN nightclub license for the Black Cat, and it was seconded and adopted unanimously (6-0-0).

ABRA application 60883 for T Sports Bar located at 600 T St. Commissioner Skinner asked if anyone in the community had any concerns about this business. Commissioner Skinner stated that SMD Commissioner Guyot is in support of the application. Commissioner Spalding asked what license was being applied for, and Mr. Pappas responded for the applicant that they were seeking a CT tavern license. Commissioner Spalding asked if it was a new license, and Mr. Pappas stated that it was a new license. Commissioner Spalding asked about the occupancy, and Mr. Pappas responded that it was less than fifty. Commissioner Spalding asked if the other person at the table was the new owner, and Mr. Pappas agreed that it was. Commissioner Spalding asked the owner if he owned any other businesses in the District, and if he had any relationship to other liquor licenses, and applicant stated that it was his first business and he had no previous relationship with any other licenses. Commissioner Spalding asked if they had ABRA certified managers ready, and applicant responded that they did. Commissioner Spalding asked Mr. Pappas if they were asking for support for a stipulated license or the full license or both, and Mr. Pappas responded that they were seeking support of a stipulated license. Commissioner Skinner moved support of a stipulated license towards a full CT tavern license for T Sports Bar, and it was seconded and adopted (5-0-1).

Another new restaurant requested consideration from the Commission. Commissioner Skinner requested that the applicant contact his SMD Commissioner and Secretary Spalding in order to appear on the November agenda. This will allow the Commissioners to due their due diligence, and Commissioner Spalding added that it also allows some notification to the community.

Grant application from the Howard University School of Communications Student Council for \$700 was introduced by Maya Gilliam. The proposal is to bring 100 Cardozo High School students to a performance entitled "Sensory Overload", and to bring them back to teach them everything involved in producing this type of performance. Treasurer Esters stated that he has been working with them on the application, and suggested that they reword the application to show the monies going towards an educational rather than an entertainment purpose, and to amend the application to show that the students are coming from just Cardozo and not a combination of Cardozo and Bannaker Students. Applicant stated that they have been to Cardozo and have received assurances that those students participating will be involved in both the workshops and present at the performance. Commissioner Esters asked for both a list of the participating students, and a more detailed description of the workshops. Commissioner Skinner offered a motion to support the grant request reflecting the changes to the application discussed by the Commission, and it was seconded and adopted (5-1-0).

Commissioner Spalding offered a motion to support relaxation of parking restrictions in the immediate area of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge during their Annual Communication between December 8th and 10th. We have written a support letter for this event in the past, and moved that

the Commission send a letter of support for this year's Communication, and it was seconded and adopted (6-0-0).

A motion of support for bricking the alley between Elm and Oakdale was offered by Commissioner Wright. Commissioner Spalding stated that Ms. LeBlanc from DDOT IPMA was aware of the community's request, and that it would be considered in their phase two plans for the LeDroit streetscape project. The Commission would be supporting the completion of the work in brick rather than cement. Motion was made to support the motion, and it was seconded and adopted (6-0-0).

Commissioner Spalding requested support to write follow up letters of concern in regard to two Board for the Condemnation of Insanitary Buildings cases that the Commission has already voted on. In both cases the ongoing work has not met community standards, and the intent is to ask the Board to revisit these projects and bring them back into compliance with already issued orders from the Board. The property at 2219 13th Street has essentially fallen into the ground, and the work has resumed, but we would like better supervision of the project. 1461 Florida Avenue was before the Board about six months ago, and we have abutting property owners concerned with the underpinning of their buildings. No work has been seen since the decision of the Board asking for an expedited work schedule. In this case we would be asking the Board to enforce their previous decision. Commissioner Spalding requested support for writing letters on each of these properties, and it was seconded and adopted unanimously (6-0-0).

Meeting adjourned 9:40 PM