



# **ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 1B**

## **Government of the District of Columbia**

### **Minutes**

**Thursday, January 7, 2010, 7:00 PM,  
Reeves Center, 2000 14<sup>th</sup> Street N.W.**

The regular monthly meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1B occurred on Thursday, January 7 2010, at 7:00 pm in the Reeves Center, Commissioner Nadeau being present as Chair and Commissioner E. Gail Anderson Holness as Secretary. Other Commissioners present during the meeting: Rosemary Akinmboni, Meghan Conklin, Eduardo Ferrer, Juan Lopez, Myla Moss, Sedrick Muhammad, Peter Raia, Thomas K.D. Smith, and Deborah Thomas.

Chairperson Nadeau observed the presence of a quorum and called the meeting to order at 7:13 PM.

Chairperson Nadeau then made the following announcement:

We ask that you silence your cell phones. By “silence” I mean either put them on “silence” or turn them off if you are able. The vibration and rings interfere with our recording and we sometimes lose valuable information.

- ✓ This meeting is audio-recorded for the public record and the draft minutes of the meeting, which will be published on our website within one week.
- ✓ We welcome and encourage public comment at appropriate points in the meeting. Normally, we will ask for public comment on issues before the Commission before any motion is offered for official action. Once a motion has been made and seconded, comment and discussion is confined to Commissioners.
- ✓ We ask that all those making presentations, asking questions, or making comments speak loudly and clearly for the benefit of our recording device. You can come forward and sit at the witness table and make sure that your comments are picked up. Please state your name, residence address, and what organization you represent. If you are representing yourself as a resident, rather than an organization, please say so.
- ✓ For the accuracy of our public records, we ask that all those making presentations, asking questions, or making comments complete the very brief

speaker information form located on the sign in table at the back of the room. Please give the completed form to our Staff Director, Jim Irwin, either before or after you speak to the Commission. The purpose of this form is to assure correct spelling of your name in the minutes, accurate address and accurate statement of representation.

Thank you for your attendance, participation and cooperation.

Chairperson Nadeau asked Commissioners to introduce themselves.

### **Commission Announcements**

Commissioner Moss announced that the Gage-Eckington School project contract had been put on hold because of the contract controversy between the Mayor and the City Council. However, Deputy Mayor Valerie Santos has committed funds to assure that the project goes forward, and the public park at the Gage-Eckington School should be open in September, 2010.

Commissioner Muhammad announced that the South Columbia Heights Neighborhood Association, of which he is the president, would be meeting on Wednesday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 PM, at the Josephine Butler Parks Center, 2437 15<sup>th</sup> Street N.W. This will be a joint meeting with Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) PSA 304. The guest speaker this month will be John B. Catoe, General Manager of Metro.

Commissioner Moss announced that the United Negro College Fund had finalized an agreement with Radio One for office space in the new development on 9<sup>th</sup> Street N.W.

Commissioner E. Gail Anderson Holness announced that ANC 1B11 would be having its monthly meeting on Monday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the LeDroit Kelly Miller Senior Building at 2025 4<sup>th</sup> Street N.W.. The guest speaker will be Ms. Cheryl Moore from the U.S. Census Bureau. On Saturday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, the ANC 1B11 monthly empowerment program will be held at the same location from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. The program includes story telling for children and senior technology literacy training, assisted by Howard University students. Commissioner Anderson Holness encouraged the donation of used computers for the empowerment program and also the donation of books for the ANB 1B11 Empowerment Program Book Drive.

### **Community Announcements**

Ms. Jo Strowder, 733 Fairmont Street N.W., said she represented the newly formed Georgia Avenue Community Development Task Force. She wanted everyone to know of the existence of the task force and the fact that they were stakeholders in the Georgia Avenue development community. The next meeting of the task force will be at the Gadget Center, 2801 Georgia Avenue N.W. on January 25<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Anderson Holness said that she wanted to remind the community that she was also the Deputy Director of Business and Community Outreach at the University of the District of Columbia.

### **Secretary's Report – Minutes of December, 2009 meeting**

Commissioner Anderson Holness submitted the draft minutes of the December 2009 meeting for review and approval.

Commissioner Raia noted that Metropolitan Police Department Lieutenant Jova's name had been misspelled and should be corrected.

There were no other corrections.

Commissioner Anderson Holness moved that the minutes of the December 2009 meeting of ANC 1B be approved as corrected.

Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted unanimously, 9 yes, 0 no.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Commissioner Lopez reported that the current bank balance was \$93,418.88.

Three checks were written in December.

#1737 to James Irwin for office supplies in the amount of \$51.31.

#1738 to James Irwin for staff wages in the amount of \$1,135.00

#1739 to the African American Holiday Association in the amount of \$1,600.00 for Grant #10-01.

All three of these checks were cashed in December.

Commissioner Lopez moved that reimbursement to James Irwin for purchase of office supplies be approved in the amount of \$128...95.

Commissioner Muhammad seconded the motion.

The motion was approved, 9 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain, with Commissioner Ferrer abstaining.

Commissioner Lopez said that the Commission should consider participating in the ANC Security Fund, which required an annual payment of \$25.00 for the period January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2010. The Commission participated in the Fund for 2009.

Commissioner Lopez moved that ANC 1B authorize the payment of \$25.00 to the ANC Security Fund.

Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted unanimously, 10 yes, 0 no.

Commissioner Lopez moved that the Commission approve the Treasurer's report for January 2010.

Commissioner Anderson Holness seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted unanimously, 10 yes, 0 no.

### **Election of Officers**

Chairperson Nadeau called for nominations for the office of Chairperson.

Commissioner Raia nominated Commissioner Anderson Holness.

Commissioner Conklin nominated Commissioner Nadeau.

Chairperson Nadeau asked if there were other nominations.

There was none.

Chairperson Nadeau called for a roll call vote.

Commissioner Thomas asked if both candidates could make a statement.

Chairperson Nadeau invited Commissioner Anderson Holness to speak.

Commissioner Anderson Holness said that she had served as Commissioner representing ANC 1B11 for the past year, during which time she had held monthly meetings of her district and launched the empowerment project, which meets every third Saturday of the month. The empowerment project engages the community through a story hour for children, and a senior program including computer training. She had met with PSA 305 to address public safety issues, attended Pleasant Plains Association meetings. She said that, as Chairperson, she would make the Commission very participatory and transparent, with everyone involved and all Commissioners having input into what happens. She said serving as Commissioner representing ANC 1B11 had been a pleasure.

Chairperson Nadeau said that it had been an honor to serve as Chair for the past year, and to serve as Vice-Chair and Secretary for previous years. She said she believed that the Commission had accomplished a lot together during 2009. She appreciated

working hand-in-hand with anyone who wanted to get involved. She wanted to continue with the work in progress and said that there was a lot to be done during the next year. She said she would be honored to continue serving as Chair and left it to the Commission to decide whether she had served well.

Chairperson Nadeau called for the roll call vote.

Mr. Jim Irwin called the roll of the Commission. The vote was as follows:

Commissioner Moss voted for Commissioner Anderson Holness.  
Commissioner Raia voted for Commissioner Anderson Holness.  
Commissioner Muhammad voted for Commissioner Anderson Holness.  
Commissioner Thomas voted for Commissioner Nadeau.  
Commissioner Nadeau voted for Commissioner Nadeau.  
Commissioner Lopez voted for Commissioner Nadeau.  
Commissioner Conklin voted for Commissioner Nadeau.  
Commissioner Akinmboni voted for Commissioner Nadeau.  
Commissioner Smith was absent.  
Commissioner Ferrer voted for Commissioner Anderson Holness.  
Commissioner Anderson Holness voted for Commissioner Anderson Holness

Mr. Irwin announced the roll call vote to be a tie, with five votes for Commissioner Anderson Holness and five votes for Commissioner Nadeau.

Chairperson Nadeau asked if Commissioner Smith would be attending the meeting. Commissioner Anderson Holness said she believed he was on his way to the meeting, but did have a class.

Commissioner Moss said she would call Commissioner Smith.

Commissioner Moss moved that the Commission continue with the agenda and other business under the incumbent chairperson and defer the election of officers until the arrival of Commissioner Smith.

Commissioner Ferrer seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted unanimously, 10-0.

Commissioner Akinmboni moved that Commissioners Nadeau and Anderson Holness serve as Co-Chairpersons of the Commission.

The motion failed for lack of a second.

### **2010 Meeting Schedule**

Chairperson Nadeau proposed that the 2010 meeting schedule continue to be the first Thursday of every month, beginning at 7:00 PM. She said she did not think a motion

was required, only a public announcement. She thanked Commissioner Muhammad for arranging for the Commission to continue to use the Reeves Center second floor conference room for 2010.

Commissioner Nadeau announced that the new Commission office should be ready for occupancy at the end of January or in early February.

### **Public Safety and Public Safety Committee Report**

Commissioner Moss reported that the Public Safety Committee had met on Tuesday, January 5<sup>th</sup>. Commander Jacob Kishter, the new commander for MPD Third District and the new second in command, Inspector Angel Medina, were introduced at the meeting. At the meeting, three officers who made major arrests were acknowledged, including two officers who arrested an individual in possession of an AK-15, a military weapon, with ammunition. Commander Kishter plans to introduce a robbery tactical force in PSA 305, something that has been successful in PSAs 302 and 304. Thefts from autos continue to be a big problem in the area. Police officers urge citizens not to leave anything at all visible in their cars.

Commissioner Anderson Holness noted that one interesting point from the meeting was that citizens are strongly encouraged to report even minor thefts, so that the pattern of crimes can be detected. Nothing is too minor to be reported.

### **Unfinished Business**

Chairperson Nadeau called for consideration of the two voluntary agreements on the agenda, which had been discussed at the December meeting.

Commissioner Raia said the two items of unfinished business were placed on the agenda by the Chairperson. He and the owners of the two businesses felt that the voluntary agreements should have been completed before this meeting. He was still confused as to why they were on the agenda and had not been signed. The motion adopted at the December meeting was for him to draw up agreements, send them out to Commissioners for review, and then to be signed by the Chairperson. However, they were not signed and were now under unfinished business.

Chairperson Nadeau said that she had stated her position by e-mail to the Commission and would restate it publicly now. She believed, after consulting with former Commissioners and with an understanding of what it meant to bind the Commission to a contract, that it was wise for all agreements to come before the Commission for a vote, as had been done in previous years. She had mentioned in her e-mail that it was certainly up to the Commission to decide what they wanted to do, but that she felt uncomfortable signing agreements between meetings without everyone having focused on them. Since a voluntary agreement is a legal instrument that is attached to a liquor license permanently, she asked that these agreements be considered and voted on by the Commission.

Commissioner Raia said he understood, by Roberts Rules of Order, that when a motion was adopted by vote of the Commission, it was binding on all Commissioners. If the Commission voted on something he did not like, he still had to do what the Commission had voted to do. The Commission had voted on the procedure for adopting these voluntary agreements, but the Chairperson chose to disregard the Commission's vote.

Commissioner Conklin said she recalled that, while the motion had not specifically said so, there was discussion that, because of the precedent-setting nature of the businesses, Commissioners wanted an opportunity to review and vote on the agreements.

Commissioner Raia said there had been discussion, but there was nothing in the motion about the Commission voting on the agreements.

Chairperson Nadeau observed that it seemed to be a fine point.

Commissioner Raia said it was not a fine point. The motion was a cut-and-dried fact.

Chairperson Nadeau asked Commissioner Raia if he would like to vote on the agreements at this meeting.

Commissioner Raia said he would not want to vote. He would want to follow the motion that was adopted at the December meeting. He did not understand why the Commission was doing this now.

Chairperson Nadeau said that, as the agreements were drafted, they did not really do anything.

Commissioner Raia said he had met with ABRA about the agreements, and they had no issues with them.

Chairperson Nadeau said that ABRA was an impartial body. The Commission's role was to advocate on behalf of its constituents and its community. She said she had sent Commissioner Raia some suggestions; she had not just made a blanket objection. For example, she said that the agreement with the U Street Music Hall could require that the owner collaborate with other businesses in the 11<sup>th</sup> and U Streets area on developing a security plan. These other businesses had substantial experience and Commissioner Moss had been very successful in working with them on police security, or reimbursable details. It seemed logical to work with the owner to protect neighbors and other businesses.

Commissioner Raia asked if the Chairperson was proposing that the voluntary agreement require that the owner use reimbursable details.

Chairperson Nadeau said no, she wanted to see the owner collaborate with other businesses on the security measures and plans already in place. She said she had also asked, in the discussion at the December meeting, that input from someone who was expert in CX licenses be obtained in developing the agreements, but that she did not see that happen.

Commissioner Raia said that he had done that. He said he had sent an e-mail stating that he had met with Solly's, had gotten community input, and had met with Jean of the 930 Club.

Chairperson Nadeau said she had talked with people and it did not sound like it had happened in the way that had been discussed.

Commissioner Raia asked if anyone from the community wanted to speak to the question.

Chairperson Nadeau said she did not want to get into a "he said-she said" exchange. She did not believe these agreements were the strongest voluntary agreements that could be developed. She believed the Commission could do better. She said she did not want to sound like a broken record, that it was up to the Commission to decide what to do. However, she believed the Commission had sent Commissioner Raia out into the community in good faith, but that he had not done a good job.

Commissioner Raia said that Chairperson Nadeau should have sent him comments instead of waiting for this meeting. He said that by delaying the process, it was possible that the owners might lose their leases.

Chairperson Nadeau said she wanted to question why it was that Commissioner Raia did not appear at the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board hearing and permitted the Commission's protest to lapse.

Commissioner Raia said minutes of previous meetings would show that when Mr. Irwin was hired, it was stated that he would be providing representation at ABC hearings. The only purpose of the first hearing was to schedule the next meeting.

Chairperson Nadeau asked if Commissioner Raia had asked Mr. Irwin to attend the hearing.

Commissioner Raia said he had not done so. He had gone out of town, but he had assumed that Mr. Irwin, based on previous discussions, would be attending.

Chairperson Nadeau said that this should be clarified for future hearings because she believed Commissioner Raia had been attending such hearings up until now.

Commissioner Raia said that, with a voluntary agreement negotiated, the Commission was supporting, not protesting, the application.

Chairperson Nadeau said that the protest had been reinstated.

Commissioner Raia said he had read the letter to the ABC, which said that the Commission had not been notified about the hearing, so he was confused.

Chairperson Nadeau said that the letter did not say that, but did say that the notice of the hearing was very short.

Commissioner Raia said he had spoken to ABRA about that.

Chairperson Nadeau noted that there was a question from the audience.

Mr. Michael Fonseca, representing the Music and Arts Club, said their concern was that they had a draft agreement negotiated by November 15<sup>th</sup> and that the draft was shared with the Commission by Commissioner Raia. They had waited for comments on the draft to come back to them. They had not had any feedback up to now and felt left in the lurch. If there were comments or if the agreement was weak, they were prepared to work with the Commission to address the problems. But now, it looked like this agreement was to be voted on and they might have to start all over. If so, they would lose a minimum of another month. It seemed to him unfair because of an intramural dispute. They had done what they were asked to do. It was a disservice.

Chairperson Nadeau said that Mr. Fonseca and the applicant had certainly done all that they were asked to do.

Commissioner Muhammad said that he was displeased because the voluntary agreements were on the agenda under unfinished business and because a motion had been adopted by the Commission. Regardless of what the motion said, how could it be approved and then not honored? That did a dishonor to him, to the Commission and to constituents, whether they were concerned about a business or a personal matter. The attorney and the applicant did what they were supposed to do, and the Commission, by adopting the motion at the December meeting, did what it was supposed to do. It passed, but the Commission had not fulfilled the motion. So now, the Commission is discussing something that is, in essence, not keeping its word or its bond. That was not acceptable to him. What was the purpose of the Commission if motions were adopted, then not carried out? The Commission might as well end the meeting and go home because it was failing to represent whom it was supposed to represent, no matter what the issue was. He thought not implementing the motion was very arrogant. An agreement was an agreement. The motion did not have to be adopted. The motion could have been amended. The motion was adopted without amendment, and now here it was again. So, the issues on the agenda at this meeting, which were very important, might not be honored either. The Commission should be consistent. This did not make sense and was not acceptable.

Chairperson Nadeau said it was not her intent to dishonor the vote of the Commission; it was merely her intent to make sure the Commission was being transparent, and she apologized to the Commission.

Commissioner Moss asked if it was possible to add comments from the Commission to the voluntary agreement so that the process could be expedited and the applicant not suffer adverse consequences.

Commissioner Raia said if there was something a Commissioner wanted added to the agreement, it should be sent to him. He would discuss the matter with the applicant, but this was a negotiation, so some things might not be included. He would discuss suggestions with the business, but it did not mean the suggestion would be accepted.

Commissioner Conklin suggested that Commissioner Raia and Mr. Irwin work out a process for determining who would represent the Commission at ABC hearings so that nothing was missed in future. She thought the Commission should have a broader discussion at some point about how it handled voluntary agreements. Maybe that was something the ABC Committee should address and bring before the Commission. She did not think it was worth continuing to delay the two agreements currently on the agenda.

Commissioner Anderson Holness said that the Commission had voted on the agreements and made a decision, and if the majority ruled, then the Commission should act on what the majority had decided. This was not a decision that one person could make. The Commission should move forward, whether or not Commissioners agreed on it now. The vote on the motion was unanimous and it should be implemented.

Chairperson Nadeau said that if there was no other comment, the Commission would move on and the Chair would sign the voluntary agreements.

### **Liquor Licenses and ABC Committee Report**

Commissioner Raia said there was no ABC Committee report.

### **Café Society – 2000 14<sup>th</sup> Street N.W. – Retail Class C License**

Mr. Doug Whipple, representing Green Zebra LLC, said that Green Zebra is an heirloom tomato, in case anyone wondered where the name came from. He said he was not only the attorney for the business, but also a partner and the farmer who would be providing produce for the restaurant. The restaurant will occupy the second and third floors of the same building occupied by Music and Arts Club. They are planning a very relaxed steak house, one that people could afford to go to and had very good food: good burgers, good steaks, good sides. Mr. Whipple gave the Commission sample menus to look at. They are planning for 139 seats. There will be a small summer garden on the third floor with a roof that can be opened over it. The nearest residential neighborhood is not very close.

Commissioner Raia commented for the record that the summer garden was not on the rooftop, but on a terrace opening from the third floor, which is enclosed by a wall.

Mr. Whipple said that, in addition to the existing physical barriers, they would be adding physical sound attenuation to assure that the sound is kept down.

Commissioner Raia said he had met with the business owners, reviewed the business plan and heard from the community that people were looking forward to having a steak house open in the neighborhood.

Commissioner Raia said that the business was willing to negotiate a voluntary agreement to address any community concerns.

Commissioner Raia moved that ANC 1B protest the application of Café Society for a Retail Class C Tavern License on the basis of peace, order and quiet, that the protest be withdrawn upon the negotiation of a voluntary agreement between the applicant and the Commission, that Commissioner Raia be authorized to negotiate the voluntary agreement, and that the voluntary agreement be circulated to the Commission for review and comment with the Chairperson signing the agreement upon completion.

Commissioner Muhammad seconded the motion.

Chairperson Nadeau offered a friendly amendment to bring the voluntary agreement back to the Commission for discussion and vote before signing.

Commissioner Raia said he did not want to accept the amendment because, if the Commission does not have a quorum at the next meeting, it creates delays for licenses and permits and can cause deadlines to be missed. If the Commission does not have a quorum, then the license can be delayed for 90 days.

Chairperson Nadeau said that while this was a reasonable hypothetical, the Commission had consistently had a quorum in 2009. She thought the main concern should be for the Commission to do due diligence on the agreement.

Commissioner Raia said he would like to have his motion considered as he stated it. If it failed, then another alternative could be considered.

Commissioner Anderson Holness called for a vote on Commissioner Raia's motion.

Chairperson Nadeau asked if there was a second to her motion to amend.

Commissioner Conklin seconded the Chairperson's motion to amend.

Commissioner Akinmboni asked the Chairperson to restate the motion to amend.

Chairperson Nadeau said she was moving to amend Commissioner Raia's motion to require the voluntary agreement to come back to the Commission for a vote before being signed.

Commissioner Raia said that the voluntary agreement would come back to the Commission before the meeting by e-mail.

Chairperson Nadeau said her motion was to have the voluntary agreement voted on by the full Commission before being signed by the Chairperson.

Mr. Fonseca commented that the businesses' leases had liquor license contingencies that required them to have liquor licenses approved by a certain date.

Commissioner Ferrer asked what the deadline for getting approved licenses was.

Mr. Fonseca said January 17<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Moss asked if the intent of the Chairperson's motion was to have the voluntary agreement come back to the Commission and that review and comment on the voluntary agreements by e-mail was not enough.

Chairperson Nadeau said that she kept getting the feeling that people just did not have the time to read through the agreements. It seemed that the lack of feedback suggested that. A vote by the Commission was what had been done for years.

Commissioner Anderson Holness commented that it was not what had been done recently.

Chairperson Nadeau said that the present procedure made her very uncomfortable and she had said that every month.

Commissioner Raia said the Chairperson should let Commissioners do their job by e-mail and just sign what they bring forward.

Chairperson Nadeau said she wanted a vote on her amendment, and if it did not pass, then the decision would be clear.

The motion to amend failed, 2 yes, 4 no, with Commissioners Akinmboni, Ferrer, Lopez and Thomas abstaining.

Chairperson Nadeau said the question was on Commissioner Raia's motion.

The motion was adopted, 8 yes, 1 no, 1 abstain, Commissioner Nadeau voting no and Commissioner Conklin abstaining.

Commissioner Ferrer suggested that the process for reviewing and approving voluntary agreements should be put in writing, as had been done for grant policies. There had been a lot of contentiousness around the process and he thought it important to have everything in writing so that everyone knew what the process would be. He did not think it made sense to protest a license, then vote again the following month. Why even protest in the first place?

Chairperson Nadeau said that filing a protest with ABRA gave the Commission standing to negotiate a voluntary agreement with an applicant. If there is no protest, the license can be approved before the Commission has had a chance to negotiate with the applicant.

Commissioner Raia said that the reason they had gone back to the non-protest was that Commissioners worked with the community and have relationships with them. He had never had anyone who said they would do a voluntary agreement then refuse to do it. When they stopped protesting, they had no problems with that. But in December, it was suggested that the Commission go back to protesting applications.

Chairperson Nadeau said they had had a problem with one of Commissioner Moss's licenses, and that was why they reinstated the protest procedure.

Commissioner Raia said he would say that there were no problems in his single-member district, 1B02.

Commissioner Ferrer commented that the protest made sense if that was how the Commission got standing with ABRA.

Commissioner Raia said that sometimes there was no need for standing because the businesses have the same operators, so we know who they are. Rather than them having to pay lawyers to sit in meetings, we can sit down with the business and negotiate the voluntary agreement, send it to the business, then meet with the lawyers just one time, instead of meeting more than one time.

Commissioner Ferrer said he thought it was important to put the Commission's processes in writing so that there was transparency for the community, so that they would know what to expect when they come to the Commission.

Commissioner Raia said that most businesses do know. When they come to him and say they want to do a voluntary agreement, he would rather support the application than protest, but the Commission decided the protest was the way. He would like the Commission to think about going back to supporting first, rather than protesting.

Commissioner Ferrer said that it was important for the community to understand that anyone who had issues with any liquor license coming up should feel very free to raise those issues at the Commission meetings. The Commission negotiated voluntary agreements based on what it believed was the best interests of the community and the

experience of individual Commissioners, but it would be good to hear from constituents what they think with regard to liquor licenses.

Commissioner Thomas said that she had always had a problem with the whole process. She had lots of people calling her who did not know when ABC Committee or other committee meetings were being held. Once the Commission had elected officers and committee chairs for the year, she would like to see committee meetings much better publicized, not just by e-mail, but also by flyers in the community and other means, as well as allowing community members and business members to serve on these committees. The Commission made decisions and judgments without community input, unless someone had a problem with the liquor license right next door or across the street. The meetings needed to be better publicized and community members needed to be involved.

Commissioner Raia said that there had not been one license application since he became a Commissioner that he had not received e-mails and comments about. There was definitely community input.

Commissioner Thomas said she would like to have everybody's input and open up the meetings to everybody.

Mr. Scott Pomeroy, 2035 13<sup>th</sup> Street N.W., said that a lot of concerns would be alleviated if the public could interact with various businesses at Commission committee meetings. That opportunity does not really exist with the current Commission meeting schedule and the ABC Committee has not been holding regular meetings.

Commissioner Anderson Holness said that it would also help if Commissioners held regular monthly meetings in their single member districts. She said all of the Commissioners did not have monthly meetings, so that did not help the process either.

Mr. Ben Jackson, 2020 12<sup>th</sup> Street N.W., said that this was the first Commission meeting he had attended. He said he wanted to be sure he understood the process. He asked if the last person who spoke before the Commission [Mr. Whipple] had appeared only once.

Chairperson Nadeau said yes.

Commissioner Raia said yes, unless he had met with a community group.

Mr. Jackson said he was new to the meetings, but his discomfort was that Mr. Whipple had spoken to the Commission and the community for ten minutes, then the Commission voted almost unanimously to approve something that had not been finally negotiated and the community did not necessarily have anything to say about it.

Commissioner Raia said that he met monthly with Alicia Keyes and others in Mr. Jackson's building and he got the input of the building's residents in that way.

Mr. Jackson said that a neighboring licensee had started business about a year ago without a voluntary agreement, and now the building had lots of issues, so his concern was that there should be as much community input as possible, recognizing the time lag.

Commissioner Raia said that, without naming names, that was a license that had been granted before he became a Commissioner.

Commissioner Moss said that businesses applying for licenses were always mandated to meet with the community association in the area where they operate, so that allows for community input.

### **Presentations**

Ms. Gabriella Vega, Transportation Planner in the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) for Ward One, introduced her colleagues Mr. Chris Ziemann, transportation planner for Ward 2 and Mike Goodno, bicycle planner. She said they had worked together to implement the counterflow bike lane on 15<sup>th</sup> Street N.W. Ms. Vega said DDOT was seeking the support of the Commission for the extension of the bike lane on 15<sup>th</sup> Street north of U Street to W Street N.W. If the Commission supported the project, the lane would probably be installed in the spring.

Chairperson Nadeau asked if everyone was familiar with the project.

A member of the audience commented that the placement of the bike lane with cars parked on the outside edge of the lane, and the flow of bike traffic against the flow of auto traffic was very confusing.

Mr. Goodno said that the 15<sup>th</sup> Street bike lane was the first counter-flow bike lane in the District and was a pilot project. He said the residents of 15<sup>th</sup> Street had come to DDOT several years ago and said they were concerned about speed and that it did not have a residential feel to it. DDOT went through a two-year planning process examining various alternatives, some of which kept the street one-way and others changed it to two-way. They found that most of the people who wanted to keep the street one-way liked it because it was easy to drive, while most of the people who wanted a two-way street wanted a narrower street or a street easier to bike on. DDOT developed the current design, which is a hybrid: one-way for cars, but two-way for bikes. He said it could be confusing for people who had not seen this design before. They tried to make it as clear as possible with yellow markings, poles to keep people from parking on the curb, and the bicycle symbols to remind people that it is a bike lane. There are bike symbols in the intersections where drivers might make a left turn to remind them of bicycle traffic.

The audience member said her concern was not that it was confusing because she had not seen it before, but that there were safety issues. With the bike lane located against

the curb and cars parked on the outside with traffic passing, bikers cannot be seen. There are blind spots. She thought this was a big safety issue.

Mr. Goodno said that the location of parked cars and visibility was one of their biggest safety concerns. That was why they put bicycle symbols in the intersections, to remind people to watch out for bikes, and a lot of signage. This was a pilot project and was not necessarily the way future bike lanes would be. If there were accidents, then the design would be changed, but DDOT heard a lot of support for this in Ward 2. The lane was installed in November. From spring through fall, 2010, they will be studying the number of bikes using the lane, how it affects vehicle speed and numbers, and getting feedback from the community to evaluate the success of the pilot project.

Commissioner Raia said that bikers were not using the bike lane going north but were in the traffic lanes, and asked if that could be monitored. He asked if the lane on the left side of 15<sup>th</sup> Street was for bikers travelling southbound only.

Ms. Vega said that the lane on the left was for southbound bikers, which was why it was protected by the cars parked on the traffic side. However, there were some people who used it to travel northbound. There are some bicyclists who are a bit afraid of travelling exposed to auto traffic in the next lane. The lane was nine feet wide to accommodate two-way traffic.

Commissioner Raia said [inaudible] and the lane needed to be monitored.

Commissioner Moss asked how many parking spaces had been lost to create the bike lane.

Mr. Goodno said a lot less than they originally thought. Over 14 blocks, a total of five or six parking spaces had been eliminated.

Ms. Vega said that two parking spots might be lost because of the proposal to extend the bike lane, but they are actually spaces where people were now parking illegally. Other than those two, existing parking would be untouched.

Commissioner Moss asked who would make the final decision about continuing the bike lane after the spring-fall evaluation was completed. Would the community have the opportunity to give feedback?

Mr. Goodno said they would be seeking feedback from residents and users, and would be sending out evaluations. He was not sure whether in the spring or fall.

Commissioner Moss asked who was making the final decision: Director Klein, the Mayor's Office, or someone else.

Mr. Goodno said Director Klein would make the final decision on advice of staff.

Commissioner Anderson Holness asked if there were any specific regulations for bikers and how they travel. Her concern was that bikers pull in front of cars, even at lights. It seemed that the regulations that applied to drivers did not apply to bikers or they are not adhering to the rules.

Commissioner Raia said, speaking as a biker, that the same rules applied to both drivers and bikers. Bikers were not following the rules.

Commissioner Anderson Holness said that, just the other day, she had seen a biker hit a car with his hand because he thought the car was too close to him, but he was not in the bike lane where he was supposed to be, he was in the vehicle lane, between cars. This caused a great altercation. If the driver had moved to the side, the biker would have been hit.

Ms. Vega said that she biked herself and sometimes tended to move to the left of the bicycle lane because she was concerned that someone would open a car door in front of her. However, as Commissioner Raia was saying, the same rules applied to bikers as applied to drivers.

Commissioner Anderson Holness asked if anyone was enforcing traffic rules for bicycles.

Ms. Vega said yes.

Commissioner Raia said he had seen police stop bikers.

Mr. Goodno said that, if there is an accident, nine times out of ten the biker or pedestrian will get the ticket.

Chairperson Nadeau said that, with regard to extension of the bike lanes into Ward One, the lane would fall mainly in her single member district, somewhat in Commissioner Conklin's district, and a little corner in Commissioner Thomas's district. The three of them had talked with their constituents and they would like to support the extension.

Commissioner Nadeau moved that ANC 1B support the extension of the 15<sup>th</sup> Street counter-flow bike lane to the top of the hill or as far as DDOT would like to extend it.

Ms. Vega said that right now they were going to carry the lane to W Street, that there was a bike lane on the west side of Malcolm X Park, and they were trying to figure out whether there was enough space to continue the lane past W Street., but they did not know right now.

Commissioner Moss said that, travelling on 15<sup>th</sup> going north, it got pretty dicey at the corner of P Street where cars turn onto 15<sup>th</sup>. She wanted to note that for Ms. Vega's information.

Chairperson Nadeau asked if there was a second to her motion.

Commissioner Raia seconded the motion.

Commissioner Anderson Holness asked for the motion to be clarified. She thought the motion would have the Commission supporting something that had not been approved and that Ms. Vega had said they were not sure could be done.

Chairperson Nadeau said her motion was to extend the bike lane north on 15<sup>th</sup> Street, and 15<sup>th</sup> Street ends at Irving Street, so those Commissioners representing the affected area supported that extension.

Commissioner Akinmboni and Commissioner Raia said that Ms. Vega had said they could extend the lane only to W Street.

Chairperson Nadeau said that was because they did not have the technology to extend it further, but the three Commissioners would love to see it extended all the way, so the motion would be to support it.

Commissioner Akinmboni said that 15<sup>th</sup> Street narrowed considerably north of Euclid Street, and that there did not seem to be enough room for a bike lane beyond Euclid.

Ms. Vega said there was actually a bike lane on the east side of 15<sup>th</sup> Street north of W, up to Euclid Street, but it was northbound only. Beyond Euclid, there was no room for a counter-flow bike lane, but they were studying whether they could continue the bike lane up to Euclid. For right now, however, they were planning to extend the lane only to W Street. They would like support from the Commission for whatever length it wanted to consider.

Commissioner Anderson Holness asked if Chairperson Nadeau would accept a friendly amendment to change the extension to W Street.

Chairperson Nadeau said she would withdraw her original motion. She moved that ANC 1B support the extension of the counter-flow bike lane up to W Street.

Commissioner Anderson Holness seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted unanimously, 10-0.

## **Design Review Applications and Design Committee Report**

### **Vermont and T Street Project – 1011 and 1013 T Street N.W. and 1900 Vermont Avenue N.W.**

Commissioner Raia said this residential project was located at Vermont and T Streets N.W. They had presented their plan to the Cardozo-Shaw Neighborhood Association in December, which looked at it favorably. He said that he and the neighborhood supported the project because the site is currently vacant lots that were previously used as parking lots by the Masons. There had been a lot of community input saying they liked the project.

Mr. Derrick Huetinck, the owner of the site, introduced his architect, Mr. Jack McLaurin, of the Lessard Group, Inc. Mr. Huetinck said they were asking the Commission for support for their plan to construct homes on three lots at Vermont and T Streets. He said they had presented their plan to the Cardozo-Shaw Neighborhood Association and the community seemed very supportive of their concept. In addition, they had met with the Westminster Neighborhood Association. That group was very supportive also, and some of the members had been actively involved in getting the parking lot shut down and the lot rezoned as residential.

Mr. McLaurin reviewed the plans with the Commission. He said that condominium sales had been up 34% in December, so he hoped that this project would bring additional housing to the District. He then reviewed drawings and photographs, pointing out that the project would be very close to the African American Civil War Memorial and the U Street Metro Station entrance. They are proposing to change the present concrete sidewalks to brick and the access walks on the site will be brick. They will enhance the streetscape and add new street trees. Architecturally, they are trying to be very responsible and complementary to the neighborhood. When Mr. Huetinck bought the site, the lots were already subdivided. The land plan as established by the previous owner is good and will not be changed. The plan is to build three condominium townhome buildings, with two units in each building. The buildings will be three stories with a basement, so each townhome condominium will be two stories. The buildings will be a mix of two-bedroom and three-bedroom units. They have added parking in garages to the original site plan. Most of the units will have garage parking; some, because of size, will have off-street parking accessible from the alley, secured by security gates.

Commissioner Akinmboni asked if the parking would be in the alley.

Mr. McLaurin said no, not in the alley. The off-street parking would be accessed from the alley.

Commissioner Moss asked what the timeline for the project was.

Mr. McLaurin said they had submitted their application to the Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB) on December 23<sup>rd</sup>. They have also applied for building permits. As soon as those approvals are received, the project will begin.

Commissioner Ferrer asked how many units total were in the project.

Mr. McLaurin said 16 total.

Commissioner Ferrer asked if they would all be priced at market rate.

Mr. McLaurin said they would.

Ms. Eartha Clark, residing in ANC 1B02, asked if there would be any curb cuts.

Mr. McLaurin said there were no curb cuts. He said they would be taking away a curb cut.

Ms. Clark asked where the access to the parking was.

Mr. McLaurin said through the alley in the back. He said there is an existing public alley that opens onto U and 11<sup>th</sup> Streets. Residents would enter their parking spaces or garages from the alley.

Commissioner Raia moved that ANC 1B support the project located at Vermont and T Streets, N.W. as described by Mr. Huetinck and Mr. McLaurin by letter to HPRB.

Commissioner Muhammad seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted 9 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention. Commissioner Conklin abstained.

### **Grant Applications and Grant Committee Report**

Commissioner Akinmboni referred the Commissioners to the draft Policies Governing Grants to Community Organizations. She said that these policies had been circulated, reviewed and discussed at the last Commission meeting. They would be posted on the website so that everyone would know the conditions under which an organization might receive a grant. They were intended to assure that grants were properly managed and accounted for, and that all requirements of the D.C. Auditor were fulfilled.

Commissioner Akinmboni moved that the draft policies be approved by the Commission.

Commissioner Raia referred to paragraph 12. He noted that the 2010 budget provided for a maximum grant amount of \$5,000 and suggested that the limit of \$2,000.00 specified in paragraph 12 should be increased to \$5,000.00.

Commissioner Akinmboni said that small organizations would apply for a maximum of \$2,000, while larger organizations with larger projects would be able to apply for \$5,000 grants.

Commissioner Raia said that the policy did not specify small and large organizations and asked how that would be defined. He asked if Commissioner Akinmboni would agree that the maximum should be increased to \$5,000.00.

Commissioner Thomas said she thought the amount of each grant should depend on the project, not on the size of the organization.

Commissioner Raia agreed and said that they did not want to limit small organizations that might be able to do big things, versus large organizations that did small things.

Commissioner Thomas said the language should read “up to \$5,000.00.”

Commissioner Lopez asked if there would be criteria for grants if they exceed \$2,000.

Commissioner Raia said it would be the same criteria as in the draft, unless the Commission wanted to create new criteria. When the Commission voted on the budget, it provided for up to \$5,000 per grant, but did not establish any special criteria.

Chairperson Nadeau said that the Commission had said that the Grants Committee was going to establish grant criteria, but that had not happened yet, and that might have some bearing on the discussion.

Commissioner Lopez said he did not think that a small organization of one or two people who came to the Commission with a big project and wanted \$5,000 should be told no because they were too small.

Commissioner Akinmboni said that they did not want any community organization to get all of the funds for their project from the Commission. They wanted organizations to raise additional funds from other sources.

Commissioner Thomas said that the policies already stated that.

Commissioner Raia said that in past cases, the Commission had approved \$2,000 when the organization asked for \$3,000.

Commissioner Conklin asked if the word “Generally” and the sentence “The Commission may, in its discretion, approve a grant for an amount greater than the maximum....” did not provide flexibility to provide a \$5,000 grant.

Commissioner Raia said that he thought “generally” was a very loose word, and he thought it would be better to simplify the statement.

Commissioner Lopez said the words “up to \$5,000” would be better because the word “generally” suggested that grants of more than \$5,000 could be made and he did not want to do that.

Commissioner Akinmboni agreed and said her motion would include the amended language of paragraph 12 to provide that grants could be “up to \$5,000.00.”

Commissioner Lopez said the language of paragraph 12a would also have to be changed so that the maximum specified would be \$5,000 rather than \$2,000.

Commissioner Conklin said that the second full sentence of paragraph 12 (“The Commission may, in its discretion, approve a grant for an amount greater than the maximum, if it determines that the application has exceptional merit and will confer an unusual benefit to the community.”) would have to be removed since the Commission would not want to approve any more than \$5,000.

These changes were all agreed to.

Commissioner Moss referred to the Recommended Staff Support Procedures for Processing Grant Applications. She asked if paragraph 1 meant that all grant applications had to go first to the Staff Director.

Commissioner Akinmboni said that the purpose of the paragraph was to assure that all grant applications were quickly and efficiently distributed to all Commissioners.

Commissioner Moss said she was not opposed to the procedure, but that in LeDroit Park, organizations usually contacted the Commissioner of jurisdiction directly and then the Commissioner would give the application to the Staff Director. She said she would like to have that option.

Commissioner Akinmboni agreed that community organizations should go to their Commissioner of jurisdiction first.

Commissioner Moss said the procedure did not really read that way, so she wanted to be sure that Commissioners had the flexibility to do both and that they are responsible for informing their constituent base about the process.

Commissioner Akinmboni agreed and said that the procedure was written that way to prevent grant applications from being delayed because a Commissioner did not pass the application on to other Commissioners. When an organization comes to a Commissioner, the Commissioner should tell them to get the application off the website, work with the organization, and then make sure the application goes to the Staff Director so it can be distributed to all Commissioners.

Commissioner Moss thanked Commissioner Akinmboni for doing a great job on the grant policies and procedures, and said that the Commission had really needed this work.

Commissioner Muhammad said Commissioner Moss does a good job as a Commissioner and LeDroit Park is one of the best communities in the District of Columbia. He said he liked all the communities in the District, but LeDroit Park was special because they took initiative on a lot of issues, like the Gage-Eckington School. He suggested that the Grants Committee membership should be expanded to include representation from each single member district so that Commissioner Moss would not have to carry the whole burden; there could be representation from LeDroit Park on the Grants Committee.

Commissioner Thomas said that Commissioner Muhammad's point went back to what she was saying about more community involvement on all of the Commission's committees.

Commissioner Akinmboni reiterated her motion with the changes suggested by Commissioners.

Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted unanimously, 10 yes, 0 no.

### **Meridian Hill Neighborhood Association**

Chairperson Nadeau said she would like to remove the Meridian Hill Neighborhood Association application from the agenda until they have submitted a revised budget. She would advise all Commissioners when that happens.

Commissioner Thomas asked if anyone had done research on the legal requirements regarding tree boxes.

Chairperson Nadeau said yes, the boxes needed to be made of iron.

Commissioner Raia suggested that, if the MHNA grant application does come back to the Commission, the Commission should consider what percentage it is going to do in case another community organization comes and says they want tree boxes.

### **Columbia Heights-Shaw Family Collaborative**

Ms. Rose Gordy, Director of Family Services, Columbia Heights-Shaw Family Collaborative (CHFSC), said that they were applying for grant funds to support parenting skills classes offered to residents of Ward One. The Collaborative serves all of Ward One and Ward Two. It began operation in 1996 after D.C. Family Services went into receivership and there was a need to build a new network to support families

and to keep them out of the child welfare system. The work they do is primarily preventive, including home-based visitation, parenting support and information referral. They work to build community partners and manage the summer youth employment program for Ward One. She said that the past year had been difficult and revenue from various grant sources had been cut and they had to eliminate a full-time position in the parenting support program and a community educator. Their grant request would fund two different parenting courses. They each would be three weeks long; one would be in English and one in Spanish. The funds would pay a trainer who is a licensed social worker and has experience with mental health and gang violence issues. Funds would also pay for materials, handouts, and child care, so that parents could attend the classes. These classes will reach more than just parents. The classes affect entire families and the people who participate then talk with their friends and neighbors, and in the end, the entire community is strengthened.

Commissioner Raia commented that the application for grant funds could not refer to Ward Two.

Ms. Gordy said that the classes are for Ward One and that was stated in the application.

Commissioner Raia said the program was good and he could not take any credit for finding it. It was located in his area, but Commissioner Muhammad found this program and brought it his attention. He urged Commissioners who had questions to ask, but he also urged all Commissioners to support the program. It was making a great difference in the community.

Commissioner Thomas said that the Collaborative had control over the summer youth employment program for the area around V, W, Belmont and Chapin Streets and up to December 31<sup>st</sup> 2009, there had been no gang fights, none of the young people had been arrested; they had been cleaning up the neighborhood. There had not been any complaints, no robberies, or any of that. This was a very worthy organization that does many things.

Commissioner Lopez asked if the Collaborative had reached out to other ANCs in Ward One for funding. He was not saying that this Commission should not provide \$5,000, but there were many other organizations in need and this was only the first of many applications. Were all the people going to the classes located in ANC 1B?

Ms. Gordy said that they were mainly focusing on ANC 1B. It was a question of context. Their programs, whether school-based or community-based, like programs in Garfield Terrace, or Columbia Heights Village, or Clifton Terrace, or Kelly Miller, had the context to do the programs. ANC 1A was a different story. There were different contexts there.

Commissioner Raia said that not all commissions have grants.

Commissioner Thomas said that when they had first discussed providing larger grants, she had a different idea in mind for the Collaborative, the idea of providing aid for utility

bills or rent. However, that had not been permissible, and she thought this was a very good way of helping families, if not financially.

Commissioner Lopez asked if the Collaborative could reach out to other single member districts, like his ANC 1B07, which includes a large Latino population and the area around 14<sup>th</sup> and Girard Streets.

Ms. Gordy said they had reached out to that area and had worked with a teen parents program there. They also had programs at Cardozo High School.

Commissioner Moss said that she had worked in social work and child protective services and knew the daunting task that they were facing. With federal budget cuts and other reductions, it was important for local funding to be provided.

Commissioner Ferrer said the organization was doing great work. He asked if this would be the first set of parenting classes that they had conducted, or was this a program that had been done last year, but would be discontinued because of budget cuts.

Ms. Gordy said this was not the first time they had done the curriculum. The problem was that the program really required a full-time position to do it well. She thought they had done the program well last year. They had done one-day programs with parents in so many elementary schools in Ward One, which is where the issues begin, and anti-gang programs, and several different curricula. Without the full-time position, they could not maintain the number of programs and classes. It took much more than the two to four hours of classes every week. There were hours of preparation, recruiting, and liaison that was necessary. They really needed the staff resources to move into different areas.

Commissioner Ferrer asked how many parents they would expect for each session.

Ms. Gordy said that, according to best practices, up to twelve is all that should be involved in each course. If they had two groups, the total would be 24.

Commissioner Ferrer said that they had said they would have classes in February-March and May-June, and he asked how many classes the funds would support.

Ms. Gordy said the funds would support two classes.

Commissioner Lopez noted that there was an audit problem. Receipts for expenses were required in 60 days, which would begin today. The Treasurer would not be able to get receipts for expenditures in 60 days. He suggested that the grant be done in two parts. Waiting for receipts until June would be much too late and the auditor would say no.

Commissioner Akinmboni said that the program had to buy supplies and materials for the classes, and that the Collaborative was getting funding from other sources, so the \$5,000 could be used for preparation.

Commissioner Raia said that he thought Commissioner Lopez was saying that, in order for it to work legally, the amount would have to be divided in half.

Commissioner Lopez said that the materials might be purchased right away, but the funds for childcare could not be expended until the actual classes were underway. He wanted to make sure the Commission understood what was being voted on.

Commissioner Raia suggested that, based on the dates of the classes, the \$5,000 grant should best be divided into thirds.

Chairperson Nadeau asked if the Commission could vote to issue checks at a later date.

Commissioner Lopez said yes.

Commissioner Holness said she wanted to commend Ms. Gordy and the Collaborative for all the work that they had done, because that was exactly what the ANC 1B11 empowerment project was all about. She asked what the recruiting process was, was there a handbook that could be given to the Commission, and would Ms. Gordy like to come to the ANC 1B11 meeting to share the same information she had shared at this meeting.

Ms. Gordy said they did have a flyer that they distributed. They usually went to the various schools and talked with counselors, who often had students that they referred. In addition, there was walk-in traffic.

Commissioner Muhammad said he was very excited about the work of the Collaborative. When discussing the 2010 grant budget two months ago, CHSFC was one of the first organizations he had thought of as a way to assist the constituents in ANC 1B. He asked Ms Gordy to contact the individual Commissioners and let them know of residents in their single member districts who were taking the classes provided by the Collaborative. He said there were many people in his single member district who would like to volunteer to assist the Collaborative in its work.

Commissioner Raia moved that ANC 1B approve the CHSFC grant application for \$5,000 and that the grant be provided in the form of two checks, one issued for \$840 plus one-third of the funds being issued when the Treasurer issues it and the second check to be issued on April 1, 2010 for the other two-thirds of the rest of the funds.

Commissioner Muhammad seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted, 9 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention. Commissioner Akinmboni abstained due to her position on the Board of Directors of CHSFC.

### **Robert and Mary Church Terrell House and LeDroit Park Museum and Cultural Center**

Commissioner Moss introduced Ms. Alice Aughtry, former President of the LeDroit Park Civic Association to review the grant application.

Ms. Aughtry said she was representing the Museum and Cultural Center. They were hosting a forensic challenge, or debate, and seminar on February 20<sup>th</sup>. Mary Church Terrell, among her many other accomplishments, was a great orator and the event is a tribute to her. The debate will be on the question that was very dominant in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries: how to educate the children of those recently freed from slavery. The two conflicting points of view were between W.E.B. DuBois, who advocated for a classical college preparatory education and Booker T. Washington, who advocated for vocational education as more appropriate. The grant application is for \$1,000, which would help defray the expense of videography for the debate.

Chairperson Nadeau excused herself during the presentation and Vice Chairperson Conklin assumed the Chair.

Vice Chairperson Conklin asked for questions from the Commission.

Commissioner Anderson Holness said that she thought what the Terrell House and Museum did spoke for itself and she was in full support of the grant proposal, not only because of the work of Robert and Mary Church Terrell, and she (Commissioner Anderson Holness) was a Howard Law graduate, but also because the work is extremely important.

Commissioner Moss noted that Ms. Terrell was one of the founders of Delta Sigma Theta, of which Commissioner Anderson Holness was a member.

Chairperson Nadeau returned to the meeting and resumed the Chair.

There were no questions from the community.

Commissioner Moss moved that ANC 1B approve the grant application of the Robert and Mary Church Terrell House and LeDroit Park Museum and Cultural Center for \$1,000 for the expenses of the forensic challenge on Saturday, February 20, 2010.

Commissioner Muhammad seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted, 9 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention. Chairperson Nadeau abstained due to her absence from the discussion.

Commissioner Thomas Smith arrived at this point in the meeting.

### **Arose Youth Development Letter of Support for NIF Grant**

Chairperson Nadeau said that the Neighborhood Investment Fund (NIF) was administered by the office of the Deputy Mayor. The funds did not come from ANC 1B. The request before the Commission was to provide a letter of support for the application of Arose Youth Development for NIF funds. She said there would be other organizations presenting requests in future.

Mr. James, Parker said that Arose Youth Development was applying for NIF grant funds to support a professional skills training program for teens in the neighborhood. One of the problems they had encountered was that youth do not have marketable skills, do not have experience, do not know how to apply for or interview for a job. Arose Youth Development is providing training to address these problems. The NIF grant will support the continuation of this training and expand it to include more youth, and he was asking the Commission to support their application.

Commissioner Anderson Holness moved that ANC 1B support the Arose Youth Development NIF application.

Commissioner Ferrer seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted unanimously, 11 yes, 0 no.

### **MidCity Business Association-Cultural Tourism DC letter of support**

Ms. Natalie Avery, Executive Director of the MidCity Business Association, said that they were asking for the Commission's support for NIF funding for a visitors center on U Street to be operated by Cultural Tourism DC and located above Ben's Next Door. This visitors information center will promote the history and cultural heritage of the U Street corridor and will be an important part of the Association's strategy to bring more tourism and more traffic to the U Street area.

Chairperson Nadeau called the Commission's attention to an e-mail from Andrea Doughty announcing that ANC 2F had voted to support this application.

Ms. Laura Brower, Director of Development for Cultural Tourism DC, said that they had received a grant last year to begin a visitors center at Ben's Chili Bowl. Ben's has provided free rent and utilities. Ben's Chili Bowl get about 2,000 visitors per day, so this is a great opportunity to make visitors aware of the historical, cultural and entertainment features of U Street. Cultural Tourism DC is now a coalition of 22 cultural, historical and neighborhood organizations that now has information available at Ben's Chili Bowl. Ms. Brower said the goal of the NIF grant is to finish the visitor information center. They want to add a video component telling the story of the neighborhood and including oral histories so that tourists understand the importance and cultural value of the U Street

community. The second component of the grant is a couple of workshops for local businesses to help them understand how they can use the visitor information center.

Chairperson Nadeau moved that ANC 1B support Cultural Tourism DC's application for NIF grant funds to complete the U Street Visitors Information Center.

Commissioner Muhammad seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted unanimously 11 yes, 0 no.

### **Manna Inc. request for support of transfer of Whitelaw Apartments Land**

Commissioner Raia that Manna Inc. took over the Whitelaw Apartment building back in the 1990s, redeveloped the building, and made it into affordable housing, with the promise from the D.C. government that it would be turned back over to them. They were requesting that ANC 1B send a letter of support for the transfer to the DC Government. Residents of the Whitelaw and neighbors in the immediate area were all in support of this transfer, and he urged the Commission to express its support.

Commissioner Anderson Holness moved that ANC 1B support the transfer of the Whitelaw Apartments land to Manna Inc.

Commissioner Muhammad seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted 9 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention. Commissioner Conklin abstained.

### **Election of Officers resumed**

Chairperson Nadeau asked the Commission to resume the election of officers and noted that the election for Chairperson was tied. She suggested that Commissioner Smith be asked for whom he would vote for Chairperson.

Commissioner Raia asked that the election be summarized.

Chairperson Nadeau said that the vote for Chairperson was tied between herself and Commissioner Anderson Holness, with five votes for each.

Commissioner Raia asked that the roll call vote be read aloud.

Commissioner Smith said he would like to make a few comments. He wished everyone a happy New Year and said that his absence had been due to changes in his work schedule. He advised the Commission that this would be his last year serving as a Commissioner. He planned to pursue his career path and do some other things. He had had a good five years and he would be looking for someone to replace him.

Chairperson Nadeau asked Mr. Irwin to read the roll call vote.

Mr. Irwin read as follows:

Commissioner Moss voted for Commissioner Anderson Holness.  
Commissioner Raia voted for Commissioner Anderson Holness.  
Commissioner Muhammad voted for Commissioner Anderson Holness.  
Commissioner Thomas voted for Commissioner Nadeau.  
Commissioner Nadeau voted for Commissioner Nadeau.  
Commissioner Lopez voted for Commissioner Nadeau.  
Commissioner Conklin voted for Commissioner Nadeau.  
Commissioner Akinmboni voted for Commissioner Nadeau.  
Commissioner Ferrer voted for Commissioner Anderson Holness.  
Commissioner Anderson Holness voted for Commissioner Anderson Holness

Commissioner Smith said that he voted for Commissioner Anderson Holness.

Commissioner Nadeau congratulated Commissioner Anderson Holness on her election and wished her luck.

Commissioner Anderson Holness assumed the Chair.

Commissioner Ferrer said he wanted to thank Commissioner Nadeau for her service as Chairperson over the past year.

Chairperson Anderson Holness thanked Commissioner Nadeau for all she had done as Chairperson and thanked Commissioners for their votes. She said she looked forward to working with all Commissioners and bringing the Commission together in consensus. She said the vote had been taken, the majority ruled, and the Commission would move forward as a Commission together.

Chairperson Anderson Holness called for nominations for the office of Vice Chairperson.

Commissioner Muhammad nominated Commissioner Raia.

Chairperson Anderson Holness asked for other nominations for Vice Chairperson.

There were no other nominations.

Commissioner Muhammad moved that Commissioner Raia be elected Vice Chairperson by acclamation.

The motion was adopted 9 yes, 2 no, with Commissioners Nadeau and Conklin voting no, and Commissioner Raia was elected Vice Chairperson.

Chairperson Anderson Holness called for nominations for the office of Secretary.

Commissioner Raia nominated Commissioner Moss.

Chairperson Anderson Holness asked for other nominations for Secretary.

There were no other nominations.

Commissioner Raia moved that Commissioner Moss be elected Secretary by acclamation,

Commissioner Ferrer seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted unanimously, 11-0, and Commissioner Moss was elected Secretary.

Chairperson Anderson Holness called for nominations for the office of Treasurer.

Commissioner Muhammad nominated Commissioner Ferrer.

Chairperson Anderson Holness asked for other nominations for Treasurer.

There were no other nominations.

Commissioner Muhammad moved that Commissioner Ferrer be elected Treasurer by acclamation.

Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted unanimously, 11-0, and Commissioner Ferrer was elected Treasurer.

### **Election of Committee Chairs**

Chairperson Anderson Holness called for nominations for Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee.

Commissioner Moss nominated herself, and then withdrew her nomination.

Commissioner Akinmboni nominated Commissioner Muhammad.

Commissioner Raia nominated Commissioner Moss.

Commissioner Moss declined the nomination in favor of Commissioner Muhammad.

Commissioner Smith moved that Commissioner Muhammad be elected Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee by acclamation.

Commissioner Moss seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted unanimously, 11-0, and Commissioner Muhammad was elected Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee.

Chairperson Anderson Holness called for nominations for Chairperson of the Design Committee.

Chairperson Anderson Holness nominated Commissioner Smith.

Commissioner Smith said that his work and school commitments would prevent him from continuing as Design Committee Chairperson and declined the nomination.

Chairperson Anderson Holness thanked Commissioner Smith for his service as Design Committee Chairperson and for getting the Committee started so well.

Commissioner Ferrer asked if all ANC 1B committees had to be chaired by an elected Commissioner.

Commissioner Nadeau said that was not required.

Commissioner Ferrer suggested that nominations from the community be solicited.

Commissioner Ferrer moved to table the election of Design Committee Chairperson.

Commissioner Smith seconded the motion.

Commissioner Thomas asked if all committee Chairpersons could be from the community. Commissioner Nadeau and Chairperson Anderson Holness said yes.

The motion was adopted unanimously, 11-0.

Chairperson Anderson Holness called for nominations for Chairperson of the Grants Committee.

Commissioner Nadeau nominated Commissioner Akinmboni.

Chairperson Anderson Holness asked for other nominations for Grants Committee Chairperson. There were no other nominations.

Commissioner Nadeau moved that Commissioner Akinmboni be elected by acclamation.

Commissioner Smith seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted unanimously, 11-0.

Chairperson Anderson Holness called for nominations for Chairperson of the ABC Committee.

Commissioner Moss nominated Commissioner Raia.

Commissioner Conklin asked if there was anyone from the community interested in serving as Chairperson.

Commissioner Nadeau nominated Mr. Scott Pomeroy.

Mr. Pomeroy said that he taken on additional responsibility to manage the Green Team for the community, and could not accept nomination.

Commissioner Conklin asked if the election could be tabled.

Chairperson Anderson Holness said that there was a nomination on the floor.

Mr. Pomeroy said that he would respectfully request Commissioner Raia to open up the Chair of the committee because his time, as the Commissioner representing the single member district with the most liquor licenses, was very committed, and he had not had time to regularly hold committee meetings.

Chairperson Anderson Holness said nominations were in order but that Mr. Pomeroy's comments were out of order, and the Commission would move on with nominations. She thanked Mr. Pomeroy for his commitment to serve in future.

Chairperson Anderson Holness asked for other nominations for ABC Committee Chairperson. There were no other nominations.

Commissioner Moss moved that Commissioner Raia be elected Chairperson of the ABC Committee by acclamation.

Commissioner Smith seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted, 7 yes, 2 no, 2 abstain, with Commissioners Conklin and Nadeau voting no and Commissioners Lopez and Thomas abstaining, and Commissioner Raia was elected Chairperson of the ABC Committee.

Chairperson Anderson Holness said that election of Committee Chairpersons was concluded.

There being no other business, Commissioner Nadeau moved that the January 2010 meeting of ANC 1B be adjourned.

Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted unanimously, 8-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:43 PM.