

**ADVISORY NEIGHBOURHOOD COMMISSION 1B**  
**Government of the District of Columbia**

**Minutes**

**Thursday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013,**  
**7:00 PM, Reeves Center, 2000 14<sup>th</sup> Street N.W.**

The regular monthly meeting of the Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1B occurred on Thursday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013, at 7:00 pm in the Reeves Center, Commissioner E. Gail Anderson Holness being present as chair. Other commissioners present during the meeting: Emily Washington, Ricardo Reinoso, Jeremy Leffler, Dyana Forester, Juan Lopez, James Turner, Marc Morgan and Zahra Jilani. Commissioners Deborah Thomas, Tony Norman and Sedrick Muhammad were not present.

Presiding chair E. Gail Anderson Holness observed the presence of a quorum and called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Holness opens by telling the audience that the chairman Norman is out of city and will not be chairing the meeting.

Jilani introduces herself.

Washington introduces herself.

Lopez introduces himself.

Forester introduces herself.

Morgan introduces himself.

Turner introduces himself.

Reinoso introduces himself.

Holness introduces herself. Holness asks the staff person to introduce himself.

Martin, staff person for ANC 1B introduces himself.

**Community Announcements**

Rock and Roll USA Marathon

Thomas introduces herself as a representative of the Greater Washington Sports Alliance. Their offices are located at 2300 14<sup>th</sup> Street. She says they are a non-profit sports commission in the DC area. They

are holding their annual Rock and Roll USA marathon and half-marathon. It will take place March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014, and will go through Harvard. They may take a detour through W street instead of through Bryant, unlike last year. They estimate there will be about 29,000 registrants. There will be several street closings. They believe there will be a positive economic impact on the region.

Holness asked if there was anything that the community could do.

Thomas said that they should spread the word and also join the marathon if possible. She said she would provide the commission with whatever it needed to spread the word.

### Funk Parade

Justin Rude introduces himself. He has been working a street festival called the “funk parade”. It would take place on U street. They have received support from Jim Graham, Ben's Chili Bowl and other local businesses. It would be May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2013. It would close down several blocks of U street. It would take place around 4 or 5 pm.

Jilani said she supports the parade and that she should keep the neighbors informed.

Holness comments that the community is supportive of events but simply wants to be informed beforehand.

Rude says he will be back next month to try and get support from the commission.

Reinoso introduced his weekly ANC runs, which take place every Wednesday.

Morgan introduces Golda Philips, the new president of the LaDroit Park Civic Association, and Eric Fiddler, the new vice president.

Forester says she will share information about the rebounding of several school districts.

Jilani says the next Sustainable U meeting will take place November 14<sup>th</sup> at the Dunbar Lawrence building at 7 pm.

Holness said the 1B11 civic association meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday from 7 pm to 8 pm. He introduces Mark Borge who works in the Muriel Bowser campaign.

## **Officer Reports**

### Approval of Minutes

**Morgan motions to approve the minutes. Reinoso seconds. Motion passes with two abstentions and 6 in favor.**

### Treasurer's Report

Turner reports that there is no treasurer's report this month.

## **Committee Reports**

### Grant Committee Report

Holness said two individuals came before the grants committee, Jessica Rucker with Community Walking Tours. Her commissioner is Dyana Forester. She asked for a recruitment and education grant to do walking tours of the Columbia Heights neighborhood for 14-18 year olds. Holness reports the committee recommended approval of the grant for \$500.

Forester said she is excited about this project. She said that a lot of the youth don't know the history of the area they live in. She asked if anyone wanted their homes part of the walking tour they should ask the commission.

Turner noted that there is a \$2500 allocation for grants for the year, they have already given out \$500 and there would be three more quarters this year.

Holness asked if Forester wanted to make a motion.

Forester said she supports it, but she wanted to know if their request was within the guidelines of what they would fund.

Holness said it was.

**Forester makes a motion to approve the grant to Community Walking Tours for \$500. Morgan seconds. 2 abstentions, 6 in favor, motion passes.**

Holness said the Career Path DC's Winter Tournament of Games. This had been an annual event in ANC 1B. It takes place in Emily Washington's district.

Washington says she wasn't able to attend the summer tournament and she said it was an important part of getting the neighborhood together and commended Mack Thompson involving community youth in the planning process.

Holness asks if there's a motion.

Turner asks if there is a tournament every quarter.

Thompson answers no, only every spring, summer and winter.

**Washington moves to support the grant for Career Path DC for \$500. Lopez seconds. 7 in favor, 1 abstention. Motion passes.**

Holness thanked Thompson for hosting the tournaments.

Forester asked how much the ANC has to give grants for the remainder of the year.

Turner said \$1,000.

Holness wanted it noted for the record that the Rita Bright Center grant was voted on in October and they did not come before the grants committee.

Forester said that the Rita Bright Center had come to the committee twice in August.

Holness said neither she nor the grants committee received it.

### Design Committee Report

#### *1837 12<sup>th</sup> street NW*

The owner of the building presents. This is a residential renovation to the interior and facade so that it will be historically accurate. There is also a basement addition to add an apartment. Finally, there will be a 3<sup>rd</sup> floor addition. They have done sightline studies so that it is not visible from the sidewalk across the street. The facade will be restored to the historic original. She said they had approval from the committee.

Morgan said the committee approved the design for 1837 12<sup>th</sup> street NW. **Morgan moves approval for the design of 1837 12<sup>th</sup> street NW. Lopez seconds. Approval with 7 ayes and 1 abstention.**

#### *1801 4<sup>th</sup> street NW*

This is an empty lot adjacent to Frasier's funeral home. The developer wants to construct a townhouse in the style of the adjacent townhouses in the same material and design. This new townhouse will be an end-unit. It is set back from the side of the lot. HPRB encourages the developer to follow the original footprint of the building.

Morgan said the design committee voted to fully support the project. Mogan says the project is in his single-member district (SMD). **Morgan motions for full approval of the concept for 1801 4<sup>th</sup> street. Lopez seconds. 7 ayes, 1 nay, motion approved.**

### *Bethune Dining Hall Facility Expansion*

Maybelle introduces herself. This is the dining hall facility of Howard University. Howard University is currently undergoing an expansion. They need an amendment to the campus plan and they need a special exception for processing. It would seat 600 student from 350. There is a loading dock on the north east, it is in the footprint of the zoning setbacks.

Holness complimented the design.

Maybelle said they have received support from ANC 5E.

Holness said that she would not begin a motion, but asked if someone else would make a motion on her behalf.

Jilani asks what the vote of the design committee was.

Holness says the design committee voted to approve.

**Turner moves to approve the Bethune Dining Hall Facility expansion. Forester seconds.**

Turner compliments the design.

Jilani asks if the chairperson could ask for community input before a motion.

Holness said she did.

**Vote on the motion to support the expansion of the Bethune Dining Hall: 6 ayes, 1 abstention, the motion passes.**

*Proposed Meridian Hill Historic District*

Reinoso presents the proposal. He said that the Design Committee voted to approve the historic designation with some exceptions. He also said that a representative from the HPO was present and a representative from Augustana Lutheran Church, who is asking to be excluded, was present. This was supported by 1A, 1C and 1D. There are four single family homes that are to be excluded. Reinoso asked that Augustana Lutheran be removed from the district.

Kim William is a representative from the HPO. This has been a 6-year process. The boundaries are around Meridian Hill Park and includes 65 building but 15 are considered non-contributing. There are 16 landmarks.

Turner asked where the excluded residences are.

Reinoso said that they were 2313, 2315, 2317 and 2319 15<sup>th</sup> street which are in the southeast section of the park. Augustana on the corner of New Hampshire and Vermont.

The pastor of the church spoke to the commission. The pastor believes that the church is not contributing and they are asking to be excluded. The church is not visible from Meridian Hill Park.

Morgan said the committee voted to support the district with the exclusions.

**Reinoso made a motion to support the historic district excluding the properties of 2313, 2315, 2317 and 2319 in addition to Augustana Lutheran Church. Morgan seconds.**

Forester asks if Howard's dorms are in the district.

Maybelle says they are but Howard has no comment.

Forester is concerned that it might be very expensive to maintain the historic appearance of the neighborhood.

Washington wanted to know how the district would affect affordable housing in the area.

Lopez asked what the two Design Committee members that opposed the exclusion said.

Reinoso said that the two opposing committee members felt the historic process was not overly burdensome and that it might set a bad precedent.

Lopez asked if there was any community comments.

Holness said that she'd opened community comments, and once a motion was put for a vote there would be no comments from the floor.

A woman from the audience asked what if people had questions about the project rather than the issue of excluding certain areas of the historic district.

Holness said they would have to take that up later.

**Vote on the motion: 2 nays, 6 yeas and 1 abstention. Motion passes.**

*Historic Nomination of Wilson Normal School*

The Wilson Normal School was built in 1910. It was originally a teacher's college and now is the location of the Carlos Rosario. The petitioner is seeking support for the nomination of Wilson Normal School as a historic landmark.

Jilani asked whose SMD the school resided in.

Holness said it was in Turner's district.

**Turner moves approval of the historic nomination for Wilson Normal School. Morgan seconds. There are seven yeas, one abstention. Motion approved.**

Holness wanted to recognize Gottlieb Simon.

Reinoso asked if he could read the resolution of the new zoning regulations.

Forester explained that 11 ANCs have asked the zoning rewrite and give more opportunity for

commissioners to weigh in.

Morgan said there was no recommendation by the design committee.

Reinoso read the text of the resolution.

Forester there had been no community meetings held by the office of planning. Forester motions to support the resolution. Reinoso seconds.

Turner states that there was not enough action about this issue from the beginning.

Washington says that the office of planning has been responsive and that community input has lead to changes in their parking planning.

Forester says that it is more that the new regulations are very dense and the community has not been given enough time to analyze it.

Reinoso says it has been a while since the zoning regulations have been revised and each rewrite is meant to look forward far into the future, so it is important that the community be given ample time.

**Vote on the motion, 6 ayes, 1 abstention, 1 nay, motion passes.**

#### ABC Committee

Commissioner Leffler introduces himself.

Leffler reported that the committee started applying the new guidelines to the new alcohol renewals. Namely, a protest would be issued only after three significant violations or if there was community representation asking for a protest. Leffler motions to support those establishments that did not fulfill those criteria. These are: Solly's, Cafe St. Ex, Duffy's Irish Restaurant, Music & Arts Club/Tropicana, Jin, Touchdown, Codmother, Satillite Room, Mova, Ghion, Dixon Wine Bar, Etete, Mockingbird Hill, Bar Pilar, Twins Jazz, Next Door, Dodge City, Flash, Town and Brixton. Turner seconds. Vote on the motion: 8 ayes, 1 abstention, motion passes.

Leffler reported the following establishments did fulfill the ABC committee's criteria for protest. These are: Indulj, DC 9, Climax, Lounge of Three, Bohemian Caverns/LIV, Chuck and Bill's Bison Lodge and Manchester Bar and Grill. There are four establishments that were not properly notified by ABRA, which are Marvin, Gibson, Patty Boom Boom, Lost Society and the Hanoi House.

Leffler reported the committee voted unanimously to protest Indulj until Commissioner Jilani could meet with the owners to discuss a security plan.

Jilani said she met with them and said a representative from Indulj was present. There was a shooting outside Indulj. ABRA took no action on the disorderly patrons charge. ABRA determined that Indulj had done all it could do to prevent the shooting.

The general manager of Indulj told the commission that they had drafted a new security plan.

Leffler asked if cameras were part of the new security plan.

The general manager said there are sixteen new cameras.

**Jilani moves to support Indulj's license renewal. Washington seconds. 5 ayes, 4 abstentions, motion passes.**

There is some confusion to whether Vice-chair Holness is supposed to vote. Holness says in her position as presiding chairperson that she only votes in the event of ties.

Leffer reports that there had been issues with DC 9 but the employees that were responsible had been fired. There was a homicide in 2010 but DC 9's management has taken sufficient preventative steps that the committee felt were warranted. The committee voted to support the renewal of DC 9.

Reinoso asked how much time it took for the restaurant to fire their employees after some of their employees were charged with intent to distribute.

The manager responded that they fired the employees within hours.

A woman from the audience said there were some noise issues about the establishment.

**Leffler motions to support the renewal for DC 9. Jilani seconds. 6 ayes, 1 nay, 2 abstentions, motion passes.**

Leffler reported that the commission already voted to protest the establishment of Climax, but lost standing because the representative of the commission failed to show up. They are operating an illegal deck. Committee voted to protest on peace order and quiet. **Leffler motions to protest Climax on peace, order and quiet. Lopez seconds. Vote on the motion: 8 ayes, 1 abstention, motion passes.**

Leffler reported the Lounge of Three had small infractions, and so the committee moved to take no action. Leffler moved to take no action. No second. No action taken.

Leffler reported that Bohemian Caverns and LIV nightclub operate as separate establishments but have the same license and management. Both had multiple infractions, Bohemian Caverns was charged with a sexual violation and operating after hours. They were shut down temporarily. It is believed no charges were formally pressed. The ABC committee voted to take no action.

The general manager of Bohemian Caverns said that there was a employee who was involved in a sexual assault. The management aided the police in the investigation. The employees involved were fired.

Leffler said there is a security plan registered with ABRA. He recommended no action.

Leffler said there has been a homicide citation for Chuck and Bill's Bison Lounge. There was community support for the establishment and the consensus was that establishment was not responsible.

Turner said the establishment is a community fixture. He has met with the owners. The owners have been to community meetings. They agreed to a new security plan including new cameras. There was a joint meeting with MPD. Turner says a settlement agreement is pending. Turner motions to protest until a settlement agreement is signed. Leffler seconds. 8 ayes, 1 abstention.

Leffler said the ABC committee made no action regarding Manchester Bar and Grill. No motion was made.

Leffler reported Lost Society has a few violations and operated after hours. They were also fined for holding an event for the inauguration. The ABC Committee voted to take no action until Jilani could report back.

Jilani reported that she talked to the establishment. The managers explained that they didn't violate maximum occupancy loads because at the time of the violation most patrons were standing and the limit only applies to seated patrons. They have since received a new permit. They also paid the fine for the unauthorized even on inauguration.

**Jilani moves support for the license renewal of Lost Society. Leffler seconds. 7 ayes, 2 abstention, motion passes.**

Leffler said that there are four establishments that were not properly notified by ABRA, these are Marvin, Gibson, Patty Boom Boom and the Hanoi House. Commission voted to support the renewal for Marvin.

**Leffler motions to support Marvin. Lopez seconds. 8 ayes, 1 abstention, motion passes.**

Leffler reports that they had taken no action on the other three establishments anticipating more information would be available. He said that the four establishments were in Jilani's district.

The manager of Patty Boom Boom explained they were cited but that they are currently fighting the citation as they were closed the night of the citation.

**Jilani motions to support Gibson, Patty Boom Boom and the Hanoi House's liquor license. Leffler seconds. 8 ayes, 1 abstention, motion passes.**

Leffler reports that Cause DC and the protesting residents have come to a voluntary agreement.

A woman from the community said that she would like to look at the voluntary agreement as she is affected by the roof decks in the neighborhood.

**Leffler motions to sign the voluntary agreement with Cause DC. Morgan seconds. 8 ayes, 1 abstention, motion passes.**

Leffler reported that Town has applied for a substantial change. There are employing new techniques to block sound, including a new sound-blocking wall. ABC voted to approve the substantial change.

The manager of Town nightclub made a presentation about the substantial change.

Forester was concerned with the pests that might be attracted to the bamboo used in the sound mitigation.

The manager said they have an exterminator.

**Leffler motions to support Town nightclub. Morgan seconds. 8 ayes, 1 abstention, motion passes.**

Jilani reports that the ANC is satisfied with Pure nightclub's security plan. **Jilani motions to lift the protest from Pure's license. Leffler seconds. 8 ayes, 1 abstention motion passes.**

Public Safety Committee

Holness asks that the public safety committee report be entered into the public record. It has been attached to the minutes.

Motion to adjourn by Holness. Seconded by Leffler. Motion passes by unanimous consent.

ATTACHMENT: Public Safety committee report.

Crime Type	Number of Crimes that Occurred Between		% Change
	10/6/2012 to 11/5/2012	10/06/2013 to 11/05/2013	
Homicide	0	0 <a href="#">[view map]</a>	N/A
Sex Abuse	2	1 <a href="#">[view map]</a>	50
Robbery Excluding Gun	21	11 <a href="#">[view map]</a>	48
Robbery With Gun	12	4 <a href="#">[view map]</a>	67
Assault Dangerous Weapon (ADW) Excluding Gun	6	10 <a href="#">[view map]</a>	67
Assault Dangerous Weapon (ADW) Gun	0	0 <a href="#">[view map]</a>	N/A
<b>Total Violent Crime</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>26</b> <a href="#">[view map]</a>	<b>37</b>
Burglary	18	0 <a href="#">[view map]</a>	100
Theft	36	52 <a href="#">[view map]</a>	44
Theft F/Auto	96	84 <a href="#">[view map]</a>	12
Stolen Auto	8	6 <a href="#">[view map]</a>	25
Arson	0	1 <a href="#">[view map]</a>	N/A
<b>Total Property Crime</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>143</b> <a href="#">[view map]</a>	<b>9</b>
<b>Total Crime</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>169</b> <a href="#">[view map]</a>	<b>15</b>