

**Government of the District of Columbia**  
**ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3F**  
*Van Ness • North Cleveland Park • Wakefield • Forest Hills*

3F01 – David Dickinson  
3F02 – Shirley Adelstein, Treasurer  
3F03 – Mary Beth Ray  
3F04 – Sally Gresham  
3F05 – Andrea Molod, Secretary  
3F06 – Malachy Nugent, Chair  
3F07 – Patrick Jakopchek, Vice Chair



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**Public Meeting – November 15, 2016**

Forest Hills of DC  
4901 Connecticut Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20008

**MINUTES**

ANC 3F convened its regular public meeting on Tuesday, November 15, 2016 at Forest Hills of DC, 4901 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20008. The meeting was duly advertised and open to the public

Copies of resolutions approved are available at [www.anc3f.com](http://www.anc3f.com), and the livestream recording of the meeting is available at <http://new.livestream.com/anc-3f>. Times listed in parentheses indicate the point in the recording at which that item is discussed.

Commissioners Present:     Ray  
                                      Dickinson  
                                      Jakopchek  
                                      Gresham  
                                      Nugent  
                                      Molod

ITEM	VOTE	KEYWORDS
Commissioner Nugent made a motion to approve the consent agenda as amended with the following item: Resolution on Thai Pad Settlement Agreement (Revised).	6-0-0	
Commissioner Nugent made a motion to approve the amended regular agenda.	6-0-0	
Commissioner Nugent made a motion to move the Ellicott bus stop to now on the agenda by way of an agenda amendment.	6-0-0	
Commissioner Molod made a resolution to move the WMATA bus stop to Ellicott Street.	6-0-0	
Commissioner Ray made a resolution supporting (with conditions) the Board of Zoning Adjustment Application: BZA Case 19395 by the	6-0-0	

Embassy of the State of Kuwait to build a new guard booth as an accessory structure in the front yard.		
Commissioner Molod made a motion to approve the July and September minutes as amended.	6-0-0	
Commissioner Nugent made a motion to adjourn.	6-0-0	

Call to Order: 7:35 pm  
Adjournment: 10:14 pm

**AGENDA ITEMS**

**1. Approval of Consent and Regular Agendas (00:00:30)**

Commissioner Nugent made a motion to approve the consent agenda as amended with the following item:

Resolution on Thai Pad Settlement Agreement (Revised).

Motion was approved with 6 voting in favor, 0 voting against, and 0 abstaining (6-0-0).

All items on the consent agenda are therefore approved by the Commission by unanimous consent.

Commissioner Nugent made a motion to approve the amended regular agenda. Motion was approved with 6 voting in favor, 0 voting against, and 0 abstaining (6-0-0).

**2. Police Report – Lt. Corrinne Hughes (corinne.hughes@dc.gov 202-615-6803) (00:04:30)**

Lt Hughes said that she has been at the 2nd district for 1 1/2 years, came from near George Washington University. There has been a 50% decrease in crime compared to the same 30 days last year. There has been a spike in theft from autos near Macomb St. NW, so they have set up more patrols.

Questions from Commissioners:

Dickinson said that the requests for traffic patrol near Hearst were honored and he wanted to thank MPD. Now he is also requesting patrols near Reno and Van Ness (spot enforcement).

Ray: There is a problem at Fessenden and Connecticut with the safety of children walking to school. Can you patrol the intersection? Commissioner Ray also mentioned a home break-in on 29th St near Audubon Terrace, is there any progress? Answer: She will have to speak to the detective in charge. The woman recognized the assailant as someone who hangs out in the woods nearby.

Molod: At the 5000 block of Connecticut Ave. NW they are having some issues with drunks. Emily Bedford, the manager at Politics & Prose spoke about the issue. She said Glen, Kevin and Melvin are the men's names. Kevin is homeless and Glen and Melvin are residents of the Regency. Bedford has spoken to management at the Regency and has called the police, but that does not stop them from drinking on the benches and acting belligerently regularly. Commissioner Ray said they should try to get Kevin into Friendship Place and Lt. Hughes said that local store owners should call the police every time they see the drunken behavior.

Gresham: There are requests from apartment buildings about people parking too close to the alleyways - should they call the police to report? Answer: Yes, they should call 311 and they will be ticketed and possibly towed.

### **3. Commissioner Announcements / Updates (00:17:50)**

Dickinson:

1. Hearst Park Update: A request has been made to DGS/DPR to examine the site behind the McDonald's at Van Ness St and Wisconsin Avenue as a potential pool location. There is still no public survey available from DGS/DPR which would solicit input on three potential locations of the pool at Hearst Park itself.
2. Sidwell Update: We will hear later from Ms. Kate Lindsey of Sidwell regarding Sidwell's plans for December 2016 given the recent outcome of litigation between the Washington Home and representatives of its tenants.
3. Grant Application from Wilson High School – Judy Corcillo from the Wilson HS PTA, seeking funding in support of the 5k to be held in the Spring.
4. UDC Law Day Open House – Saturday, Nov 19 9:30 am to 3 pm.
5. Crossing the Street Van Ness – Thurs, Nov 17th from 6 to 11 pm

Gresham:

1. Forest Hills Park Update - The Friends of Forest Hills Playground hosted their Annual Halloween Party at the Forest Hills Park and Playground on Saturday, October 29th. The party was a huge hit yet again along with the best ever receipt of donations. It must have been the fabulous weather, big turnout and all hands on deck by the 'Friends of' team!
2. Van Ness Main Street Updates
  - AND to continue in the Halloween spirit update mode (no witch's hat this time however) ...The Van Ness Main Street sponsored Van Ness Merchant Halloween Open House on the same October 29th Saturday was another huge community hit! The Forest Hills Park party costumed kids marched down Connecticut Ave and picked up more treats from participating businesses. I hope these 2 Halloween fun community events become an annual coordinated effort in the coming years.
  - Van Ness Main Streets has completed the first phase of streetscape improvements at the Albemarle Corner businesses along our Connecticut Ave strip. Phase 2 improvements in 2017 will include new signage, exterior lighting and new surrounding concrete paving areas for the east corner businesses. Many thanks to Travis Price Architects and their contractor for making this happen!
3. Soapstone Market Update-Soapstone Market, our new community specialty grocery store, deli café and gathering place at Park Van Ness is now open for business. Thank you owners

Tracy Stannard and John Fielding for moving into our hood! The market is open from 7 AM to 10 PM +- every day of the week. Please go check this fabulous store out and buy, buy, buy.

4. Sfoglina Pasta House Update-Fabio and Maria Trabocchi and their construction team are working hard on their new Sfoglina Pasta House at Park Van Ness. The brown paper in the windows is scheduled to come off in mid-December and what a thrill and 'yummy in the tummy' that will be for our hood's growing eatery establishments. Thank you Fabio and Maria for choosing Van Ness for your 4th restaurant!

5. AU/WAMU Minipark Update-We have 3 new shiny black park benches and 2 new trash & recycling receptacles at the Windom Place minipark behind the AU/WAMU building. Thank you American University, Andrew Huff, Mike Mastrota and their installation crew along with Barbara and Eve Berman for the memorial bench in honor of Howard Berman, husband, father and nature lover. Please go check out the new site furnishings during this lovely fall weather!

Ray:

1. Thursday Nov. 17, 6 to 11 pm, Crossing the Street @ Van Ness. Tendani, art, UDC. Kresge Foundation funding.

2. Van Ness Main Street Friend Raiser- Sellout crowd, over 150 guests, raised over \$7500. Thanks to participants and sponsors!

3. Saturday, November 26 is Small Business Saturday. Come shop and dine in Van Ness and support our local businesses.

4. Next Jazz @ VN Tuesday, Nov. 29, 5-7 pm, at Laliguras.

5. Sat. Dec. 10 and Sun. Dec. 11, Made IN DC HOLIDAY POP UP! Local art and artisan vendors who personally MAKE and/or DESIGN their own handcrafted, handmade goods that are independently distributed and sold. MADE IN DC HOLIDAY POP UP! is a collaboration of Van Ness Main Street and the University of the District of Columbia. VAN NESS MADE IN DC POP-UP 10 AM to 5 PM Saturday, December 10 and Sunday, December 11; 4340 Connecticut Avenue; and on Sunday, Dec. 11 at 2:00pm there will be a holiday sing a long and a toy drive. Location TBD.

6. VNMS website launch! <http://vannessmainstreet.org/>

7. Also talking about proposing a Van Ness Main Street special project (not a grant) for something visual in the Connecticut corridor between Van Ness and Albemarle. Planters are being considered, also public art/wayfinding. They will be asking for \$25K. They met with the DC Office of Planning.

Molod: None

Jakopchek:

1. Pavement restoration work along Linnean Ave from Tilden Street to Upton Street is scheduled to commence later this week and signage was posted earlier today regarding parking restrictions along the roadway. Work will be conducted from 7:00 a.m. through 7:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday, so residents should keep this construction in mind, for both their parking and traffic routines. It is estimated that this work will take approximately twenty-eight days to complete, weather permitting. Thank you to DDOT, specifically Andrew Kauffman, and the local neighborhood, specifically Karen Foreit, for their work getting this important repaving project moving.

2. Last week, Commissioner Jakopchek met with representatives from the Kuwaiti embassy to discuss the vacant lot adjacent to their chancery on Tilden. At this time, there are no immediate plans to develop the lot. However, the embassy is in discussions to engage a project management firm to begin the discovery and design process next year. When a firm is selected, the embassy has pledged to engage the community and listen to its input as it begins the discovery stage. Stay tuned in the months ahead for more details. Special thanks to Chris Collins (Holland & Knight) for helping to set up this meeting and to Ambassador al Sabah for personally receiving our neighborhood's concerns.

3. UIP will begin shoring work for our Pepco Vaults in the yard along Connecticut Ave. They will be starting Thursday or Friday of this week. They will be vibrating metal piles into the ground. This method is significantly less noisy than the pile driving the spring, but residents may hear some of the equipment. The duration for this work is 4 working days, and hours will be from 7:00am to 5:00pm. Work should be completed before the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Nugent:

1. Wants to congratulate colleagues for re-election, all that ran were re-elected and also a welcome to the new commissioners.
2. He wants to remind people that it is your own responsibility to care for trees in the public space in front of their home/business.
3. The work on the Yuma extension of sidewalk has begun.
4. He also wants to announce that starting at the January meeting, ANC3F meetings will move to a space on UDC's campus. Thank you to Forest Hills of DC for everything the past 4 years.

#### **4. Community Open Forum (00:35:24)**

Ian Maggerd (Ward 3 liaison from the Mayor's office):

The Mayor will attend the Cleveland Park Citizens Association meeting. 7:30pm Thurs Nov 17 at Cleveland Park Congregational Church.

Michelle Purceau from UDC:

1. UDC is looking forward to hosting ANC3F's meetings. Perhaps there will be a tour of the new student center beforehand.
2. The web site has been updated: [www.udc.edu](http://www.udc.edu)
3. This week is homecoming. There are many activities (Cory Booker will speak on November 16 at 6pm).
4. On November 16 there will be a food tasting in the Wilson building - 1-3pm.
5. On November 17 there will be a fashion show and movie premiere called Pilot Error at 6 pm.
6. Will Haygood will talk about his book about Thurgood Marshall

Marlene Berlin:

The public can find listings of local events in the Forest Hills Connection (FHC). And on December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 2-5pm, FHC is having a bazaar. See FHC for more information.

#### **5. Committee Reports (00:42:43)**

Parks & Trails: There was no meeting in November. The next meeting will be the first week of December at Forest Hills of DC at 7 pm.

Streets & Sidewalks: None

Grants: Judy Corcillo will talk about the grant application. Corcillo is a part of the Wilson PTSO and Boosters. They submitted a grant application to support the Tenley Tiger Run fundraising event - 5k race run by the Wilson community. They are asking for \$4900. The total cost is \$17K (10K for MPD, 900 for DDOT, etc.). They are asking for funding for timing company, t-shirts, EMT coverage, and awards. The discussion about the grant will take place at the next meeting.

#### **6. Presentation on Sidwell Friends/Washington Home Plans (00:47:40)**

Kate Lindsey from Sidwell said the project is a year behind schedule. They will not start in March, instead a year from now. They will use the space but no lower school yet.

Commissioner Dickinson asked what is the project calendar now.

A: The delay was due to the lawsuit, so they stopped fundraising. The schedule will be dictated by fundraising. It will probably take 2-2 1/2 years to open the Lower School.

Q: What is the occupancy plan for now? A: Gate the lot to keep folks out. They may use the driveway to mitigate middle school traffic.

Ray: If Washington Home wins the lawsuit, what do they win? A: Some residents of the Home said they were not given the chance (like a condo) for tenants to buy property. The judge said no, they didn't meet the test for TOPA law. There are fewer than 20 residents at the home now.

Q from audience: When will the home be free of all residents? A: She's not sure. They need to speak with the Home. They will allow residents to stay until June if they need to.

#### **7. Resolution regarding Relocation of Everett / Ellicott Bus Stop (00:58:50)**

Commissioner Nugent made a motion to move the Ellicott bus stop to the next slot on the agenda by way of an agenda amendment. Motion was approved with 6 voting in favor, 0 voting against, and 0 abstaining (6-0-0).

Commissioner Molod said that part of the Connecticut Ave crosswalk safety plan includes moving the bus stop to Ellicott St.

George Branyan of DDOT: There is a large citywide program to get crosswalks at intersections with lights. In this case they will move the bus stop to the hawk signal at Ellicott St. NW. There will be a new bus pad, but no shelter.

Gresham: We are only 8 pedestrian crossings short of the number required to get a shelter, can we ask for the shelter now? That is, can we put the request for the shelter in the resolution now? Are there any other plans?

Answer: They will move the southbound stop from Cumberland St. NW to Davenport St. NW and also Appleton St. NW. They need ANC approval for all, but will come back for a resolution for all the others. Chesapeake St. NW has a problem with data to signalize there and there are not enough pedestrians. They need to figure out how to get a hawk signal there. They will build a rapid flashing beacon, not a hawk (next step down from a hawk), but they will install it so it can convert to a hawk. It may increase pedestrian traffic to allow a hawk.

Commissioner Molod said the shelter would obstruct the view in front of Ellicott House. There has been back and forth with Mr. Branyan about where the shelter would be.

Questions from the public: One person rides the bus every day. They should look into the potential block of the driveway of Ellicott House, also Ellicott St has lots of ice in the winter and the road is steep. Branyan: There is enough space between the stop bar and the driveway, 60 feet are in the plan, longer than any bus by 15 feet. It is the responsibility of Ellicott House to clear the sidewalk of snow/ice, call 311 if they are not doing it.

Commissioner Molod made a resolution to move the WMATA bus stop to Ellicott Street. Resolution was approved with 6 voting in favor, 0 voting against, and 0 abstaining (6-0-0).

#### **8. Resolution on Embassy of Kuwait Board of Zoning Application (3107 Fessenden) (01:18:37)**

There was an introductory presentation about the guard booth at last month's ANC meeting, and this is a follow on. Jessica Bloomfields, who works with Chris Collins is proposing to put the guard booth in front of the Kuwaiti Ambassador's house on Fessenden St. NW. The hearing is on January 25 for the zoning exception. Jackie Botham from Securitas and Michael Jones the architect were also present to answer questions.

Gresham: can you address the question posed previously by the ANC about location and design? A: The location is based on the building restriction line. Public space said that they will not approve the building on the restriction line if another option exists, so they cannot turn the building 90 degrees. Q: Why are there no columns, etc. to match with the house? A: The guards need to see out. The location also prevents any other structural similarities to the house (like an arch). It does have brick that matches the brick on the house. The idea is to keep it low key and screen behind the landscape. Commissioner Gresham expressed her concern about the closeness to the tree. Q: Have you considered putting the guard house on the side of the lot (gravel space)? You would not need the special exception, it keeps away from the trees, and has the same visibility to street/gate. A: It is not what they want. Also, the side lot may still be in the drip line of the tree and it would be more prominent. Ray: wants a commitment that they will not object to a sidewalk. A: Sure.

Commissioner Ray made a resolution supporting (with conditions) the Board of Zoning Adjustment Application: BZA Case 19395 by the Embassy of the State of Kuwait to build a new guard booth as an accessory structure in the front yard. Resolution was approved with 6 voting in favor, 0 voting against, and 0 abstaining (6-0-0).

#### **9. Presentation on Murch Elementary Public Space Application (01:35:28)**

Patrick Davis - director of facility planning and design for DCPS: August 2018 target date for students to return. They will talk about the public space items tonight. The goal is to get to the public space December meeting.

Ronnie McGhee (R. McGhee & Associates) is the project architect & Sarah from DGS: They showed the list of public space requests which include driveways, trees, repair sidewalks, adding wood/observation decks around the school, and repairing a retaining wall on Reno.

Nugent: This is a lot of information. Proposes that commissioners ask questions/raise concerns. His main concern is the traffic plan and impact on the church and houses next door. They will have to be diligent about details of the traffic plan phases.

Gresham: we appreciate the effort and dedication. The ANC needs 30 days to look at these documents. She already has a list of 17 questions with the project with the major points: 1) traffic control plan – logistics, timeline, readiness of roads to take trucks and would like to see a truck mitigation plan; 2) want to understand closure of sidewalks - time frame, etc.; 3) want to understand about enclosing the fence. The community gathering place as well as school needs security; and 4) soccer field - what kind of turf?

Ray: What is happening onsite now? A: They have started the interior demolition and abatements.

Dickinson: Said he is disappointed to be seeing the plans for the first time now. He is not clear what public space elements will go before the public space committee in December, for example, what the ANC will need to weigh in on. So far he has spent 2 hours looking at plans and has 30 questions. Also he doesn't think neighbors have been made aware of the public space issues. If we had it to vote on tonight he would say no.

Nugent: Said we have a list of public space elements. They will sit down with the ANC and the designer and look into all of the details and may need a special ANC meeting to cover this.

#### **10. Presentation on Hearst Park Project (02:26:37)**

Commissioner Dickinson said he has not heard about when/how the public survey about the pool would happen. He is not clear about when the next planning meeting is. Other potential sites for a pool are being explored. Neighbors want to learn about the process of the decision and consideration of other sites. A written report/update was promised, but they are not there yet. We want DGS/DPR to come to our ANC meetings with an update on the process.

#### **11. Other Business (02:33:20)**

Commissioner Molod made a motion to approve the July and September minutes as amended. Motion was approved with 6 voting in favor, 0 voting against, and 0 abstaining (6-0-0).

The next ANC3F meeting is December 20th here at Forest Hills Connection. Gresham asked if they could move the meeting from the 20th to the 13th. Answer: No. Commissioner Nugent said we can consider having a special meeting to deal with Murch if need be.

Commissioner Nugent made a motion to adjourn. Motion was approved with 6 voting in favor, 0 voting against, and 0 abstaining (6-0-0).

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