

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 – Naomi Rutenberg
3F04 – Deirdre Brown
3F05 – Andrea Molod, Secretary
3F06 – William Sittig
3F07 – Patrick Jakopchek, Vice Chair



Box 244
4401-A Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008
commissioners@anc3f.com
www.anc3f.com
202-670-7ANC
Twitter: @ANC3F

Public Meeting – June 19, 2018
University of the District of Columbia
4200 Connecticut Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20008
Building 44, room A03

MINUTES

ANC 3F convened their regular meeting on Tuesday, June 19, 2018 at the University of the District of Columbia, 4200 Connecticut Ave. NW, Washington DC 20008, Building 44 Room A03. The meeting was duly advertised and open to the public. Copies of resolutions approved are available at www.anc3f.com.

Commissioners Present: Jakopchek
 Molod
 Adelstein
 Rutenberg
 Sittig

ITEM	VOTE	KEYWORDS
Commissioner Jakopchek made a motion to approve the modified regular agenda.	5-0-0	
Commissioner Jakopchek made a motion to approve the amended resolution in support of the PUD modification for 4250 Connecticut Ave NW	5-0-0	
Commissioner Molod made a motion to approve the allocation of \$23,500 for the special project application from Van Ness Main Street.	5-0-0	
Commissioner Molod made a motion to approve the May minutes	5-0-0	
Commissioner Jakopchek made a motion to adjourn	5-0-0	

Call to Order: 7:30 pm
Adjournment: 10:31 pm

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Approval of Regular Agenda

Commissioner Jakopchek made a motion to approve the modified regular agenda. Modifications were the reversal of agenda items regarding WMATA plans to change L1 and L2 bus routes, and the PUD modification for 4250 Connecticut Ave. NW. Motion was approved with 5 voting in favor, 0 voting against, and 0 abstaining (5-0-0).

2. Announcement Regarding ANC3F

Commissioner Jakopchek made an announcement regarding the empty ANC3F position representing SMD04. According to ANC rules it is too late in the term to hold a special election to fill the seat. We can, however, appoint someone who will be non-voting but can take care of issues related to SMD04, ie., a shadow ANC commissioner. If there is someone willing to step in ANC3F will appoint them at our July meeting. Anyone in ANC3f04 who is interested please send an email to info@anc3f.com

3. Commissioner Updates

Sittig:

Vacant restaurants: At the former Banana Leaf there are managers of a new restaurant taking over the lease. It is a family-friendly Italian restaurant, and the owners are local residents. They will open September 15. No word on the former Terasol location.

Rutenberg: none

Adelstein: none

Molod: none

Jakopchek:

- a) This Saturday (June 23), Van Ness Main Street will have a fundraiser at Park Van Ness. Information/tickets can be found on their website
- b) WMATA is holding a town hall at UDC tomorrow (June 20), 6-8PM at the law library

4. Committee Reports

Parks and Trails (Rutenberg): nothing

Streets and Sidewalks (Sittig): The committee members are having trouble getting DDOT to act on the list of 311 requests, as yet they have worked on approximately ¼ of them. There is some action on sidewalk repairs. The committee is meeting again in July. From public: Van Ness St., from, Connecticut Ave NW to Reno Rd NW is in need of repair. The state of the sidewalks resulted in trip/fall. The brick sidewalk is not properly maintained. Commissioner Adelstein: we will take it up at community task force meeting.

Grants (Molod): The special project request will be considered later in the agenda.

5. Community Open Forum

Juanita Grey, UDC:

- a) The community campus task force meeting will take place Thursday June 28th, 6:30PM at UDC in room 4403
- b) Murch School is moving out of the swing space they occupied at UDC. It is still not clear about whether the Eaton School will use that space
- c) Troyer has been speaking with Commissioner Dickinson about people parking on Veazey Terrace NW on campus. UDC is asking us to pass the word not to park there.

Theresa Cameron, VNMS: tcameron@vannessmainstreet.org

- a) Pops around Van Ness. Labana clothing boutique at 4340 Connecticut Ave NW on Friday, Saturday, with a 10% off coupon. This is part of efforts to increase retail in VN. Also working with roadside development (next to Golds Gym) to do a popup there.
- b) Golds Gym is up for sale
- c) VNMS fundraiser on Saturday, June 23 from 7-10PM at Park Van Ness. Calvert Woodley Liquors is donating wine and cheese, Bread Furst is donating bread, and there are other donations for auction. There will be music for entertainment.
- d) VNMS is working on a public space permit for the plaza in front of 4250 Connecticut Ave NW. They did an event around VN social club. The idea is to activate the plaza.
- e) Asking the ANC and the public to highlight the issues with the sidewalk, in particular in front of the Law School. Want folks to spray paint the street to highlight problems.
- f) The farmers market is open all summer, there will be pet adoption at end of the month.
- g) Jazz at VN will be at Soapstone Market next Thursday.

6. Presentation from the State Superintendent for Education

Elizabeth Greginsky, the State Superintendent for Education, and Eva Liguierre, Assistant Superintendent for Education came to ANC3F to speak about the Mayor's Initiative this year to provide access to quality childcare with expansion funds. The Initiative calls for \$9 million to be used to make new slots for infants/toddlers (1000) by 2020, and also \$2.5 million in scholarships/funding to improve the childcare work force. All childcare centers need employees to have Associates Degree at least. There will also be two contractors at DCRA who will be dedicated to work with OSSE. Childcare operators have slim margins, and will get help with DCRA paperwork. There are also relationships with FEMS (fire emergency...), DOEE, and the Department of Health. The Mayor's Initiative also includes the option to make DC buildings available to childcare operators, and to give them help with rent/mortgage. UDC and the Deanwood Recreation Center are two such DC buildings. Communikids won for the UDC center, Kiddie University won the Deanwood location. The UDC site will be pre-K 3,4. The Mayor is concerned about the fact that childcare is not affordable for many, need economies of scale. The Mayor also wants to expand childcare reimbursement subsidy.

Commissioner Adelstein asked a series of questions:

- 1) Does the Mayor see this as a longer term plan, ie., will there be other centers in DC buildings?
- 2) There will be an impact on Ward 3 families not able to place children in childcare near their homes.

A: The universal pre K guarantee is that all children have access to a slot, not always near home. Most slots are in DCPS schools. The focus in Ward 3 is on pre- K 4. There are calls for any community center in DC to open pre-K slots, they must meet certain criteria. The vision is to make sure that DC families have access to quality/affordable childcare. The Behnam foundation funded a childcare study, with an interactive map to see what facilities are nearby. The study will happen this year. Any program must also will account for commuters, as there are 10,000 children from commuting families. Some DC resident go out for childcare, but more come in. The study will come out mid-July. As to longer term, there are quite a few expansion grants in pipeline, OSSE is helping them overcome obstacles. A big issue is the price of rent or the cost to purchase a property. The average rent is \$65 per square foot. The time from lease to license has to be covered in rent. A year lag is a lot of money, so OSSE wants to help shorten the lead time. DCRA is a partner in this, FEMS too.

Commissioner Rutenberg: The discussion is about working on your space needs, rehabilitation, renovation. How does this new center fit in with UDC needs. A (Grey): There has always been a childcare space there, it was empty only recently.

Raul Echevarria, cofounder of Communikids. The program is in its early stages.

Commissioner Adelstein conveyed a question from Commissioner Dickinson: Would you please talk about parking/dropoff, where the playground will be, and the hours of operation. A (Echevarria): The dropoff logistics are being dealt with, they are talking with UDC. They previously had driven into the garage, but perhaps there will be a turnaround. The hours will start at 8AM and continue until 6PM. The playground is adjacent to the child development center. The classroom space has access to outdoor space. Grey: The playground was renovated a few years ago.

From audience:

Q: Low income families pay 50% of fee - what is the charge and who qualifies? A (Greginsky): To qualify the income can be up to 250% of the poverty level, the charge is \$21K.

Q: Are non-DC residents' children eligible for the discount? A: No

Q: The pre-K 3-4 is attached to the school system, so the program at UDC is daycare?

A (Greginsky): The rules allow for a community based organization as a high quality childcare provider. The covers the full pre-school. Pre-K can be charter, DCPS, or community based organizations.

Q: what about teacher education levels? A: "High quality" means some BA degrees, some Associate degrees.

Q: Is this initiative taking money from schools? A: No. Taking public funding from OSSE for this.

7. Presentation from MPD

Sargent Corinne Hughes, Officer William McGovern

Commissioner Adelstein: We would like to ask for a crime update, and an update on suspicious people in 3003 Van Ness. A (Hughes): People are leaving the doors open, and the door is too slow to close, so people are drifting in. There 50 calls in the last year, mostly disorderly,

domestic disturbance. MPD will go to the next tenants meeting and do a safety training in building. MPD wants them to create an internal "orange hat" patrol.

Q: Does this number of calls represent an increase relative to last year? A: No

Hughes: Theft from autos plagues DC in general, in particular near here.

Citizens can go to mpdc.dc.gov and get statistics about crime anywhere in DC. There are maps, also there are daily statistics on the MPD District 2 listserv, 2d@yahoogroups

Q: If residents of other building want to do the Orange Hat program, who to contact in MPD?

A: Contact Sgt. Hughes or Lt. Steward.

Commissioner Jakopchek: The drop off area at Veazey St. NW is being used as a Metro dropoff, is it possible to do enforcement? A: Can do enforcement, but it means giving tickets. We will discuss the issue more, because we need a place for folks to stop.

8. Presentation from DC Library regarding Washingtoniana Collection

Richard Reyes Gavilan, Executive Director of DC public library came to the ANC to speak about the plans related to the Washingtoniana Collection and its residence at 4350 Connecticut Ave NW, the (now not needed) temporary location of the Cleveland Park Public Library.

The Cleveland Park DC Public library just (re)opened, it was in temporary space at 4350 Connecticut Ave NW (UDC property). For the next year that space will be used to house the Washingtoniana Collection. A collection of local history, used a recently lot surrounding the DC 1968 - 50th anniversary of the assassination of Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. There is local collection of history enthusiasts, so the DC Public Library will house the collection there. The collection includes photos, genealogy, etc... The space is 3000 square feet, so they will have some programming but not much. For example, there will be programs for school groups, individual house history, know your neighborhood seminars, etc.. This will continue until the end of 2019, when DC Public Library will surrender the lease and move the collection back to the MLK library, currently under construction. The collection will be open ~40 hours per week, and will be open to the public.

Commissioner Jakopchek: Are you expecting to have walk-in hours? A: Yes. The current space (above the Newseum) can't provide that. There will also be some community activities; the scanning lab, for example, when people can bring photos, etc., and scan and store in the cloud.

Q: What about foot traffic? The community has a desire to use the space for retail. Why does this space make sense? A: The space is already a library, so there will be minimal fit-out needed. There is already a reading room. There is no negotiation to do, just need to continue a lease for a year. Any other space would require construction. The library also benefits from being in lively places. Cleveland Park Library sees lots of foot traffic, others not so much.

Q: How long will the MLK library renovation take? Will the Washingtoniana Collection stay past July 2019 if the MLK library renovation is delayed? A: There is no plan to extend. There is already a plan set in motion to mothball if needed.

Commissioner Sittig: What about exhibits as part of the collection? Is there space for that? It would be attractive to the neighborhood. A: It is a small space, and will need tables for researchers. They can make better use of windows, however, and put up exhibits there. They understand that the community wants it activated.

From audience: Q: What about more memory labs? A: The plan is to rotate the location, do some at Cleveland Park Library. Q: I understand that this will not be the whole collection. A: Everything mentioned will be here, they won't have things that can be accessed elsewhere.

9. Washington Gas Presentation about Work in ANC

Noone was present at the ANC meeting from Washington Gas

10. PEPCO/Exelon Presentation about Work in the ANC

Linda Greenan, External Affairs Manager, PEPCO, Bill Lopez, Senior Engineer of the project, Travis Culpepper, and Jamal Jordan came to speak to the ANC about an ongoing project that will impact residents of ANC3F.

Greenan: There are four ongoing projects in DC, the one that impacts ANC3F is related to the renovation of the Harrison St. substation, 5210 Wisconsin Ave. NW. It was built in 1940, so is more than 70 years old. The project consists of updating/modernizing the substation and the lines. DC Historic Preservation has designated it as historic, because of the facade. The renovation will also open up the windows. The project involves work at the substation and also at Wisconsin Ave NW/Van Ness St. NW.

Commissioner Jakopchek: Would you speak to the rash of recent power outages in our Commission's area and then go on to the presentation?

A: The areas experiencing outages are mostly serviced by the Van Ness substation. The outages are for variety of reasons: animals, tree branches, a fuse box failure, and a cable needing replacing. There were 10 outages that spanned 6 or 7 feeders. PEPCO's reliability personnel said it didn't warrant a reliability study, but are tracking the issue. Hearst School also had some outage issues.

Greenan:

Harrison Street substation work - Will clean the façade and will put art in the windows. There will be community space in the window, and PEPCO will work with ANC3E. They are also doing some conduit work along Wisconsin Ave NW from Ingomar St. NW to Jennifer St. NW, from August through the end of the year.

Van Ness St. NW/Wisconsin Ave NW work - In early September PEPCO will do work in the 3600 block of Van Ness St. NW, and at 4201, 4200 Wisconsin Ave NW. For the work at 4000 Van Ness St. NW they are talking to DDOT about traffic control.

Bill Lopez, Project Engineer:

4201, 4200 Wisconsin Ave NW work - Need to get access to the new transmission lines being put in at the Harrison Street substation. They will need to do work in the 3600 block of Van Ness St. NW. In September-November is the biggest impact on the neighborhood. There will be a 6-

day span where there will be a 24-hour period of work. The next is Phase 2, which will take place in February-March, and that will include the work from the Maryland portion into the Van Ness substation.

Commissioner Jakopchek: What about traffic issues? A (Greenan): We don't have information about the impact on traffic. We are submitting permits to DDOT now along with a transportation control plan. A (Lopez): The typical control is flagging operations, ie., allowing one direction at a time.

Commissioner Molod: Is there approval needed for construction from the PSC? A (Greenan): No. Q: Is this project related to reliability (not only to beautification)? A: Yes, it is part of general maintenance needed for transmission line. This is grid modernization. Commissioner Molod: This, of course, is not the only modernization option, other options are being considered by PSC now with a series of hearings.

From public: How loud is the noise related to the work? A: Above conversation level decibels during the day. At night there is noise mitigation.

Commissioner Jakopchek: Is there a project page that the community can use to contact them? A: Greenan is the main contact.

From public, specifically from the residents on the 3600 block of Van Ness St NW: Flag men sare not acceptable, there is a LOT of traffic. A: DDOT is thinking about this, PEPCO will do what DDOT says. Q: What about parking? Some residents have on-street only parking. Perhaps you could do a survey of who is in this situation and how do they, eg., bring groceries home? The street already has lots of non-residential parking. Perhaps temporarily get rid of parking at meters on Reno St. NW/36th St NW? Students/teachers park there. Maybe get resident-only parking regulations during the project? A (Lopez): Ask your ANC to submit a justification letter for any of this.

Greenan: PEPCO will set up an email chain to disseminate information.

11. WMATA Presentation Regarding the L1/L2 Bus lines

Christine Marsh, Metro office of bus planning is here to address the ANC.

Marsh: The Bus line 42/43 L1/L2 study is currently under way. Metro is doing a closer look at service to see if meets the community needs. The routing of the service in the Connecticut Ave corridor and Mount Pleasant is very old. The current study began in 2017, when they asked riders for feedback. The initial recommendations were in a second survey online, and the survey was also administered on buses. They got lots of public feedback. The recommendations were refined, and will be presented at open houses. The open houses are: (1) 6-8PM, tomorrow at the UDC Law School [Marsh mis-spoke and said it was the Law Library], room 515. [Q: Perhaps put signs up to show people the right place? A: Will put signs in the Law Library.] This is an open house, where there will be boards showing proposals, as well as one-on-one conversations. (2) Thursday the 21th, at the Columiba Heights Community Center, 15th and Gerard St. NW.

The refined proposal is to change the routing around Potomac Park, also to change the routing around Dupont Circle based on traffic and reliability issues.

Commissioner Jakopchek: Could you clarify the proposal please? There are also proposals about removing stops, and doing some work in Woodley Park. A: They are still proposing some bus stop consolidation, the public can see wmata.com/bus for information. The standard is 4-5 stops per mile. There are proposals to consolidate stops. All stops being considered to be eliminated have fewer than 50 riders per day. Q: What is the timeline for getting more feedback? A: Feedback will be accepted up through the public hearing with the board this fall. They will probably be implementing changes around June 2019.

Commissioner Adelstein: So of the three options that the community was surveyed about, none are on the table except for removing some bus stops? ie., the proposals about removing a line, limiting weekend service, eliminating stops? A: Those were extreme ideas put out there to see feedback, Metro has come off those plans.

Commissioner Molod: You said the surveys were done last year and this year but we did not hear about them. A: Ann Chisolm sent information to the ANCs. Commissioner Jakopchek: We heard about this year's survey a week before it closed, and did not hear about last year's at all.

Commissioner Molod: The ANC has been doing lots of crosswalk/stop light planning/resolutions with DDOT to ensure that bus stops have proper pedestrian safety control – will these plan mesh with Metro's new plans to remove stops? A: Working with DDOT.

From public: Will you consider locations of parents with small children when deciding to eliminate stops? A: Metro considered accessibility.

Commissioner Adelstein: We encourage the public to reach out to WMATA but also to the ANC commissioners. We will weigh in on this.

From public: We need more announcements about the public meetings. A: There are signs at major bus stops. Commissioner Jakopchek: Perhaps put signs on buses? Send notice to Northwest Current?

12. Presentation regarding the PUD at 4250 Connecticut Ave NW

Josh Bernstein, CEO of Bernstein Management, Tim Pragan, Landscape Architecture Bureau, and Rod Latinia, Perkins and Will, appeared before the ANC to discuss the PUD modification for 4250 Connecticut Ave, NW.

Bernstein: The property at 4250 Connecticut Ave. NW is underutilized. It is currently a fortress turned inward with a moat. The design idea is to turn the inward looking building outward. Also, the bus lane under-utilized. The design idea is to clean up the property. Make it attractive for retail/office tenants. Also make the open space underneath more attractive to pedestrians. And perhaps some rooftops for upper tenants.

Tim Pragan, addressing landscape improvements: The plaza space is important to UDC folks. Bernstein wants to open the access, and move the spheres. They want to increase planting along the back of the open space. They will use some ground planting, some trees. They also want to enliven the paving, and bring in sculptural lighting elements. The plan is to open the connection from the building entrance to the courtyard. Also to open the north facade. They want to encourage the tenant there to have outdoor cafe space. Mr Pragan notes a reminder that the plaza/promenade is over a garage and so is tricky for plantings.

Commissioner Jakopchek: As to the bus lane – wonders how to take into account some feedback from the last meeting. A: Can't do anything about the doors to the parking garage and the bus lane. The plan calls for putting more green on the whole north side and as part of the view into the bus lane. Q: And the curb cut into the bays - expect to keep current size? A: yes.

Commissioner Rutenberg: Hope that it will be a Kiss n Ride, even if not an official WMATA one?

Commissioner Jakopchek: The old PUD had a Kiss n Ride on the top level of the parking garage, the plan now is to use it as retail parking, so can't use the same space for Kiss n Ride. The idea now is to use four spots at ground level as a Kiss n Ride or drop off.

The issue: this part of the building is not managed by Bernstein, but by WMATA. Bernstein ground lease does not include the bus lane, or the Kiss n Ride parking spaces. Fannie Mae leases that from WMATA. The idea is to secure four Kiss n Ride stops in the bus lane.

Nina Albert from WMATA: We are in conversations about this. We don't really have a bus bay need, but want to preserve bus access in case of need, ie., if trains close, or if we need more buses. WMATA is willing to turn it over to Bernstein to manage. We are also talking about the Kiss n Ride. There is an option for 1-hour parking, but generally the spaces would be for pick up/drop off activity. So we want the four spaces to accommodate this. Bernstein will design it, and WMATA knows what the buses need. The idea is that the bus lane could be used for other activities.

Commissioner Jakopchek: Are there any hurdles that the ANC needs to help with? A: No, not now. It is usually just a design exercise. Not sure when the designs will be done.

Josh Bernstein: Fannie Mae has the building until end of year, want to be ready to go by then.

Jessica Bloomfield from Holland and Knight, attorneys: The Zoning Commission approved the request that the application be filed as modification of consequence to PUD. The modifications are the new plans mostly. The idea is to modify the conditions in the PUD as well. One condition to be modified is to use the current plans. Holland and Knight saw the ANCs proposed resolution, and is ok with taking out the clause about a pedestrian walkway. They want to add conditions about the Kiss n Ride as well, but they will be contingent on modification of the ground lease.

Q from public: Is there a public hearing about the PUD? A: No hearings, but there are public meetings. This approval does not require a meeting.

Commissioner Jakopchek made a motion to consider the amended resolution in support of the PUD modification of consequence. The amendment is an additional clause in the conditions part to allow the Kiss n Ride ground level parking spaces (from the original PUD) to be used for retail spaces. Motion was approved with 5 voting in favor, 0 voting against, and 0 abstaining (5-0-0).

13. Van Ness Main Street Special Project

Commissioner Molod: The grants committee recommends that ANC3F approve the special project request from Van Ness Main Streets for \$23,500 to fund one third of the first wayfinding project for Connecticut Ave NW. The special project request was presented to the ANC during the May, 2018 meeting. Motion to approve the request for the special project. Motion was approved with 5 voting in favor, 0 voting against, and 0 abstaining (5-0-0).

14. Other Business

- a) Commissioner Molod made a motion to approve the May minutes from ANC3F as amended. Motion was approved with 5 voting in favor, 0 voting against, and 0 abstaining (5-0-0).

- b) Commissioner Adelstein gave the Treasurers Report

Commissioner Jakopchek made a motion to adjourn. Motion was approved with 5 voting in favor, 0 voting against, and 0 abstaining (5-0-0).
