

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

3F01 – David Dickinson, Chair
3F02 – Carolinn Kuebler, Vice Chair
3F03 – Naomi Rutenberg, Treasurer
3F04 – Leah Frelinghuysen
3F05 – Andrea Molod, Secretary
3F06 – Monika Nemeth
3F07 – Vacant



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Public Meeting – March 19, 2019
University of the District of Columbia
4200 Connecticut Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20008
Building 38, 2nd floor Windows Lounge

MINUTES

ANC 3F convened their regular meeting on Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at the University of the District of Columbia, 4200 Connecticut Ave. NW, Washington DC 20008, Building 38, 2nd floor Windows Lounge. The meeting was duly advertised and open to the public. Copies of resolutions approved are available at www.anc3f.com.

Commissioners Present: Dickinson
Molod
Kuebler
Rutenberg
Frelinghuysen

ITEM	VOTE	KEYWORDS
Commissioner Dickinson made a motion to approve the consent agenda and the modified regular agenda.	5-0-0	
Commissioner Dickinson made a motion to adopt the resolution regarding school overcrowding as amended.	5-0-0	
Commissioner Molod made a motion to approve the February ANC3F minutes.	5-0-0	
Commissioner Dickinson made a motion to adjourn.	5-0-0	

Call to Order: 7:37 pm
Adjournment: 10:46 pm

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Approval of Consent and Regular Agendas

Commissioner Dickinson made a motion to approve the consent agenda and the modified regular agenda. The consent agenda includes a Settlement Agreement related to a liquor license application with Vignoble Wine. The modifications to the regular agenda were the addition of a presentation from Rock Creek Conservancy regarding their ANC3F grant application.

Motion was approved with 5 voting in favor, 0 voting against, and 0 abstaining (5-0-0).

2. Commissioner Updates

Commissioner Frelinghuysen: none

Commissioner Rutenberg: An alert to ANC3F04 residents on Chesterfield St. NW that DDOT is doing sidewalk restoration from Chesapeake St NW to the dead end. There will be "No Parking" signs related to this work

Commissioner Kuebler: Update on some aspects of the status of the Whittle School construction. There is a "Stop Work" order, and they have submitted permit applications to DCRA. Whittle School has asked for an expedited application (~2 weeks). They thought they did not need permits, but had been getting inspections nonetheless. Now they have applied for the permits. Commissioner Kuebler will be kept up to date.

Commissioner Molod: Update on Upton St NW traffic calming. Jodie Smolik, representing the residents of Upton St NW has been in contact with Emily Dalphy from DDOT, and is extremely satisfied with the progress and will the level of communication. The stop sign study was completed, and DDOT determined that the intersection warranted a 3-way stop. In addition, the speed measuring device was installed and is operating. There will be a follow-up traffic study when these new measures have been in place for at least a month.

Commissioner Dickinson:

1) Update on other aspects of the Whittle School. There has been a historic landmark application for the Intelsat building submitted by the DC Preservation League. It was originally submitted in 2014, and the Historic Preservation Board hearing will be on April 25th. ANC3F can decide whether or how to weigh in at our April meeting (April 16th), and a representative from the DC Preservation League will be here along with a representative from the Whittle School.

2) ABRA applications have been submitted by several restaurant owners, and ANC3F will discuss Settlement Agreements with Acacia and Thai Pad so far.

3) Next month is Earth Day, Rock Creek Conservancy will hold park cleanups

3. Committee Reports

Parks and Trails (Sanders): The National Park Service has issued the Environmental Assessment Report on the Nature Center project. It can be found on the PEPC website and is open for comment. There will be a public meeting related to this report on April 3, from 6:30-8 PM at the Nature Center, 5200 Glover Rd. The P&T committee met last Monday, and a representative from DOEE spoke about their RiverSmart suite of programs. The purpose of these programs is to incentivize voluntary attempt to reduce runoff. There are the RiverSmart homes and

communities (non profits) programs, and new programs for multi-family dwellings. There are also rebates for installing permeable pavers.

Commissioner Kuebler: Are there rebates or grants for the RiverSmart work? A: yes, there are both - different options for different structures. There are some rebates, and in some programs the applicant will pay for program. Q: Is there an update on the Environmental Impact Study for Soapstone? A: No. Q: Can the ANC do anything to hurry this? A: No – The park service got a plan from DC Water, and are considering it. The idea is that Soapstone will be closed for the duration of the project, and there will be some impact in the community.

Committee meetings are held on the 2nd wed of each month at 7PM at Forest Hills of DC. At the next meeting they will have someone from the Green Sidewalks project to speak.

Streets and Sidewalks (Kuebler): There have been two meetings, one meeting with MPD took place on March 8, and the discussion was to get an idea of where the MPD purview is with respect to traffic, and where DDOT's purview is. MPD enforces DDOT rules about traffic flow. An update on the status of the Chevy Chase Circle to Dupont Connecticut Ave traffic study that DDOT was asked to conduct - DDOT has gotten comments about the RFQ (request for qualifications), and they are now looking for a consultant. A meeting is scheduled to get the process in place for getting updates to the community and the plans for community engagement. MPD will engage with study as well.

The S&S committee is also talking about problem areas. The public should report issues to 311, to the ANC, and to Rich Harrington (Mayor's office liaison).

Grants (Molod): First month of current grant cycle, 3 applications have been submitted and ANC3F will hear from them tonight and vote on them at the April meeting.

4. Community Open Forum

Juanita Grey, UDC:

1. The Mayor delivered the State of DC Address at UDC
2. The Mayor and the Council have decided that DC will be funding the UDC purchase of 4250 Connecticut Ave. UDC still need additional funds, so please call the Mayor's office to request for more funding for UDC.
3. Thurs April 11th 6PM the UDC community task force will meet, location TBD. They will begin the process of updating the student code of conduct.
4. UDC will hold free tax clinics Mondays-Wednesdays from 2-5 PM, Fridays from 10-2PM in Building 38.

Theresa Cameron, VNMS:

1. VNMS launched "Live at VN" last week. The next event is on April 26, see VNMS web site.
2. The VNMS Farmers Market starts May 5th, looking for non-food vendors
3. VNMS is looking for committee members for various committees, email info@vannessmainstreet.org
4. March 20 is the start of Cherry Blossom specials at local restaurants

Marlene Berlin:

There will be a tour of the daylighted area of Broadbranch Stream on April 7th from 3-5 PM. Cecilia Lane will be leading the tour, members of RCC will be there too. They need to find a group of people willing to take care of the stream and trail area. The tour will be held in part to help bring the public to the site. For information email info@foresthillsconnection.com

Bill Manselevich:

Mr. Manselevich is a member of the public who is a frequent user of Melvin Hazen tributary trail. He has seen the degradation due to runoff. There have been three resolutions dealing with runoff management in the MH tributary. He has walked through the trail with NPS folks, RCC members, and Neighbors of Hearst Park members. He wants to know if the ANC will respond to his emails on the subject and take action. Mr. Manselevich said that there are two sources of destruction. The first is that DC failed to clear the culvert under Connecticut Ave. A representative from NPS said that amount of stormwater going into the MH tributary is enough to damage it, so they are not in favor of clearing the culvert. The second source of destruction, according to Mr. Manselevich, is that DC is not maintaining the stormwater sewage system. Stormwater flowing into the tributary, but is flooding the streets on the way to the tributary.

There are no stickers indicating recent maintenance on manhole covers, and Mr. Manselevich says that is the evidence that DC is not doing maintenance. The last point about the MH tributary is that developments like Hearst Park will add more runoff. On this last matter, resolutions of ANCs have been passed, testimony before the Council has taken place, and stakeholders have been informed, but stakeholder comments have not received a response. The question for the ANC is what do we do now about the MH tributary destruction. Mr. Manselevich wants recommendations from the ANC about what to do.

Commissioner Dickinson: We should hold another stakeholder meeting. Mr. Manselevich: I see you have no ideas. Is there anything from the Mayor's office? A (Rich Harrington): We will have a conversation.

Rich Harrington, Mayor's office Ward 3 Liaison, rich.harrington@dc.gov, 202-341-7706:

1. The Mayor delivered the DC State of DC address, and spoke about priorities for the upcoming year. The main priorities are housing, seniors, and transportation.
2. Tomorrow at 9AM the Mayor is presenting the budget to the DC Council at the Wilson Building.

5. Update on Hearst Park and Pool Project

Peter Nohrden (DPR) showed a series of slides with information and updates about the Hearst Park/Pool project. He said that there would be another community meeting at the end of April (perhaps the 23rd, will confirm). He will post the slides to the DGS website. A reminder about the project is that Phase 1 is the park improvement, and Phase 2 is the pool (+house). DPR plans to submit building permits within a week. Stormwater retention plans call for meeting the legal requirement to capture of 1.2 inches of rain for 24 hours. When the water is higher, water is fed into the existing storm system.

Tom Wheeler (Cox Graae + Spack Architects) added some information about the stormwater remediation plan for the pool and tennis court areas. The pool deck and the tennis courts will

drain into inlets. Both will drain into pipes and the water will be sent to the bioretention system.

Q from public: What about maintenance of the bioretention system? What if the elements get dirt in them? A: They should not need maintenance, they are meant to be natural elements.

Nohrden (resumed presentation): DGS is in the midst of a restructuring. There will be a stormwater management crew to maintain all the District's stormwater retention infrastructure.

Mr. Nohrden's slides showed pictures of the planned signage, furniture, trails, bleachers, and bioretention areas. The slides also depicted the playground upgrades, including shading. They are adding a new slide and a new climbing structure. The slides also showed renderings of the new pool and tennis courts, and a rendering of the planned pool house.

Commissioner Dickinson: The lights have been out in the upper playground, is there any update? A: No information yet. Q: In the upper soccer field the drainage is into a pipe and now it floods Springland Lane. Will that pipe feed into current plan? A: Not sure, will look into it. Q: What is the turf on the new soccer field? A: 80% bluegrass, 10% rye, 10% fescu (cool weather grasses). Q: Can you tell us about an application for a public space permit (April 25th will be the hearing)? You had highlighted a place to dispose of garbage from the site. A: There may be a curb cut with this, but this is not subject for tonight's permit. The current permit application is for public space for 2 signs, one for parking and one for trash. Q: What about a traffic study, ie., to manage parking, traffic flow, congestion. Have DPR, DGS, endorsed the idea to get DDOT to do a traffic study? A: They have engaged DDOT, are talking with them, and want to set up a community round table to discuss this. As of now a DGS study said there are not large enough changes to traffic to require a new light or stop sign changes.

Commissioner Kuebler: Will all parking be on street? A: Yes. Q: Some of the hardscape that is shown in the slides is impervious – have you looked into pervious surfaces? A: Some area of the walkways could be pervious. But they will leave concrete near the heritage trees in place so as not to disrupt the trees. Also some of the walkways will be raised decking.

Q from public: You showed a plan for a sign saying no off-leash dogs on the field - will this really prevent off-leash dogs on fields? Or is the sign just for show? A: The sign is there so MPD can enforce it if it gets bad. Q: Is there pedestrian access to tennis courts and to the field? A: yes.

Alex Sanders (PATC): The design represents a big improvement with respect to stormwater management on the site. Wishes to encourage the attempt to bring DDOT to talk about traffic, and advocates please to also engage them about stormwater. Runoff from roads is big contributor to flooding in the area. A: They will also have a bioretention system near the Idaho right of way (voluntary), but it will not be able to hold the full 1.2 inches for 24 hours.

Commissioner Dickinson: We will vote on the public space application during the April meeting.

6. Public Space Application for Tilden St. NW

Commissioner Dickinson: There has been an application for a public space permit to install sidewalks from Pierce Mill on the north side of Tilden St. The ANC and the public have until April 25th to weigh in. That part of the road has water on it all the time, and there is an issue trying to get permits to deal with water. Rich Harrington (Mayor's office): The vacant Congolese Embassy site is where the water issue is. It is not clear where the water is coming from. Commissioner Dickinson: We are not sure who the applicant is, will take this up at the April ANC meeting.

7. Grant Application – Wilson Tiger Athletics

Commissioner Molod: We have a grant application from Wilson Tiger Athletics, Debbie Laric is here to speak about the application to the ANC.

Debbie Laric: Wilson Tiger Athletics is asking for support for their annual fundraiser, the Tenley Tiger run. It is a 5k run that begins and ends at Wilson High School. This is the fifth year of the this neighborhood race. The race costs approximately \$18,000 to run, and they will raise approximately \$30,000, so the net funds raised are near \$15,000. The funds go to the Wilson High School track and cross-country teams to support travel, etc... They are requesting \$2500 to pay for the race T-shirts to be given to entrants and volunteers.

8. Grant Application – Potomac Appalachian Trail Club

Commissioner Molod: We have a grant application from the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club. Alex Sanders is here to speak about the application to the ANC.

Alex Sanders: PATC is asking for a grant to build a new bridge/boardwalk at east end of the west half of the Melvin Hazen trail. The existing bridge is near Connecticut Ave., and not serving as a bridge anymore due to flooding/sedimentation. The plan is to replace the current bridge with longer/higher bridge, and also to install cribbing to reinforce the end of the trail. PATC is requesting \$2500 for materials. The plan is to start in May, and complete it by June.

Q from public: How high of a boardwalk needed? ie., is this structure adequate to deal with the issue of water rise or flooding? A: The western half of the tributary gets lots of stormwater. It pools there. The blocked culvert saved the eastern half of the MH trail from being eroded because it slows down drainage. This project will raise the bridge and lengthen it. So it will last for many years.

Commissioner Dickinson: Approximately what is the worth of the material/personnel that NPS is contributing? A: Approximately \$2500.

Commissioner Kuebler: Who oversees the safe construction? A: NPS. Its a simple bridge.

Comment from public (Berlin): PATC does great work on trails with thier volunteers.

Commissioner Rutenberg: Is the Broadbranch daylighting part of PATC's purview? A: Not really. This issue is quite complex. PATC has an agreement with NPS to maintain trails, but no agreement is in place with DC (don't see it changing). But PATC has done invasive species clearing back there.

9. Grant Application – Rock Creek Conservancy

Commissioner Molod: We have a grant application from the Rock Creek Conservancy. Jeanne Braha is here to speak about the application to the ANC.

Jeanne Braha: Rock Creek Conservancy (RCC) selected (in partnership with NPS) Melvin Hazen tributary for a special demonstration project. They will be restoring a 2-acre site on the northern side of the western part of MH. They will enlist community volunteers (school), and remove bamboo and stabilize the slope. They are asking for an ANC grant to put native plants there at a cost of \$3000. This project will also serve as a demonstration of what can be done.

Commissioner Dickinson: Can you describe the scope of the project? A: The site is 2-acres in extent, RCC has a schematic that they submitted with the grant application. They will be doing plant removal (April 13th), and then in the spring/summer they will be doing the plantings.

There will be several hundred plants. Because of erosion, they will need silt fencing (not in the flood plain) to hold the new plantings in place. Q: What about stormwater issues? A: The problem is severe, and in particular Springland Lane has bad flooding. A lot of land that drains into MH is still private, and private owners can (voluntarily) do a lot to mitigate this.

Commissioner Molod: What about the maintenance of plantings? A: RCC is calling this a mini-oasis, and will bring many volunteers to the site and work with NPS.

10. Resolution related to School Overcrowding

Brian Doyle, from Ward 3 Ed Net, and co-chair of the Ward 3 Wilson feeder education network came to speak to the ANC about the issue and the proposed resolution. All schools in the Wilson feeder network are at or above capacity, and the projection is for this to increase. DCPS convened a community working group on overcrowding (CWG); it includes representatives from the schools and from DCPS. One of the main conclusions of the CWG is that while one solution is not enough, it is clear that there is a need for more schools.

The proposed ANC resolution is designed to point out the problem, ask the city to engage the community on the issue, and find a way to take the CWG report and turn it into a plan. The only property owned by DCPS that is not now a school is the Old Hardy School, currently leased by the Lab School. Ward 3 Ed Net and the CWG want the city to keep possession of the Old Hardy School. The lease with the Lab School expires in 2023, but there is a proposal before the DC Council to extend the lease. The proposal before the Council states that DCPS would *not* have to declare that it won't use the building before extending lease (as it normally would need to do). The emergency legislation is before the Council to circumvent the normal process.

Some information and details about the legislation were provided by Jonathan Willingham from the office of CM Cheh. The lease was inherited by the Lab School. CM Cheh supports the Lab School, but didn't want to extend lease without a plan in place. The emergency legislation proposes (quicker, no hearings, one vote) to extend the lease without DCPS saying they don't need the space. CM Cheh asked that this emergency legislation not come up. No CMs support this emergency legislation that was introduced by the Mayor. Procedurally the fact that the lease is expiring in 2023 may make it not an emergency.

Commissioner Frelinghuysen: How can an ANC resolution impact the decision to keep the Old Hardy School? A (Willingham): It would express the wishes of community. A (Doyle): Reminded the ANC that the proposed resolution is not only about the Hardy School.

Rich Harrington (Office of the Mayor) said that this is on the Mayor's "radar", that she did a walk in the area, and is focusing on money being spent to improve schools in area (Key, Stoddard) rather than on the Hardy School. Jonathan Willingham responded that the improvements at Key and Stoddard are the replacement of trailers, not the addition of new seats.

Commissioner Dickinson: We would have to modify the text of the proposed resolution to explicitly advocate that the Council not pass the emergency legislation.

From public (Brian Kieth – 3F05 resident): What is the language of resolution? ANC3D and ANC3E passed resolutions last week. A (Doyle): The ANC3D and ANC3E resolutions are identical. They took a strident stand on the hardy school. Also - ANC3D wrote an explicit letter regarding their position on the Hardy School.

Discussion about the specifics of the text in the resolution:

Commissioner Dickinson: The proposed resolution has four operative clauses, and read the one about the Hardy School into record. Wants to add a sentence highlighting the recommendation about the emergency legislation.

Commissioner Rutenberg: Would like the resolution to have different language - would like to say that we endorse the recommendations of the CWG rather than calling out Hardy School in particular.

Commissioner Dickinson: Clause 1 already says that we endorse the CWG recommendations. Clause 2 says that we recommend that DC take steps to implement the CWG recommendations and report the efforts to ANCs. Clause 3 addresses the Hardy School specifically, and Clause 4 endorses Commissioners Dickinson and Kuebler to speak on behalf of ANC3F on this matter.

Commissioner Rutenberg: We should not endorse that Hardy be returned to DCPS directly.

Commissioner Kuebler: We should endorse returning Hardy to DCPS. It would be imprudent not to recommend this.

Commissioner Frelinghuysen: We should support keeping Hardy.

Commissioner Dickinson: Propose that we amend the language in Clause 3 to say we want a serious consideration of the Hardy School issue, and the Council should not pass emergency legislation.

Agreed to by all the commissioners.

Commissioner Dickinson: Propose that we amend Clause 2 to say we want the Council to outline an engagement process with the community on this.

Amendments accepted and agreed to by all the Commissioners.

Commissioner Molod: Propose a friendly amendment that we add "according to CWG..." the numbers in Clause 1.

Brian Doyle proposed another friendly amendment in the fourth "whereas" statement to change the language referring to CWG report to instead refer to the Master Plan.

Commissioner Frelinghuysen: Propose a friendly amendment adding Commissioner Frelinghuysen as authorized to speak for ANC3F.

Commissioner Dickinson accepted all the friendly amendments.

Commissioner Dickinson made a motion to adopt the resolution as amended. Motion was approved with 5 voting in favor, 0 voting against, and 0 abstaining (5-0-0).

11. Approval of February Minutes

Commissioner Molod made a motion to approve the ANC3F minutes from February, 2019. Motion was approved with 5 voting in favor, 0 voting against, and 0 abstaining (5-0-0).

12. Other Business

Discussion of various ongoing and new issues that will be discussed at future meetings:

1. Commissioner Rutenberg: No formal treasurers report, monies spent in the last month are the \$25 bond payment and administrative costs.
2. Commissioner Dickinson: The UDC Equity Imperative – we have a request from UDC that we support for more funding from the Mayor. We will talk about this in April's ANC meeting.
3. Commissioner Rutenberg: Want to know what is going on with the homeless at 4250 Connecticut Ave? A (Grey): UDC is working with VNMS and the city. Twice MPD removed people from space, but they come back. They can't activate the ground space until
4. UDC owns the building. So there is movement, but it won't happen right away. 4225 Connecticut Ave will be occupied before 4250.
5. Commissioner Kuebler: Wishes to provide a reminder about all the Settlement Agreements and associated liquor licenses up for renewal. She spoke with Sarah Fashbaugh of ABRA, who said that all the license renewal applications filed with them are available on the ABRA website.
6. Commissioner Kuebler: Some ANCs are talking about the issue of the 5G small cell service towers. We should invite someone to speak.

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