

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

3F01 – David Cristeal, Chair
 3F02 – Alexandria Appah, Vice Chair
 3F03 – Dipa Mehta
 3F04 – Stan Wall, Treasurer
 3F05 – Claudette David
 3F06 – Monika Nemeth
 3F07 – Matt Buechner, Secretary



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Public Meeting – February 16, 2021
 Virtual Meeting via Zoom

MINUTES

ANC 3F convened their regular meeting on Tuesday, February 16, 2021 over the internet at <https://zoom.us/j/93710420949?pwd=MFpweFBFRVR1dGdzbGEyUytkekNkQT09>. Meeting number: 937 1042 0949 Password: f107JL. The meeting was duly advertised and open to the public. Copies of resolutions approved are available at www.anc3f.com.

Commissioners Present: Cristeal
 Appah
 Mehta
 Wall
 David
 Nemeth
 Buechner

ITEM	VOTE	KEYWORDS
Commissioner Cristeal proposed adding to the agenda a request to support Rose Creek Wine, an internet wine sales company. Commissioner Nemeth moved to approve the regular agenda with Commissioner Cristeal’s proposal, including the consent agenda, which included the approval of the January 2021 meeting minutes, FY 21 Second Quarter Report, and support of a curb cut at 3564 Alton Place.	7-0-0	
Commissioner Nemeth moved to approve the Treasurer’s Report.	7-0-0	
Commissioner Buechner moved to approve the proposed Schools & Universities committee, as outlined in the committee proposal.	7-0-0	
Commissioner Appah moved to approve the resolution supporting the establishment of a partnership between Ward 3 Mutual Aid, DC Fridge Collective, and UDC.	7-0-0	
Commissioner Nemeth moved to support the stipulated license, pending the completed settlement agreement.	7-0-0	

Commissioner Nemeth moved to adjourn.	7-0-0	
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Call to Order: 7:00 PM
 Adjournment: 8:35 PM

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Approval of Regular Agenda and Consent Agenda

Commissioner Cristeal proposed adding to the agenda a request to support Rose Creek Wine, an internet wine sales company. Commissioner Nemeth moved to approve the regular agenda with Commissioner Cristeal’s proposal, including the consent agenda, which included the approval of the January 2021 meeting minutes, FY 21 Second Quarter Report, and support of a curb cut at 3564 Alton Place. The motion was approved with 7 voting in favor, 0 voting against, and 0 abstaining (7-0-0).

2. Treasurer’s Report

Commissioner Wall provided an update on the balance of ANC 3F funds. Commissioner Wall also reported that the bank flagged two fraudulent charges to the account and an investigation with the bank is under way. An amendment may be made to this report at a later date, if necessary, pending the outcome of the investigation. Commissioner Nemeth moved to approve the report. Motion was approved with 7 voting in favor, 0 voting against, and 0 abstaining (7-0-0).

3. Schools & Universities Committee Proposal

Commissioner Appah: Discussed the need for a committee to act as a liaison between the community and the area educational institutions from pre-K to post-graduate level. James Tandaric, a resident from 3F07, would chair the committee, if approved.

Juanita Gray (University of District of Columbia): Asked whether the committee would require liaisons from each educational institution

James Tandaric: Clarified that the committee welcomes members of the community to be a part of the committee and would encourage stakeholders from UDC and other educational institutions to become engaged, but it will not be a requirement for the committee.

Gloria Garcia (Van Ness Main Street): Reminded the commissioners about the UDC Neighborhood Advisory Committee, which was created with similar goals with UDC in mind, as it relates to future planning for UDC.

Commissioner Buechner moved to approve the proposed Schools & Universities committee, as outlined in the committee proposal. Motion was approved with 7 voting in favor, 0 voting against, and 0 abstaining (7-0-0).

4. Ward 3 Mutual Aid Food Pantry Proposal

Commissioner Appah: Provided background information on the work of Ward 3 Mutual Aid and DC Fridge Collective and their desire to open a food pantry in partnership with UDC. Ward 3 Mutual Aid and DC Fridge Collective's goal is for the food pantry is accessible to the public.

Judith Ingram (DC Fridge Collective): Provided more information about the current operations in the area being conducted out of St. Paul's Lutheran Church. The new location at UDC would allow greater reach into the community.

Commissioner Mehta: Asked for clarification on how distribution would work and how they plan to communicate the services provided.

Ingram: UDC has requested to serve as a food distribution point and not a publicly open refrigerator at this time. The food distribution point services would serve the 400-500 households currently reaching out to Ward 3 Mutual Aid for services and they intend to distribute more information via social media, leaflets, and the Forest Hills Connection, among other options.

Juanita Gray (UDC): Gray announced that UDC is happy to work with Ward 3 Mutual Aid and the DC Fridge Collective on this initiative and they are currently working on finalizing a memorandum of understanding (MOU). The primary issue that they are currently facing is that UDC requires proof of insurance for their partners.

Ingram: Ingram clarified that because Ward 3 Mutual Aid and the DC Fridge Collective are not established non-profit organizations, they do not currently have the required insurance policy. Once they have particulars about the MOU, they plan to reach out to their community partners to determine the best avenue to meet the requirements. They are hoping to begin distribution in March 2021.

Commissioner Mehta: Inquired about whether UDC would extend their insurance policy to cover the program on an existing policy.

Gray: Noted that she will flag this idea to the UDC CFO and senior staff.

Commissioner David: Asked Ingram about what additional support is needed from the community for the success of their initiatives.

Ingram: The Ward 3 Mutual Aid and DC Fridge Collective is planning to host community drives, including for household cleaners and volunteers. Support for these initiatives would be appreciated.

Commissioner Appah moved to approve the resolution supporting the establishment of a partnership between Ward 3 Mutual Aid, DC Fridge Collective, and UDC. Motion was approved with 7 voting in favor, 0 voting against, and 0 abstaining (7-0-0).

5. Burger King Update

Ken Griffin and Claire McLane from Burger King/Potomac Foods are present.

Claire McLane (Burger King/Potomac Foods): McClane and Ken Griffin request support from ANC 3F for an exemption to requirements for permeable pavement, given the impervious nature of the ground beneath the parking lot behind the facility.

Commissioner Nemeth: The ANC understands that permeable pavement is not feasible given the studies provided and clarified that nobody from the Burger King has reached out to discuss any potential alternative solutions. Nemeth asked what alternative plans Burger King has for water retention purposes to keep with the spirit of the original proposal.

Ken Griffin (Burger King/Potomac Foods): Burger King is proposing added landscaped green area to the parking lot, which will have a slight impact for water absorption and retention purposes, but will mainly act as a beautification effort.

Commissioner Wall: Asked if parties have looked into meaningful alternatives, including offsite watershed mitigation efforts, even if the efforts offset runoff from areas in the neighborhood or city that are not directly tied to the parking lot in question. The Department of Energy and Environment may have some ideas that Burger King can pursue.

Griffin: Will speak with Mark James from Burger King/Potomac Foods to discuss those options.

Commissioner Mehta: Clarified that Burger King made the commitment to reduce water runoff 3 years ago. Commissioners acknowledge that this is not possible, given recent studies, however commissioners are asking for an analysis of how Burger King plans to meet its commitment.

Commissioner Appah: Inquired about whether there is a maintenance plan for the green space.

Griffin: There would be a maintenance plan for the green space, however this plan is not yet established, because they are currently seeking approval for the green space proposal.

Commissioner Mehta: Inquired about more details about the size of the green space.

Griffin: The green space would include 1500 square feet of asphalt conversion, in addition to the small amount of green space already there. They also plan to add a gate to ensure that the parking lot is only accessible to Burger King customers.

Commissioner Mehta: Inquired about whether parties have discussed the impact of the gate on traffic flow with DDOT and inquired about whether traffic could still go both ways.

Commissioner Cristeal: Inquired about whether the proposal is currently ready for the commission to take a vote at this time.

Commissioner Appah: Concur that this is not ready for a vote and inquires about the timeline.

Griffin: They are unsure about what happens when the BZA timeline is up. Once they get approval of this plan, they would submit the plan to the city and move forward with the plan.

Commissioner Wall: Stated that he cannot support the request of the removal of the permeable pavement requirement until there are detailed proposals for runoff mitigation, which have yet to be presented. The current proposal from Burger King/Potomac Foods would add plants to make the area look nicer, but would not make an impact on stormwater retention and runoff.

Commissioner Appah: Agrees with Commissioner Wall, that parties have yet to provide a detailed proposal that provides a positive solution for the community that is in the spirit of the original proposal.

Griffin: States that the only thing he can see is some sort of tradeoff in the watershed. Griffin inquires about whether the commissioners can approve a resolution to extend the timeline past the current March 7 deadline.

Commissioner Nemeth: As a practical matter, a motion to extend may not have a practical effect given the short timeline from now through March 7.

Max Smith: BZA has an administrative waiver right now to extend expiring orders for 6 months or a year by application, rather than through a hearing. This may be an avenue that Burger King can pursue.

Commissioner Nemeth: The plan moving forward is that Burger King should provide more details about mitigation efforts after discussion with DOEE as soon as possible to ensure that we can get this done in an appropriate timeline.

6. ABRA Request – Rose Creek Wine, Stephanie Carrillo

Stephanie Carrillo (Rose Creek Wine): Rose Creek Wine is an online wine distributor with no physical storefront. They intend to use an underground wine cellar in the neighborhood at Domaine (4221 Connecticut Avenue NW) to service the DMV area. The company formed their LLC last August and has been working with ABRA to get a Class A, internet only license for the past six months. They are slated to get approval soon and are looking for a letter of support to start selling under a stipulated license, which has been approved.

Commissioner Nemeth moved to support the stipulated license, pending the completed settlement agreement. Motion was approved with 7 voting in favor, 0 voting against, and 0 abstaining (7-0-0).

7. Commissioner Updates

Commissioner Wall: Reached out about the broken fence at Forest Hills Park fence and will continue to do so until the fence has been fixed.

Commissioner Buechner: Thanked residents of Lenore Lane for a tour of their neighborhood and provided an update regarding issues of potholes and broken curbs in the area and how upgrades to the street will occur in tandem with the ongoing DC Water projects in the area.

Commissioner Cristeal: Provided a brief update on the Hurst Park & Pool construction. They are starting to lay foundation for the soccer field and are looking to have construction done by April 1.

8. Committee Reports

Parks and Watershed (Cory Levine): The committee continues to work on issues relating to the Soapstone Valley updates and more information can be found in the committees written report.

Streets and Sidewalks (Bob Deyling): The committee continues to focus on the Connecticut Avenue DDOT study. If anyone has comments about the DDOT proposal, send them to Deyling or participate at the Feb. 24 special meeting for ANC 3F residents with DDOT.

Housing and Neighborhoods (George Hofmann): The committee has had extensive conversations about affordable housing and the comprehensive plan and are preparing to discuss budget. Commissioner Wall will host meeting with Forest Hills Park area neighbors to discuss crime mitigation in the neighborhood, as a follow up to the neighborhood walkabout. That meeting will focus on the Brandywine, Chesapeake, and Saratoga buildings and opportunities to build community.

9. ANC 3F Special Meeting – Connecticut Avenue Reversible Lane Study

Commissioner Cristeal: DDOT is currently engaged in getting public feedback related to the Connecticut Avenue Reversible Lane Study. ANC 3F will host a special meeting on this issue with DDOT on Wednesday, Feb. 24 from 7-8:30pm to discuss the study and get public feedback. Portions of the slideshow will be available online in advance and the meeting will include time for questions from the public.

10. Mayor's FY22 Budget – Schedule and Call for Feedback

Commissioner Cristeal: ANC 3F will have someone here next month to discuss the budget. The Council is currently doing performance oversight hearings and Mayor Bowser plans to deliver a budget to the Council on March 31. Now is the time to get engaged and make asks during the budget process and ANC 3F will determine what budgetary asks we should make in the next few weeks.

11. 4740 Connecticut Avenue/Essex House Update

Ben Searle (Essex House): The HVAC project is contracted and underway. They currently have one outstanding building permit item that they are working to complete and they are confident that it will be approved soon. They are on track to complete the project prior to the next chilling season.

12. Community Forum

Gloria Garcia (Van Ness Main Street): A new business, Shemali's—a Lebanese market, will be opening on the corner of Connecticut Avenue & Ablemarle Street in the coming months. The UDC Board will also likely be approving a lease for an urgent care facility at 4340 Connecticut Avenue. Businesses also tuned in to a DDOT presentation about the Connecticut Avenue Reversible Lane Study for businesses from Woodley Park to Chevy Chase.

Van Ness Main Street also has four committees, three of which are open to the public and looking for volunteers: a) Design; b) Events & Promotions; c) Economic Development. If you would like to volunteer, email Gloria for more information. Also, look for opportunities to get engaged along Van Ness Main Street as part of the Spring Now campaign, including community engagement, fundraising, and corridor cleanup.

Michael Porcello (Councilmember Cheh's Office): A supplemental budget will also be coming on March 31, which will rethink spending for the current year. Please think about this context, in addition to the budget that begins in October. The supplemental budget will include the Mayor's plans to use federal relief funds and the budgetary surplus through the end of the year.

The Councilmember also met last week with a working group for two new schools in Ward 3—an elementary and middle school. These schools likely will not impact feeder patterns for ANC 3F residents, but will likely help address overcrowding in area schools.

13. Motion to Adjourn

Commissioner Nemeth moved to adjourn. Motion was approved with 7 voting in favor, 0 voting against, and 0 abstaining (7-0-0). The meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.