

Meeting notes by Michael J. Henderson
michaelhenderson@edgewooddc.org

ANC5E Community Meeting
Tuesday November 18th, 2014
Trinity University College
7 pm

7:07 pm Commissioner Pinkney said we need one more Commissioner to begin the meeting. There are only five commissioners at this time. A quorum must be present.

Commissioner Pinkney – information updates –Federal Emergency Medical Services Acting Chief Jones –spoke about his history in fire departments; graduate of Roosevelt High here in DC. Since November as Assistant Fire Chief of Operations has learned about details of the department. Asked to be interim Fire Chief until the next administration comes in. Has had a great time. Can go on their website to see how busy they are the 9th busiest fire department in the USA. This dept. runs 30,000 more calls than PG County. Arrives on the scene within the standard of on time 90% of the time. Commissioner Robinson-Paul asked why fire department doesn't always take people away when arriving. Acting Chief said they cannot take people away against their will. They have right to decline service. Commissioner Pinkney said thank you. Acting Chief Jones offered blood pressure/glucose levels checked in the back of the room.

Public Safety - Lt. Hazelton – PSA 501 (NW side). He is concerned right now because getting dark earlier robberies are on the uptick. Don't walk with ear buds in, and pay attention to your surroundings. They run up on people from behind. Also package thefts. Asking that people schedule to pick up their packages at the carrier, require a signature, or go online to determine an exact time for it to be delivered so it's not sitting out front. MPD did a fake package delivery then did surveillance; have been very successful catching folks. But certainly have not stopped everyone that has that propensity. Please eliminate the opportunity for them to steal your packages. Pass the word. There was a brief discussion with attendees. Resident asked about violent mugging at 3rd and RI Ave NW. Lt. said he can go by with the Sergeant to that area, assess lighting needs.

7:15 pm Commissioner Blanks arrived

7:22 pm Commissioner Smith-Steiner arrived

Lt. Wright PSA 502 (NE side). Covers the mountain bike trail, which has had two strong-armed robberies. MPD has three mountain bike units that ride up and down the trail. Robberies tend to occur in the evenings. Check out safety tips on the MPD listserv. These crimes, including burglaries, increase as we leave daylight savings time; leave your lights on, tell trusted neighbors if you're going on vacation. In over

60 days MPD has locked up 9-10 folks for robberies. 90% are juveniles, and many live right off the mountain bike trail. There are areas on the trail where too many of the lights are out. Burglaries - Close your curtains. Don't let folks step up to your house and look in the window. Or put the expensive things out of sight! Officers patrol the alleys during the daytime. Truancy units patrol during the day a well. If you see suspicious folks on the trail don't force the issue, go another way. Resident asked about robbery near the artists' studios. Ronald.wrightjr@dc.gov. cell# 202-425-2012. Don't leave a message – leave a text message or email. If it's an emergency call 911. If need to talk call him on his cell. (*applause*)

James Cheeks Chief traffic engineer for the District of Columbia. Asked what we want him to talk about. Asked to look at alleys along North Capital Street. Normally community completes a traffic calming application. This tells DDOT what exactly is the problem. During the day found cars going into alleys trying to avoid backups on North Capital. Suggest make alleys one-way south bound. Submitted for notice of intent. Gathering comments. Extended comment period to December 31st. Resident said when she read the proposal she could not visualize it. Also a huge blind spot. Don't see how just doing this thing is going to fix the problem. Mr. Cheeks said that was the only area his office was asked to look at – that's why *we ask for an application from the community that identifies the entire area*. Resident said she's the one that sent the email to him. She said people have been hit by cars. She invited DDOT to come to Stronghold meeting (she's the president of that civic association). Mr. Cheeks said there are 200 some odd ANC's and he is all over the city addressing issues. That's why you need to *fill out the application*. She said she wished he had told her that. Mr. Cheeks said he is the one that investigates all accidents in the city. He's the one who gets sued, deals with deaths, and deals with families.

7:47 pm Commissioner Davis entered

Resident asked about drop off and pick up in front of the new school (Inspired Teaching), people are losing parking places.

Commissioner Pinkney welcomed everyone again.

Roll Call Commissioner Quinn

Commissioner Smith-Steiner PRES

Commissioner Davis PRES

Commissioner Underwood ABS

Commissioner Pinkney PRES

Commissioner Robinson-Paul –PRES

Commissioner Pearl PRES

Commissioner Barnes PRES

Commissioner Blanks PRES

Commissioner Smith-Steiner asked about recent allotments. .

Approval of the agenda – Commissioner Pinkney

Commissioner Pinkney motion to approve agenda. 2nd. Motion passed

Discussion

Commissioner Quinn would like to add zoning issue. Commissioner Robinson-Paul said Uncle Chips also wants to add their increase in public space issue as well as liquor license (needs vote tonight)

Commissioner Smith-Steiner wants the grant request added

Commissioner Barnes would like McMillan added

ArtJamz also added

Approval of June minutes

Commissioner Smith-Steiner motion to table the June minutes. 2nd. Motion passed.

Discussion

Commissioner Quinn change - page three under VMP session – would like the wording to be updated for clarity. Commissioner Pearl said he should not have been included because he had not been added yet. Commissioner Smith-Steiner said she would like to postpone approval of the minutes. We as a Commission should not try to vote on these at this time. Discussion... Commissioner Smith-Steiner said receiving the revised minutes from other commissioners on Saturday was not enough time to review the June minutes for Tuesday's meeting. Commissioner Smith-Steiner motion to table the June minutes. 2nd. Motion passed.

Approval of September minutes

Commissioner Pinkney motion to approve September and October minutes. 2nd. Motion passed (Commissioner Smith-Steiner abstained).

Discussion

Commissioner Barnes asked to include something that she had said during the meeting (page 6). Commissioner Robinson-Paul asked to remove something she said; Commissioner Pearl change – he voted no on an expense but would like to include that he would split the cost out of his own pocket. (Commissioner Pinkney declined that offer).

Approval of October minutes – Commissioner Robinson-Paul asked to not be marked absent (even though she arrived after the meeting had been convened and adjourned at 7:45 pm due to lack of a quorum). Commissioner Pinkney said the meeting begins at 7 pm.

Commissioner Pinkney motion to approve September and October minutes. 2nd. Motion passed (Commissioner Smith-Steiner abstained). My late meeting arrival was due to an illness where her father passed.

Uncle Chips 1514 NC Street NW at Bates.

Commissioner Robinson-Paul motion to approve liquor license. 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Robinson-Paul motion to change hours from 10 pm to 12 midnight 2nd. Motion passed unanimously

Discussion

Been running cookie shop for 3-4 years. Applying for liquor license application Class C Tavern license. Applied July 30th, it "got lost". They have their placard up.

Commissioner Smith-Steiner asked about timing/dates. She presented earlier, she is here for a vote today. Commissioner Robinson-Paul motion to approve liquor license. 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

Also need outdoor patio hours extended. Currently seats 18 people. Want to extend to midnight. Currently go till 10 pm. Commissioner Smith-Steiner asked about outside music. No, there is no outside music. Commissioner Robinson-Paul motion to support extended hours. Commissioner Smith-Steiner asked if they have ever been cited for health codes. No. Commissioner Robinson-Paul motion to change hours from 10 pm to 12 midnight 2nd. Motion passed unanimously. It was the consensus of BACA and HACA to approve.

Capital Market – 2501 requesting to renew their ABRA liquor license. Motion to support their license renewal. B retail grocery license- beer and wine license. 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion

Commissioner Barnes has not heard any violations Motion to support their license renewal. B retail grocery license- beer and wine license. 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

ArtJamz – asking for a stipulated license. Commissioner Smith-Steiner motion to approve stipulated liquor license for ArtJamz. 2nd. Motion passed.

Discussion

Rosemary S. with Michael C. Owner of 706 Monroe street. It's a public art studio. He owns one on Dupont Circle that is very successful. Open 10 am – midnight. Serving 11 am – midnight. Protest period ends December 15th. ArtJamz started a coupe years ago as a public studio where you can come in and paint, hear great music and be served wine and beer. Demographic is 2 – 99 yrs old. During evening becomes more adult. Currently have 23 folks on payroll right now, most of whom are artists.

Includes folks from Duke Ellington. Right down the road from Monroe Street Market. Commissioner Smith-Steiner asked about hours to serve liquor – 10 am – midnight. But business hours are less. Likely 10 am-10 pm. Commissioner Smith-Steiner said any time you have events that relate to children no alcohol should be served at all. He said it's the same at Disney world and chucky/cheese – it's not unusual that families are served alcohol. No one allowed in the studio after 6 pm because it's more adult focused. Commissioner Quinn asked for a hard copy of the application. Commissioner Pinkney asked if they had been asked to go the Edgewood civic association. No. Commissioner Smith-Steiner said it is not required. She said it was posted to the Edgewood listserv. Commissioner Steiner said the Edgewood civic association is effectively defunct, and since this was posted they needed to respond but they didn't.

Commissioner Smith-Steiner motion to approve stipulated liquor license for ArtJamz. 2nd. Motion passed.

Roll Call

Commissioner Smith-Steiner YES

Commissioner Davis YES

Commissioner Underwood ABS

Commissioner Pinkney NO

Commissioner Robinson-Paul YES

Commissioner Quinn NO

Commissioner Foster ABS

Commissioner Barnes YES

Commissioner Pearl ABS

Commissioner Blanks YES

Motion passed

Kevin Latner – property owner at 21 Quincy Place NW. Applying for BZA exception.

Commissioner Quinn motion to accept the exception. 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion

Seeking building variance to build a 2-car garage in place of a one-car garage. House is built on a narrow lot. Footprint is 150 sq feet. Garage door will be about 7.5 feet wide. Was a good size for a carriage. For modern car it's a very small space. Has checked with both of his neighbors. They are supportive. ANC rep suggested he speak at Bloomingdale civic association. They supported the variance request. Commissioner Smith-Steiner asked for the record to reflect that we need to examine the process for this type of thing. And she asked if it is covered or open. – (it's covered). She also asked about water runoff. He said there is a drain there already, and the roof will be arranged so that the water goes into the alley or the drain.

Commissioner Quinn motion to accept the exception. 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

Mi Casa Housing Development Proposal

Discussion only

We build strong neighborhoods through affordable housing for a range of incomes. Looking at land on Florida and Q Streets. Have done single- and multi- family projects in a range of unit sizes and incomes. Promote the work of artists across cultures as well. Proposal to develop a 27-unit family oriented 2 and 3 bedroom apartment complex that's four stories. *The presenters had a slide show.* They are working alongside the small area plan. This market area has a large population of youth and seniors. Because of the high vacancy in this particular area businesses don't come and crime goes up. They gave a detailed presentation of the many benefits this development brings to the neighborhood and city. 20 units will be easily adaptable for aging in place as well. Will not have ground floor retail. Commissioner Smith-Steiner asked about funding, section 8. Commissioner Pinkney

said they are not here for a vote. Commissioner Robinson-Paul said they used “mixed” income instead of “affordable”, and “none of the residents of the District of Columbia can afford housing. What are the percentages they are using? Evenly distributed. All of this conforms to the housing trust fund. Ground floor will be used for various things including arts.

Vision McMillan

Commissioner Barnes motion to support what was presented here for Parcel Two. 2nd. Friendly amendment to remove language about community benefits – accepted. Motion passed.

Discussion

Here for a quick update. Jair Lynch from Jair Lynch Development Partners, part of the Vision McMillan Partners. Appreciates all the support from ANC5E. Would like ANC acknowledgement that Jair Lynch came and presented these updates. Submission for Parcel Two is consistent with the master plan and all the other plans. *There were many details provided on the slide show. The slide show is available on the anc5e website*). Commissioner Steiner spoke about the MAG group “not doing its job”. MAG members are supposed to be providing information to the community and bringing community views to the process instead of their own. She complained about the vice-chair lashing out at Commissioner Barnes. If Mag doesn’t do its job it should be abolished. Commissioner Robinson-Pau spoke about the process as well. She is concerned about some of the changes being made. This project benefits the entire city not just Bloomingdale. And the housing prices are not affordable. Commissioner Quinn asked if anything for parcel two is new on the handout. J.L. said he is bringing the design guidelines to ANC5E. She also asked what is the deadline. They plan to submit to HBRA this week. Commissioner Quinn doesn’t understand why this didn’t come to the Bloomingdale Civic Association before coming the ANC. ANC does not have to support the civic association but they need to be informed of the process. Jair Lynch said this seemed like such a low bar that it seemed appropriate to bring directly to the ANC. (nothing new here). But he is happy to bring it to Bloomingdale civic attention as well. Commissioner Pearl asked if VMP will continue to communicate with the MAG and the community. Jair Lynch said Yes. There is a lot of work to be done. Commissioner Pearl also asked about the number of affordable units, stating the minimum of 20 set aside was wrong, and that it should be 25. Commissioner Quinn said when he needs an ANC vote he should come to Bloomingdale civic association first. **Commissioner Barnes motion to support what was presented here for Parcel Two. 2nd.** Commissioner Smith-Steiner asked that the mention of the community benefits be stricken because she still believes VMP partners needs to provide the community with more than 5 million dollars. “We should get ours first” she said... Commissioner Barnes said this was already approved.

Commissioner Barnes accepted to friendly amendment to remove the community benefits statement

ROLL CALL

Commissioner Steiner YES

Commissioner Davis YES

Commissioner Underwood ABS

Commissioner Pinkney YES

Commissioner Robinson-Paul NO

Commissioner Quinn NO

Commissioner Pearl NO

Commissioner Barnes YES

Commissioner Foster ABS

Commissioner Blanks YES

Motion passed

Marvin Tucker - OCASE Foundation Grant application

Discussion only

Ocase foundation – athletics to keep kids in school

5000 backpacks to give away – computers; Commissioner Steiner supports this.

Commissioner Steiner spoke at length about the project.

Nita V. Works with Med Star at Washington Hospital Center, in D.C. women in Ward 5 have access to health care but are not using it nearly enough. We are conducting surveys. Women need to get mammograms. Please fill out the surveys. Commissioner Quinn asked Mr. Henderson to place the survey on the ANC 5E website.

H Street Development project – Eric Jones. 2321 4th Street. 116 residential units. Start construction Monday. 17 months construction. Opening first quarter 2016. Hope to be filled summer of 2016. 60% will be AMI. 4 studios, 17 1 bed, 38 2 bed, and 4 3-bedrooms.

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