

ANC 3/4G Public Meeting
Monday, November 13, 2017
Chevy Chase Community Center, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm
5601 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20015

- 7:00 Adoption of Agenda
- 7:05 Commissioner Announcements
- 7:15 Community Announcements
- 7:20 Discussion and possible vote on the Broad Branch Market's application to renew its Class B liquor license (License Number ABRA-081331) (Commissioner Malitz)
- 7:30 Discussion and possible vote on the application by Northwest Neighbors Village for a \$610 grant to purchase File of Life magnets (Commissioner Speck)
- 7:40 Discussion and possible vote on an application for a public space permit (DDOT Tracking # 02219726) to construct a retaining wall and curb cut at 5363 29th Street, NW (Commissioner Speck)
- 7:50 The merging of the Friends of Lafayette Rec. Center and Park (FOLRAP) and the Friends of Lafayette Park (FOLP) groups and review of their bylaws - Discussion and possible vote for ANC support for Official DPR Park Partner status (Commissioner Maydak)
- 8:05 Preliminary report on the results of the Community Center survey and on the Commission's next steps (Commissioners Malitz and Speck)
- 8:20 Presentation by Celeste Duffie, Department of Public Works, on its leaf collection program, its new criteria for recyclables, and its Zero Waste initiative (Commissioner Speck)
- 8:35 Presentation by Alka Mysore of DC ReInvest on effort to have the District divest from its primary bank Wells Fargo (Commissioner Speck)
- 8:45 Presentation by Marcia Bernbaum, the People for Fairness Coalition, on the Downtown DC Public Restroom Initiative and Bill 22-0223, Public Restroom Facility Installation and Promotion Act of 2017 (Commissioner Speck)
- 8:55 Commission Business:
1. Minutes: October 23, 2017
 2. Checks:

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Chevy Chase Community Center, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm
5601 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20015

Present: Speck, Fromboluti, Tuck-Garfield, Maydak, Clayman, Malitz, Bradfield.

Agenda: The agenda was adopted by a vote of 7 – 0.

Commissioner Announcements:

Commissioner Speck:

AltaGas/Washington Gas merger — The DC Public Service Commission has scheduled four community hearings on the proposed merger between Canada-based AltaGas and Washington Gas: (1) November 27 at 6:30 pm at the Anacostia Library, 1800 Good Hope Road, SE; (2) November 28 at 6:30 pm at Trinity University, 125 Michigan Avenue, NE; (3) November 29 at 10:00 am at the Public Service Commission, 1325 G Street, NW, Suite 800; and (4) November 30 at 6:30 at the Greater Washington Urban League, 2901 14th Street, NW. Anyone wishing to provide oral or written testimony at these community hearings should call 202-626-5150 or send an email to PNC-commissionsecreary@dc.gov by 5:00 pm three days before the hearing. Written statements may also be submitted through the PSC's website at <https://www.dcpsc.org>. The Office of the People's Counsel will discuss this proposed merger at ANC 3/G's November 27 meeting.

Approval to begin DC PLUG — On November 9, the Public Service Commission approved the start of the multi-year, \$500 million program to place select Pepco electric lines underground, including some in our ANC. Work is funded both by the District and Pepco and is planned to begin in 2018. More information is available at <http://www.dcpluginfo.com>.

Chevy Chase Citizens' Association Meeting — Historic Chevy Chase DC will present the program at the monthly meeting of the Chevy Chase Citizens' Association at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 14, in the auditorium of the Community Center. Topics will include their oral history project, the annual Connecticut Avenue/neighborhood walking tour, the historic plaques program, some individual house histories, and the on-going inventory of kit houses in Chevy Chase DC.

ANC's concerns raised with DDOT — The Commissioners are continuing to follow up with DDOT on the issues that were discussed at the ANC's October 23 meeting. Commissioners Clayman and Fromboluti will touch on two of those — sidewalks on Chestnut Street and DDOT's modifications to the intersection of 39th and Reno Road. DDOT has given us an update on the remaining issues, but there is little concrete action to report. We will continue to work with DDOT to get responses to all concerns.

Hearing on DC Water Rate Increases — On November 17, the Council's Committee on Transportation and the Environment will hold a roundtable hearing on DC Water's rate increases. The hearing will begin at 11:00 am in Room 500 at the Wilson Building. Anyone wishing to testify should contact Aukima Benjamin at (202) 724-8062 or via e-mail at abenjamin@dccouncil.us. There have been a number of concerns expressed, particularly about the impermeable area charges that have increased dramatically and that have hit churches, synagogues, cemeteries, non-profit institutions, and many residents particularly hard. Tommy Wells, Director of the Department of Energy and Environment and Chair of DC Water's Board, will attend the ANC's November 27 meeting to address these issues.

Senior Programming Manager for the Chevy Chase Community Center — At our October 23rd meeting, DPR Director Anderson announced that on October 24th, the Department of Human Resources would post a vacancy for a new senior programming manager at the Chevy Chase Community Center. He said that this vacancy would remain open for at least two weeks and perhaps for three weeks. Late on October 24th, the Department of Human Resources posted a position for DPR that purported to be this new senior programming manager but that bore no resemblance to the budgeted position approved by the Council. Nowhere did the position description indicate that it was for this Community Center or that the incumbent would work with seniors. It was a generic description for a recreation specialist.

The ANC immediately objected that this misleading description would not attract the most qualified people or give any prospective applicant an idea about what the position was or what qualifications were required. On November 2nd — just over a week after the posting — the DCHR website abruptly announced that the previously posted position was “no longer available.” After repeated requests to Director Anderson for an explanation for the misleading original job posting and for its abrupt cancellation, a DPR Deputy Director confirmed that the posting closed on November 2 and that it had received “approximately 80+ applications.” Again, the ANC objected that the announcement was deficient and requested a detailed description of the reasons for closing the vacancy early and any job description or criteria for selection that DPR or DCHR will use to select the Senior Program Manager for the Chevy Chase Community Center. We will continue to press DPR to fill this crucial position with the best qualified person.

Commissioner Maydak:

Lafayette Recreation Center Modernization — DPR is taking a survey to get community input on the planned modernization of the Lafayette Recreation Center. Anyone can take the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LafayetteRec>. The survey will remain open for another week or week and a half. DPR will hold further community meetings between December and April and will begin design and permitting in the spring. Commissioner Maydak emphasized that the Recreation Center modernization is separate and distinct from the Commission's initiatives with regard to the Chevy Chase Community Center.

Commissioner Clayman:

Chestnut Street Sidewalks — This issue has been contentious in the Hawthorne community for some time. DDOT has engaged with the community and in May 2017, presented several possible options. In August it chose the option of constructing the sidewalk within the street right-of-way on the north side of the street. There are three reasons for installing this sidewalk promptly: (1) pedestrian safety, which continues to be a concern so long as the sidewalks have not been installed; (2) the proposed sidewalks meet all of DDOT's qualifications for installing sidewalks; and (3) DDOT said that it would install these sidewalks without an unreasonable delay. The Commission will consider a resolution on this issue at its November 27 meeting.

Commissioner Tuck-Garfield:

Law Day — UDC's Clark School of Law will hold Law Day on Saturday, November 18 from 9:30 am to 3:15 at the UDC Campus, Moot Court Room (Room 518), 4340 Connecticut Avenue, NW. One aspect of this event will help residents to "know their rights." More information is available at <http://www.law.udc.edu/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1016125&group=>.

Commissioner Fromboluti:

Changed traffic patterns at Reno Road and 39th Street — Commissioners Fromboluti and Speck participated in a telephone conference with DDOT Acting Director Marootian on November 13 to discuss preliminary data that DDOT collected on traffic pattern changes after DDOT made 39th Street one-way northbound between Reno Road and Jenifer Street. The Commissioners suggested some clarifications that needed to be made so that the data will be clear and can be released within a couple of weeks. We expect to have DDOT at the ANC's December 11 meeting to discuss its analysis of the data.

Speeding on Jenifer Street — A meeting with DDOT at the corner of Nebraska Avenue and Jenifer Street is planned on November 20 at 9:00 am to discuss speeding on Jenifer caused by morning rush hour commuter using Jenifer to avoid the Connecticut and Nebraska intersection. DDOT had previously rejected the ANC's request for a "no-right-turn during morning rush hour" sign at Nebraska and Jenifer, but it is now taking a further look to see whether some steps are necessary to address this concern. Commissioner Speck noted that DDOT will meet immediately after this at 30th Place and Military Road to address safety issues at this intersection's pedestrian crosswalk and will consider other issue related to traffic on Military Road.

Commissioner Bradfield:

Chevy Chase Circle improvements — The Friends of Chevy Chase Circle are seeking to reinvigorate the Circle and have installed new plantings as a first step. They should be apparent in the spring. Significant issues remain, however. The National Park Service is engaging with the community and has removed dead limbs and is addressing the health of the trees. (The number of Park Service arborist has been reduced from 69 last year to only four now because of layoffs.) The Friends of the Circle have received a \$40,000 matching grant from the Chevy Chase Land Company to repair or replace the benches in the Circle, and the Friends are now raising the matching funds. Maryland Senator Van Hollen and Congressman Raskin are

informed about the Circle and are engaged to assist in its improvement. It is expected that it will require from \$500,000 to \$650,000 to complete all necessary repairs. Though most of this may be from federal funds, matching funds collected locally may help to speed the availability of federal funds. DDOT and Maryland are also engaging on traffic and pedestrian safety issues for the Circle.

Community Announcements:

Phil McAuley, from the Mayor's Office of Community Relations, called attention to the Mayor's weekly newsletter (<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/DCWASH/bulletins/1c23452>) as a source for what is going on in the Mayor's office. He highlighted the Mayor's initiative on private security camera voucher program (<https://mayor.dc.gov/release/mayor-bowser-launches-private-security-camera-voucher-program>), the Safe at Home program (https://dcoa.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/dcoa/page_content/attachments/Safe%20At%20Home%20Ad_r7-01.pdf), and the fall leaf collection schedule (<https://dpw.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/dpw/publication/attachments/2017%20leaf%20brochure%20online1.pdf>). He also noted that the graduation rate in District public schools has surpassed 70% (at 72.4%) for the first time. On November 13, the Mayor and Delegate Norton expressed their concerns about the proposed tax "reforms" and how they will impact the District's residents (e.g., by eliminating deductions for state and local taxes). Finally, on November 14, the Mayor will announce a new partnership initiative to assist residents with the citizenship process.

Jackson Carnes, Constituent Services Director for Councilmember Todd, announced the Councilmember's recent introduction of the "D.C. Cemetery Private Road and Parking Lot Exemption of Clean Water Fees Amendment Act of 2017" (<http://lims.dccouncil.us/Download/39183/B22-0575-Introduction.pdf>). This bill responds to DC Water's large increases in the impervious area charges that are designed to address storm water runoff under a 20-year agreement with the Department of Justice. The bill will only address the impact on cemeteries, not all those who are affected, including non-profits and many residents. Questions were also raised about the effectiveness and follow-up on DDOT's programs to manage storm water, including through bio-retention areas (at locations like Lafayette Park) and impervious pavements installed in several alleys. Mr. Carnes indicated that the Councilmember has also introduced the "Energy-Efficient and Water Efficiency Sales Tax Holiday of 2017," which would suspend District sales taxes on high efficiency appliances around Memorial Day. He also announced the Ward 4 holiday party and coat drive on Saturday, December 16th at 6:00 pm at Lafayette Elementary School, 5701 Broad Branch Road, NW and the Walter Reed tree lighting on Saturday, November 18th at 4:00 pm.

Anthony Castillo, Councilmember Cheh's Deputy Director for Constituent Services, announced that the Transportation and Environment Committee that the Councilmember chairs is busy with hearings and markups. There will be upcoming hearings on the Department of General Services, and all hearings can be located on the Council's calendar (<http://dccouncil.us/calendar>). Anyone interested in testifying at a hearing may contact the Councilmember's office at (202) 724-8062.

Ellen Siegler announced that the Zoning Commission will hold a hearing on a proposed expansion of the American University campus on November 20 at 6:30 pm in Room 220 South at One Judiciary Square, 441 4th Street, NW. That will be an opportunity for the community to raise concerns about American University's parking policy, which is used to give tickets to residents parking in an otherwise legal spot if the University's security personnel believe the resident is attending an AU function. AU has justified this policy as authorized by a Zoning Commission order, but Ms. Siegler said that the order only applies to those who are affiliated with AU, not other residents. She urged anyone interested to attend the Zoning Commission hearing and make the case against AU's policy, and she asked the ANC to join as well. The Chair said that there was not sufficient time for the Commission to participate in the November 20 hearing, but that we would look into submitting a statement if permitted.

-Discussion and possible vote on the Broad Branch Market's application to renew its Type B liquor license (License Number ABRA-081331):

Tracy Stannard asked the Commission to support the Market's application to renew its Type B liquor license. She explained that the Market has been open for nine years and seeks no changes in its operations. Although the license authorizes sales from 7:00 am to 10:00 pm, they do not sell alcohol before 9:00 am and close at 8:00 pm. They have no intention to extend those hours. They are also authorized to have occasional wine tastings, but that is the only service for consumption on the premises. They recently received an award from ABRA for a 100% compliance check, meaning that in ABRA's tests, all testers posing as potentially underaged customers were checked and denied alcohol service. Although the sale of beer and wine is a small portion of their business, it is important so that they can be a "one-stop" shop.

Commissioner Malitz moved that the Commission support Broad Branch Market's application to renew its Type B liquor license. The Commission approved the motion by a vote of 7 to 0.

-Discussion and possible vote on the application by Northwest Neighbors Village for a \$610 grant to purchase File of Life magnets:

Commissioner Speck reported that at the Commission's October 23 meeting, Stephanie Chong, Northwest Neighbors Village's Executive Director, said that the requested \$610 grant would be used to purchase 1000 File of Life magnets that would be distributed over about two years to its members, volunteers, and to community members. The magnets can be attached to a refrigerator, and they include a card containing emergency information on allergies, medications, contact persons, and more that could be used by medical responders if the resident is unable to assist in providing that information, thereby enhancing the safety of the community as a whole. Another \$150 has been pledged by an anonymous donor to assist in this effort. This was the only grant application the Commission received.

Under the ANC's Grant Guidelines, the Commission votes on whether to approve an application at the meeting following the presentation of an application. The Chair indicated that the NNV application satisfies our Guidelines and the provisions of the statute (D.C. Code Section 1-309.13(m)). If approved, the funds for the grant will be paid within 30 days, and must be spent

within 60 days. As provide in the ANC's Guidelines, the grantee must also provide a report within 60 days on how the expenditures were used.

Commissioner Malitz raised a question about how NNV would distribute the 1000 magnets beyond the 250 for its members and 150 for volunteers. He said that upon checking with NNV, the remainder would be distributed to the community at events like Chevy Chase DC Day.

The Chair moved that the Commission approve this \$610 grant to NNV for the purchase of File of Life magnets. The motion was approved by a vote of 7 to 0.

-Discussion and possible vote on an amended application for a public space permit (DDOT Tracking # 02219726) to construct a retaining wall and curb cut at 5363 29th Street, NW:

Commissioner Speck summarized the history of this application. The Commission voted unanimously at its October 23rd meeting to object to the developer's requested 12-foot curb cut and indicated to the Public Space Committee that the Commission will only support a 9-foot wide curb cut, the minimum provided in DDOT's Design and Engineering Manual. The Commission did not object to the installation of the retaining wall — even though it had been constructed without a valid permit — since the nearby residents had expressed no concerns about it.

On October 26, the Public Space Committee cited a number of concerns about this application, most notably that the developer had “violently” removed a large section of public space to access a two-car garage. The Committee was concerned that the large driveway had eliminated green space, which is one hallmark of the District's public space. The Committee voted to table the application with instructions that the developer modify the design to increase the green space and address the ANC's concern about the width of the curb cut. The Committee said it was “not wedded” to the two-car garage, which had been built without a valid permit to appropriate public space for private use.

On November 1, the developer submitted modified drawings in an effort to address the Committee's concerns. The new design provided for a 9-foot curb cut — as the ANC had requested — and added lower, stair-stepped retaining walls that would provide sloped green spaces between the existing retaining wall and the driveway on one side and between the steps and the driveway on the other side. After meeting with Commissioner Speck (who had discussed the November 1 proposed design with the immediate neighbors), the developer further modified the drawings to make the stair-stepped retaining walls uniformly sloped and to correct some of the erroneous dimensions. This further refined design was submitted to the Public Space Committee on November 7.

Commissioner Speck reported that on November 3, the Office of Planning's public space reviewer posted the following comment about the modified design: “this application still shows too much of the public space with a flattened grade. Per the DDOT Design and Engineering Manual, Chapter 31, residential driveways are limited in width to a maximum of 12'. This is not a width that allows for two-car garages accessed immediately behind the building restriction line.

Please reduce the width of the driveway from the curb line to the building restriction line to a max of 12'." This comment suggests that the concept of a double garage adjacent to the building restriction line is unacceptable, at least to this reviewer.

Oumar Seck representing the developer, District Properties, said that they had attempted to work with the ANC on permitting issues for this property, including their agreement to withdraw an application for a curb cut on Military Road for the adjacent property based on the ANC's objections. With respect to the current curb cut application, he believed that DDOT's recent issuance of a grading permit for the driveway had affirmed the acceptability of his proposed design. He also indicated that the same reviewer that now objects to the design made similar comments about earlier designs. Mr. Seck said that he had been led to believe that those comments would be resolved by the Committee to permit the proposed design without further modifications.

In response to a question from Commissioner Speck, Mr. Seck indicated that District Properties obtained a building permit from DCRA that included a two-car garage at least ten months ago, but they did not seek or obtain a public space permit at that time. Mr. Seck said that District agencies don't talk with each other, but that the DCRA permit should have been communicated to the Public Space Committee so that any concerns could be resolved. Mr. Seck confirmed that the widest part of the proposed driveway in public space is 22 feet, and each garage is about 9 feet wide.

Mr. Seck introduced Jamaal and Sarika Snell, the prospective purchasers of the house. Dr. Snell, the Director of Anesthesiology at Providence Hospital, said that he and his wife, a dermatologist in private practice, decided to purchase this house about three months ago without knowing about the permitting problems. They were attracted by the great neighborhood and public schools as well as the attractive house. He realizes that some protocols were not followed in obtaining the permits, but they hope that the ANC and the Public Space Committee can recognize their interest in obtaining this house.

Anne Renshaw, a long-time resident near 29th Street, said that she has complained to the ANC and the developer throughout the construction about the use of public space. The size of the curb cut is a major issue for her and her neighbors because on-street parking is at a premium. In the winter, particularly, residents on the nearby alley must park on the street, just where the proposed curb cut would be. She expressed concern that the flair for the curb cut could be more than nine feet and could take more of the available parking space.

Commissioner Speck acknowledged that the current difficulties stem from the developer's failure to seek and obtain a timely public space permit and instead to construct the double garage in such a way that it required a "violent" removal of public space. The Public Space Committee is legitimately concerned that it should not reward what is essentially unlawful behavior by simply accepting the completed work as a *fait accompli*. In the developer's defense, Commissioner Maydak noted that the District government had also made mistakes that contributed to the problem.

On the other hand, Commissioner Speck stated that the damage has been done, and sound public policy suggests that we should not compound the harm while attempting to correct prior misbehavior. If the developer were required to eliminate one garage and to restore green space where the garage currently is, it would require a significant additional expenditure of resources — e.g., one current garage entrance would have to be removed and sealed off and a larger retaining wall constructed so that green space could be restored in front of that garage. Commissioner Speck emphasized that this would not make sense from a conservation of resources and sustainability standpoint. Fewer resources will be required if the already-built garages are retained.

In addition, Commissioner Speck observed that the fully completed house is currently vacant and will remain so until the permit issues are resolved. No one expects to have a two-car garage in this neighborhood, but an after-the-fact elimination of one garage and a jerry-built solution may make the house less marketable. It is in the community's interest that houses not remain vacant and that we welcome new families — like the Snells — into the neighborhood. By agreeing to the minimum 9-foot curb cut (measured edge-line to edge-line and with a minimal flair as provided by DDOT's Design and Engineering Manual) and a sloped green space down to the driveway, the developer's most recent proposal addresses the issues that the neighbors raised.

Based on these considerations, Commissioner Speck moved that the ANC advise the Committee that it has no objection to this application, as amended by the filings on November 7, and the ANC urges the Committee to approve this application because it is in the best interests of the community. Further, in order to discourage future violations of the public space permitting process, the ANC encourages the Committee to take whatever steps it considers appropriate to fine or penalize the developer for its unlawful conduct with respect to public space.

The motion was approved by a vote of 7 to 0, with Chair Speck authorized to represent the commission.

-Report on the merger of the Friends of Lafayette Recreation Center and Park (FOLRAP) and the Friends of Lafayette Park (FOLP) groups, review of their bylaws, and discussion and possible vote on ANC support for Official DPR Park Partner status:

Commissioner Maydak congratulated the Friends of Lafayette Recreation Center and Park and the Friends of Lafayette Park on their agreement to merge into a single organization to support the Park. The new organization has co-presidents and new bylaws and comes to the ANC to seek its support to become the official "Friend" of the Park under DPR rules.

The co-presidents, Elizabeth Engel and Jeff Stoiber, described the new merged organization and bylaws. Anyone can become a "friend" of the Park on-line (<http://thefolp.org/membership/>) by making a contribution to the Park, either through a monetary donation or through volunteer work for the Park. Friends then elect the Board of Directors. The Chair commended the FOLP for the contributions that they have made to the park and for their joining together to further activities at the Park.

Commissioner Maydak moved that the Commission give its support to FOLP to be an official, recognized DPR “Friend” to that it can represent the community in issues related to the Park, particularly the upcoming Lafayette Recreation Center modernization. The motion was approved by a vote of 7 to 0.

-Preliminary report on the results of the Community Center survey and on the Commission’s next step:

Commissioner Malitz reported on some of the preliminary results from the Community Center survey. The survey was open for about eight weeks and only recently closed. Amy Mack chaired a group of residents and Commissioners who developed the survey over several months. The community was encouraged to complete the survey through posts on listservs and NextDoor, through announcements in the Northwest Current, the Lafayette Tuesday Bulletin, and on many websites including the Forest Hills Connection, CCCA, ANC 3/4G, and through the distribution of flyers at such events as Chevy Chase DC Day and at Halloween along Connecticut Avenue, and through Commissioners’ door-to-door delivery.

At the end of the survey, 929 people completed all or some of the questions, and the average time to complete was eight minutes. Most — 76% — of the respondents live in zip code 20015. In terms of age, 59% are 64 or younger, and 41% are 65 or older. Children’s interests are included in the survey since 289 respondent answered on behalf of 541 children. Thus, the total number of people represented in the survey is about 1470.

About half of the respondents had participated in Community Center activities in the past two years and half had not. About 70% of those who had participated in Community Center activities were “extremely” or “very” satisfied with programs/activities. In response to the question about how important various factors were to respondents, a safe environment (89%), ease of registration (72%), weekend hours (69%), and an appealing physical space (67%) ranked highest.

Respondents ranked a fitness center with equipment highest in terms of facilities they wanted (76%), followed by outdoor open space (74%), environmentally sustainable (74%), an auditorium with a stage (72%), a community room (71%), meeting rooms (71%), and a gymnasium (69%). The preferred hours for use of the Community Center were primarily weekday evenings and weekends.

Commissioner Malitz said that a great deal more work needs to be done in presenting the responses, and we will have the capability to do cross tabulations — e.g., to determine separately the particular interests of families with children or of seniors. In response to a question by Commissioner Clayman, Commissioner Malitz said that the Commission can make the raw data available to those interested in conducting their own analysis.

Commissioner Speck then described the next steps that the Commission plans to take in its overall effort to assess the community’s future needs for the Community Center. In addition to presentation of survey results, the Commission needs more information before it can make informed recommendations to the Mayor and the Council. First, we need to understand what is

possible in terms of the physical facilities. The current projected capital budget for FY 2019 and 2020 includes about \$8 million preliminarily earmarked for the Community Center to “make ADA improvements, new elevators, new multipurpose rooms and new and expanded program space.” We need to understand better what such an \$8 million renovation would entail — e.g., what physical work could be done for that budget, how long would it take, what impact would it have on programs during the construction, etc. We also need to understand whether there are other options available that will address the community’s long term needs — e.g., a new building or additions to the existing building. We then need to explore the ramifications of those options in terms of cost, construction time, and environmental or other impacts.

Commissioner Bradfield suggested that we also include the Library in this effort to determine what physical facilities are feasible since the Public Library has done significant analyses about their facilities. It might be feasible to consider the Community Center and the Library as a campus.

Second, we need to determine how any Community Center improvements will be funded. The \$8 million in the District’s capital budget is merely a placeholder and is by no means assured. We should understand the steps needed to make any funding concrete and to understand what is necessary if we conclude that the earmarked funds will be insufficient to meet the community’s requirements.

Commissioner Speck proposed to hold two meetings — separate from the ANC’s regular meetings — in November and December to address these two topics. There is some urgency since the Mayor is already preparing her FY 2019 budget, which would presumably include money for the Community Center if work is expected in FY 2019. The Council’s budget hearings will begin in early 2018. We want to have our report completed by then so that decisions can be made based on facts and on our recommendations. As with all of our meetings on the future of the Community Center, these meetings will be open to everyone. The dates will be announced as soon as possible.

-Presentation by Alka Mysore of DC ReInvest on efforts to have the District divest from its primary bank Wells Fargo:

-Ms. Mysore, a resident living at Connecticut and Livingston, represents DC ReInvest, a coalition of 15 groups formed in response to the Standing Rock Sioux protest. She distributed a draft resolution supporting the “Sense for the Council Urging Reassessment of Relationship with Wells Fargo Resolution of 2017,” which was co-introduced by Councilmembers Grasso, Bonds, Silverman, Nadeau, and Allen (<http://lms.dccouncil.us/Download/37692/PR22-0188-Introduction.pdf>). The draft resolution cites the reasons that DC ReInvest believes warrant a change in the District’s relationship with Wells Fargo, including (1) fines levied for the bank’s use of sales tactics that deceived and fraudulently collected fees from 3.5 million customers; (2) targeting African-American and Hispanic borrowers for risky subprime mortgages that resulted in an agreement to pay more than \$175 million in relief to homeowners; (3) agreeing to pay \$1.2 billion to settle claims that faulty mortgage loans contributed to the 2008 housing crash; (4) being fined \$24 million for overcharging active duty servicemen; and (5) directly investing in pipelines (e.g., the Dakota Access Pipeline) that threaten many communities. The Council

resolution has been held in the Finance Committee without any action. Other cities, including Seattle, Davis, California, and Santa Barbara and the University of California system have divested from Wells Fargo. Ms. Mysore asked the Commission to advise the Council and the District government to disengage in an orderly way from Wells Fargo, which currently has an extensive cash and treasury management contract with the District.

The Commission thanked Ms. Mysore for the presentation and said that it would take up the resolution at a future meeting.

-Presentation by Marcia Bernbaum, the People for Fairness Coalition, on the Downtown DC Public Restroom Initiative and Bill 22-0223, Public Restroom Facility Installation and Promotion Act of 2017:

-Ms. Bernbaum asked the Commission to support the Public Restroom Facility Installation and Promotion Act of 2017 (<http://lims.dccouncil.us/Download/37807/B22-0223-Introduction.pdf>), which is co-sponsored by Councilmembers Nadeau, Grosso, Allen, and Silverman. She said that, based on surveys and studies by the People for Fairness Coalition, there is a significant lack of safe public restrooms in the District, particularly in the downtown area. There are currently only five public restrooms in downtown and only three that are open 24/7.

-The proposal in Bill 22-0223 builds on the experience in other cities where efforts have been made to assure public restroom access, including Portland, New York, San Francisco, London, and other European cities. There are several possible approaches that could be used to assure access to public restrooms: (1) the Portland Loo, a standalone facility (less expensive), (2) the Automated (self-cleaning) Public Toilet (more expensive), and (3) the London Community Toilet System, which is based on providing incentives to private businesses to make their toilet facilities available to the public. In response to a question by Commissioner Malitz, Ms. Bernbaum said that the intention is that the District would pay for this program and use of these facilities would be free to the public. The Portland Loo is currently free, but cities that use the more expensive Automated Public Toilet tend to charge a small fee.

-The goal is to provide an accessible public toilet within a five to ten minute walk anywhere downtown. Ms. Bernbaum said that the Georgetown BID is already looking at the possibility of giving incentives to businesses to make their facilities available to the public.

-The bill has been referred to Councilmember Cheh's committee and has support from three other ANCs. Ms. Bernbaum asked the Commission to consider a similar supportive resolution. The Commission thanked Ms. Bernbaum and said that it would consider the resolution at a future meeting.


Commission Business:

1. Minutes: The minutes for the Commission's October 23, 2017 meeting were approved by a vote of 6 to 0 (Commissioner Maydak left the meeting early).
2. After noting that the quarterly report reflects that a quarterly allotment for FY 2017 was not received until after October 1, 2017, i.e., after the beginning of FY

2018, the Commission voted 6 to 0 to adopt ANC 3/4G's July – September FY 2017 Quarterly Report.

3. After noting that the budget includes a raise for the office assistant effective January 1, 2018, the Commission voted 6 to 0 to adopt ANC 3/4G's FY 2018 budget.
4. Items for the November 27 meeting may include: Presentation by Kevin Bush, Chief Resiliency Officer, on the District's plans for responding to natural, man-made, or social challenges; presentation by the Office of People's Counsel on the proposed Washington Gas/AltaGas merger and its outreach regarding Third Party Energy Suppliers; presentation by and discussion with Tommy Wells, Director of the Department of Energy and the Environment and Chair of the DC Water Board, on DC Water's impermeable area charges; presentation by non-profit institutions on the impact of increasing impermeable area charges; discussion and possible vote on resolution supporting prompt construction of DDOT's proposed sidewalk on Chestnut Street; discussion and possible vote on resolution urging the District to reassess its relationship with Wells Fargo; discussion and possible vote on resolution supporting Bill 22-0223, Public Restroom Facilities Investment and Promotion Act of 2017. The ANC will also hold a holiday meet-and-greet at 6:30 pm on December 11, 2017, before its scheduled meeting.

Signed,


Randy Speck
Chair


Rebecca Maydak
Secretary