



**Government of the District of Columbia**  
**ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3/4G**  
CHEVY CHASE, BARNABY WOODS, HAWTHORNE

**COMMISSIONERS**

3/4 G-01 - Abraham Clayman, Secretary	5601 Connecticut Avenue NW
3/4 G-02 - Chanda Tuck-Garfield, Treasurer	P.O. Box 6252 Washington, DC
3/4 G-03 - Randy Speck, Chair	<a href="mailto:3G@anc.dc.gov">3G@anc.dc.gov</a>
3/4 G-04 - Rebecca Maydak	<a href="http://www.anc3g.org">http://www.anc3g.org</a>
3/4 G-05 - Gerald Malitz	YouTube: ANC3G
3/4 G-06 - Dan Bradfield	202.363.5803
3/4 G-07 - Christopher Fromboluti, Vice-Chair	

ANC 3/4G Public Meeting  
Meeting Minutes  
March 9, 2020  
Chevy Chase Community Center, 7:00-9:00 pm  
5601 Connecticut Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20015

**Summary:**

- The Commission voted to support Broad Branch Market's application to the Board of Zoning Adjustment for a variance to use its small basement space for a fitness center.
- Representatives of the Department of Transportation presented on proposed changes to the traffic pattern at Chevy Chase Circle.
- Commissioners provided an update on the Chevy Chase Community Center modernization.
- The Commission voted 4-0 to approve the minutes from February 24, 2020.
- The Commission voted 4-0 to approve one check: \$198 to Question Pro for Comprehensive Plan Survey (Reimbursement to Jerry Malitz).
- Commissioners discussed the Comprehensive Plan and comments from the ANC.

**Introductions and Adoption of Agenda (00:00:00)**

Commissioner Speck called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Commissioners Clayman, Fromboluti, Malitz, and Speck were present and introduced themselves. A quorum was present. 15 people attended the meeting. Commissioner Speck reviewed the meeting procedures. The presentation from the Mayor's office was removed from the agenda. The revised agenda was adopted by a vote of 4-0.

**Commissioner Announcements (00:03:12)**

Commissioner Speck announced that on March 9, 2020, the Mayor's office briefed ANC commissioners and community leaders on preparation for responding to the coronavirus. The most up to date information is at the District's website, <http://coronavirus.dc.gov>.

Commissioner Speck announced that on February 26, 2020, he testified at WMATA's hearing on its proposed FY2021 budget. Commissioner Speck discussed the ANC's resolution. The resolution opposes the cutback to E6 bus service and encourages WMATA to include funding opposing the cutback to E6 bus services and requesting Residents can access the ANC's resolution on the proposed budget at <http://bit.ly/2TFzBL9>.

Commissioner Speck announced that DC Water will co-hosting Ward Town Hall Meetings with District Councilmembers on April 28, 2020 for Ward 3 and April 29, 2020 for Ward 4 (locations to be determined). The primary purpose for the Town Halls is to share with residents information on the proposed rate increase for the upcoming fiscal year. Resident feedback from the meetings is shared with the Board of Directors prior to its annual Public Rates Hearing on June 10, 2020. Interested residents are encouraged to sign up and testify at the Rates Hearing, and they can do so at the Town Hall Meetings. In addition to rates, DC Water personnel will be available at the Town Halls to address resident questions and concerns on other topics such as water quality, sewer services, water conservation, wastewater treatment, construction projects, infrastructure maintenance and emergency repairs, the Clean Rivers Project, customer assistance programs, lead service pipes, and billing.

Commissioner Speck announced that the Council has concluded its performance oversight hearings for each agency. The ANC testified at nine of those hearings. Budget hearings will begin shortly after the Mayor delivers her budget to the Council on March 19, 2020. The schedule for each agency's budget hearing is available at <http://bit.ly/38wc7Mo>.

Commissioner Speck announced that the Chevy Chase Citizens Association will hold its monthly meeting on March 12, 2020 at 7:00 pm. The speaker will be Northwest Neighbors Village volunteer David Cohen who will discuss the Harvard Study of Adult Development, which began in 1938 with 268 healthy college sophomores and followed them through their lives, examining their health, longevity, life satisfaction, and our roles for families. The meeting will be at the Chevy Chase Community Center auditorium, 5601 Connecticut Ave NW.

Commissioner Speck announced that DDOT's Ward 3 Open House will be held at Stoddert Elementary School (Multipurpose Room) (4001 Calvert Street, NW) on Saturday, March 14, 2020, and you can RSVP at <https://ward3openhouse.eventbrite.com>. Residents can learn about current and future safety improvement projects that are advancing Vision Zero and infrastructure goals. DDOT project managers and staff will be available to discuss safety and infrastructure projects in Ward 3, including Connecticut Avenue Reversible Lane Study. There will not be a formal presentation, so residents can come and go when they are able without missing any of the content.

Commissioner Clayman announced that DDOT will hold a meeting to review the 30% design for the Chestnut Street sidewalk project on March 19, 2020. The meeting will begin at 6:30 pm at the Chevy Chase Community Center (5601 Connecticut Ave NW).

**Community Announcements (00:11:10)**

KeShawn Harris, a Ward 4 Liaison from the Mayor’s Office of Community Relations, made this announcement:

- The Mayor encourages all residents to wash their hands regularly. Residents can learn more at [coronavirus.dc.gov](https://coronavirus.dc.gov).

**Discussion and possible vote on Broad Branch Market’s application to the Board of Zoning Adjustment for a variance to use its small basement space for a fitness center (00:19:28)**

Tracy Stannard, a co-owner of Broad Branch Market, explained her request for a variance from the Board of Zoning Adjustment to have a fitness center in the basement of the Market. The basement was used by DC Health Coaches as a space for boot camp classes during bad weather.

Commissioner Malitz asked if the coaches had certification to coach classes. The presenters stated that they had the proper certification.

Jay Thal, a resident, asked if the application had been cleared with the Health Department and the Fire Department. Tracy stated that the building had been inspected and met all requirements. If the Board of Zoning Adjustment approves the application, the permit will need to be modified to accommodate the new use of the property.

The Commission voted to support the application 4-0.

**Presentation by and discussion with DDOT Director Marootian about improving safety in Chevy Chase Circle (00:32:18)**

As background, Commissioner Speck indicated that in the ANC’s testimony at DDOT’s January 27, 2020 performance oversight hearing, the Commission reminded the Committee on Transportation and the Environment that we had been assured in June 2018, that DDOT and the other affected jurisdictions had developed a long-overdue plan to improve vehicular and pedestrian safety for Chevy Chase Circle and that they would conduct a pilot study in the Fall of 2018. The Commission heard nothing further. Director Marootian provided some additional information about the status of DDOT’s efforts to improve safety in the Circle in an April 23, 2019 letter to Chair Cheh, indicating that he expected to forward to the Maryland State Highway Administration “maintenance of traffic” plans that included options to reduce the number of existing circulating lanes. He promised to meet with the ANC in late May or early June 2019, “to provide a project update and outline the project’s public engagement plan.”

On July 8, 2019, after hearing nothing at all from DDOT, the ANC wrote Chair Cheh asking the Committee to require “DDOT to complete its plan, report to the community, and implement the

necessary changes to make the Circle safe.” More than six months later, nothing has happened, and the Circle remains in the same unsafe condition that it was last year.

Director Jeff Marootian introduced Derrick Voight, a safety engineer at DDOT. Mr. Voight handed out a signage and pavement marking plan. Mr. Voight explained that the current plan allowed all vehicles in all three lanes to move around the circle. According to Mr. Voight, this traffic pattern led to a number of collisions. The new plan shows two circulatory lanes rather than three.

Commissioners and residents asked questions to clarify how the new lane markings would change driver behavior.

**Update on the Chevy Chase Community Center modernization design process (01:01:58)**

Commissioner Fromboluti stated that the ANC is currently scheduling a meeting with the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation to discuss anticipated costs for the Community Center modernization. The Commission is interested in hearing about the anticipated cost so that it can better understand whether there is a need to ask for additional funds and if so, how much.

Commissioner Speck stated that Councilmember Cheh was supportive of the project.

Jay Thal, a resident, stated that the project included too many uses for the Community Center. Requested that the Commission review his analysis.

Commissioner Fromboluti reviewed the overall plan for the Community Center and explained how the architect had been chosen and how the programming was determined based on the Commission’s survey of the community.

**Update on the Comprehensive Plan (01:12:45)**

On February 26, 2020, Commissioners Malitz and Speck met with Erkin Ozberk, the Office of Planning’s Senior Neighborhood Planner for Rock Creek West, and Colleen Willger, the Office of Planning’s Associate Director for Neighborhood Planning, to discuss the ANC’s February 10, 2020 resolution on OP’s proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendments (available at <http://bit.ly/2Ir1Gzb>). They were supportive of the Commission’s goals in its resolution and appreciated the Task Force’s thorough, readable report. They did not, however, make any commitments about what changes they would make to the Comp Plan to address the recommendations in our resolution. They confirmed that a Small Area Plan — a key component of the ANC’s resolution — would cost between \$250,000 and \$300,000, and they said it would be appropriate for the ANC to support inclusion of that funding in OP’s FY 2021 budget. They agreed to continue working with the ANC to realize our common goals.

Commissioners have been meeting with Councilmembers to discuss the Comp Plan resolution, beginning with a meeting with Councilmember Cheh on February 10, 2020, who was supportive of the resolution.

On March 5, 2020, Commission Speck met for an hour with Councilmember Bonds, Chair of the Council's Committee on Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization, to enlist her support for the ANC's Comp Plan resolution, particularly as it relates to affordable housing. She was engaged and supportive of our vision for the Chevy Chase Gateway. She agrees completely with our conclusion that Inclusionary Zoning is not going to do much to address the affordable housing needs. She particularly likes the request for a Small Area Plan and will be supportive.

Commissioner Speck also met with Councilmember Todd and briefed him and his staff on our Comp Plan resolution. Even though the Chevy Chase Gateway is outside his Ward, he supports the use of a Small Area Plan. He worked on the Small Area Plan for upper Georgia Avenue when he worked in Councilmember Bowser's office and thinks they are a good way to ensure community input. We should have his support for our proposal.

Commissioners will be meeting with Councilmember Silverman on March 12, 2020, and are trying to schedule a meeting with Councilmember Robert White to seek their support for the Small Area Plan and the other provisions of the ANC's resolution.

OP's budget hearing is on March 25, 2020, and the ANC will submit testimony urging the Council to earmark \$300,000 for a Small Area Plan for the Chevy Chase Gateway. We will also be working with Councilmember Cheh and others to ensure that this funding is included in the FY 2021 budget.

The next step will be OP's submission of its revised Comp Plan amendments, probably sometime in the spring. The Council will then hold hearings on these proposed amendments. OP is hoping that the hearing will be held before the Council's summer recess, usually in late July. The hearing will not take place, however, before the Council passes the FY 2021 budget, usually in early June. OP hopes that the Council can adopt the final Comp Plan amendments before the end of the year so that it will not have to consider the Plan by a new Council in 2021.

### **Commission Business (01:19:25)**

- The Commission voted 4-0 to approve the minutes from February 24, 2020.
- The Commission voted 4-0 to approve one check:
  - \$198 to Question Pro for Comprehensive Plan Survey (Reimbursement to Jerry Malitz)
- Items for March 23, 2020 meeting may include: discussion and possible vote on testimony to be presented at the budget hearing for the Office of Planning, the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commission, District of Columbia Public Library, Department of Energy and Environment, District of Columbia Public Schools, Department of General Services; Department of Aging and Community Living, Department of Transportation, Department of Parks and Recreation, and the Housing Production Trust Fund; update on the Community Center modernization design

Commissioner Speck adjourned the meeting at 8:22pm (01:22:40).