



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

COMMISSIONERS

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| 3/4 G-01 - Abraham Clayman, Secretary | 5601 Connecticut Avenue N.W. |
| 3/4 G-02 - Chanda Tuck-Garfield, Treasurer | P.O. Box 6252 Washington, D.C. 20015 |
| 3/4 G-03 - Randy Speck, Chair | 3G@anc.dc.gov |
| 3/4 G-04 - Rebecca Maydak | http://www.anc3g.org |
| 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 | |

Agenda

ANC 3/4G Public Meeting

April 27, 2020

Zoom Meeting, 7:00-8:00 pm

Join Video Meeting at <https://zoom.us/j/2842948085>

Audio only Dial (301) 715-8592

Meeting ID: 284 294 8085

Introductions and description of virtual meeting procedures and adoption of agenda

(00:00:00):

Commissioners introduced themselves. Commissioner Speck reviewed meeting procedures taking into account new procedures because the meeting was conducted on Zoom.

Commissioners adopted the agenda 6-0.

Commissioner Announcements (00:00:55):

Commissioner Speck announced that residents should visit <https://coronavirus.dc.gov> to learn about the District's response to the COVID-19 public health emergency. Commissioner Speck also encouraged residents to visit www.jerrymalitz.com for Commissioner Malitz's updates regarding the public health emergency.

Commissioner Speck encouraged residents to apply for a mail-in ballot for the June 2nd primary election. Applications for a mail-in ballot must be submitted by May 26th and must be postmarked by June 2nd.

Commissioner Speck announced that a candidate's forum would be held via Zoom at 7:00pm on Tuesday, April 28th. The forum would be sponsored by the Chevy Chase Citizen's Association, the Ward 4 Democrats, and ANC 3/4G.

Commissioner Speck encouraged residents to complete their Census forms.

Commissioner Fromboluti announced that the project at 5301 Connecticut Ave NW was underway.

Commissioner Maydak announced that the farmer's market at Northampton and Broad Branch was open on Saturdays from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm with provisions to ensure social distancing.

Commissioner Malitz noted that some residents have observed that workers engaging in lawn maintenance and construction work without face masks. Commissioner Speck encouraged residents with these concerns to alert DCRA.

Commissioner Clayman encouraged residents to visit <https://www.oregonavenueproject.com> for updates on the Oregon Avenue Reconstruction project that is ongoing.

Community Announcements:

Dee Smith, deputy chief of staff for Mary Cheh, included the following announcement: The Council Committee on Transportation and the Environment is taking public testimony at its budget hearings only in writing. Residents can send testimony to Ms. Aukima Benjamin abenjamin@dccouncil.us. The Committee encourages residents to submit testimony in advance of the hearing, so it can be shared with the agencies in advance to be part of the discussion.

Discussion of the impact of the coronavirus public health emergency on Chevy Chase Gateway businesses and steps to provide relief (00:10:30):

Commissioner Malitz described the impact of the public health emergency on small businesses in the neighborhood. Businesses have applied for relief and funding from local DC government programs as well as Federal programs like the Paycheck Protection Program.

Discussion of ANC activities impacted by the coronavirus public health emergency (e.g., Community Center modernization, proposed revisions to the Comprehensive Plan) (00:34:55):

Commissioner Fromboluti expressed concerns that the Community Center modernization would be impacted by likely budget cuts because of reduced revenues related to the public health emergency. The project will probably be delayed substantially in order.

Commissioner Speck said that on April 23, 2020, the Mayor sent the Office of Planning's revised proposal for Comprehensive Plan amendments to the Council for the Council's consideration (available at _____). The Commission has only begun to study OP's 1600-page revision of the Comp Plan based on the comments that it received, including our resolution and ANC's Comp Plan Task Force report. We will have a better idea of where we stand after a more thorough review when we can digest the substantial new material in this proposal. Unfortunately, there is no comparison between this version of the Comprehensive Plan and OP's October 2019 proposal, so it's difficult to see where OP has made changes.

We have identified one important change, however. The Generalized Policy Map is significantly different. It now identifies the business district from Chevy Chase Circle to Livingston as a “Main Street Mixed Use Corridor.” The Chevy Chase corridor is now part of a much larger Future Planning Analysis Area that extends about two blocks on either side of Connecticut Avenue from the Circle to Cleveland Park.

These Future Planning Analysis Areas are defined as “areas of large tracks or corridors where future analysis is anticipated to ensure adequate planning for equitable growth. Boundaries shown are for illustrative purposes. Final boundaries will be determined as part of the future analysis process for each area. Planning analyses usually include, but are not limited to, Small Area Plans, Development Frameworks, Technical Studies, Retail Strategies, or Design Guidelines. Such analysis should proceed any significant zoning change in this area. The planning process should evaluate current infrastructure and utility capacity against the full build out and projected population growth. Planning should focus on issues most relevant to the community that can be effectively addressed through a neighborhood planning process.”

Commissioner Speck said that this is not the firm commitment that we sought to prepare a Small Area Plan, but is helpful, particularly in making some form of planning analysis a prerequisite for any “significant zoning change” and in making the planning relevant to the affected community and the product of a neighborhood planning process.

Commissioner Speck said that it was surprising that OP did not designate the Connecticut Avenue entrance into the District a “Gateway,” as the Commission had requested. We still believe this is an important step for planning future development of our current business corridor.

Most of the Commission’s other recommendations were simply listed by OP as “acknowledged” with a notation that the issues were already adequately addressed in the Comp Plan. OP represents that the new revision does incorporate some of the Commission’s recommendations with respect to street lighting.

Commissioner Speck noted, however, that there is a bigger question now in light of the pandemic. Many of OP’s population and economic growth projections may no longer be valid. This public health emergency may also affect planning for health care and other infrastructure. It is probably too early to make any concrete plans before we fully digest the impact of the pandemic. OP says that it plans to have an entirely new Comprehensive Plan in 2025 that will be much more concise and much less detailed. It may, therefore, be more reasonable to focus on that 2025 plan rather than rushing to pass a Comprehensive Plan when we don’t have nearly all of the necessary information to make informed decisions about the economic and public health consequences of the pandemic.

Commission Business (00:58:10):

The Commission approved the minutes for its March 9th meeting 6-0.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:01pm (01:01:10).