
*Chevy Chase ANC 3/4G Task Force on Racism –
the Community Work Group*

November 12, 2020

Randy Speck, Chair
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3/4G
Chevy Chase Community Center
5601 Connecticut Ave. NW
Washington, D.C. 20015

Re: Chevy Chase ANC Task Force On Racism – Community Work Group

Dear Chair Speck:

The Chevy Chase ANC created the Task Force on Racism at its duly organized public meeting of June 22, 2020. The Task Force on Racism was formed and further divided itself into three Work Groups. Our Community Work Group was formed with the following members:

Chanda Tuck Garfield (ANC Commissioner)
Lisa Gore
Whitney King
Carl Lankowski
Peter Lynch
Libby Martin
Lisa Oakley
Ruth Robbins
Cal Simone
Gary Thompson

We are pleased to submit the following Work Group Report to ANC 3/4G, which contains eight distinct recommendations for ANC adoption. Following introductory comments and a summary of relevant history, each of the eight recommendations is summarized below, and for each, there is a longer statement attached to this cover letter (as Attachments 1 to 8). We urge the ANC to read each of these statements in considering our specific recommendations. Our Group is committed to remaining involved to ensure effective implementation of each of the recommended actions.

Introduction

On June 8, 2020, ANC 3/4G approved its Statement on Racism. This statement included the creation of a Task Force “to identify equity and justice issues within the Chevy Chase community and to propose concrete solutions.” Specifically, the ANC 3/4G Resolution stated that “the Task Force would determine its own priorities based on input from the community and would place great emphasis on realistic steps that the Commission could take to impact people’s lives.”

As part of the Community Work Group’s analysis, we believed it important to establish a process that: 1) provides an overview of Chevy Chase history; 2) establishes a guiding framework; and 3) delves into specific recommendations for the future of Chevy Chase DC.

Overview of Chevy Chase DC History

Chevy Chase DC has a rich and interesting history as one of the first streetcar suburbs in America. But the stain of racial discrimination is also part of Chevy Chase DC’s development. In the late 1880s the Chevy Chase Land Company began to aggressively buy up farmland along the proposed length of Connecticut Avenue to realize its vision of a “home suburb for the nation’s capital.” The first Chevy Chase DC home was built on Oliver Street in 1907. The development was planned as an all-White enclave.

According to the nonprofit Historic Chevy Chase DC, until 1928, a small group of African American families lived and tilled the soil for nearly 80 years along Broad Branch Road where Lafayette Park now stands. They were among the first freed Black persons to become landowners in upper Northwest DC. Specifically, many of the families were descendants of George Pointer, born an enslaved person in 1773 who purchased his own freedom at age 19. He was employed for more than 40 years as a supervising engineer by George Washington’s Patowmack Canal Company -- later the C&O Canal. Subsequently, in the 1840’s, Pointer’s granddaughter settled along Broad Branch Road (in the area now known as Chevy Chase DC), and other African American families followed. By the mid-1920s, plans for providing new schools for the burgeoning Whites-only community led to the seizure of the Pointer descendants’ land by eminent domain. As a result, the African American residents, once close knit, were dispersed.

As the pace of development accelerated in the 1920s, new developers added subdivisions like Chevy Chase Grove. All of the properties in that subdivision had deeds specifically barring home sales to Black people. Some of these restrictive covenants also excluded Jews, and sometimes persons of Mexican, American Indian, Persian, Syrian, or Armenian ancestry. However, in 1948, the dual Supreme Court decisions in *Shelley v. Kraemer* and DC’s *Hurd v. Dodge* prohibited enforcement of such restrictive racial covenants as a violation of the US Constitution. Soon, in 1954, other racial barriers fell with the school desegregation rulings in *Brown v. Board of Education* and the companion DC case, *Bolling v. Sharpe*.

In the early 1950's, after such Court rulings that struck down enforcement of racial covenants and public school segregation, the demographics started to shift in the area west of Rock Creek Park, notably in Chevy Chase. African American families, comprised mostly of doctors, lawyers, government employees, and college professors, began to purchase homes within the Hawthorne area of the Chevy Chase community that borders Western Avenue.

Today, according to Census data, Chevy Chase DC is about 70 percent white and 30 percent people of color, and represents various professions such as civil servants, diplomats, college professors, political consultants, journalists, scientists, and lawyers.

Framework for our Group

In July 2020, the Community Work Group of the ANC 3/4G Taskforce on Racism convened its first meetings to start brainstorming specific ideas that would ultimately form the body of the Group's draft report to be submitted on October 26, 2020. Based on the Group's meetings and for clarity, the brainstorm ideas focused on three areas: 1) Community Input and Awareness; 2) Physical Environment; and 3) District Policies/Programs. Each member was tasked with "homework" to further develop these broad areas. Ultimately, over the course of twelve weeks, in addition to the hours spent by each individual member in drafting and editing reports, the Group met virtually via Zoom for over thirty hours to discuss, present research, and hone areas identified for presentation to ANC 3/4G.

By August 2020, the Work Group, through its collaborative working process, identified between nine to twelve specific recommendations that participants agreed to further flesh out by assigning individuals to prepare written drafts for Group discussion. Additionally, the Group agreed that a mission statement was necessary to guide the working process, recommendations, and final presentation to the ANC. Moreover, the Group stressed that conveying an accurate history acknowledging any past discrimination and/or injustices within the Chevy Chase community was essential to creating a holistic community environment that ensures justice, diversity, and equity for all Chevy Chase residents.

By September 2020, the Group, based on member presentations, finalized its draft recommendations to include 11 recommendations that were researched, edited, and honed for the October 26 ANC presentation. The Group further outlined the framework of its report, assigned editors, and discussed a review process for its final draft document.

Following our presentation to the ANC on October 26th, our Working Group reconvened and revised its draft report to reflect the feedback received from the ANC. The recommendations have been consolidated into 8 specific actions.

In drafting this report, the Work Group envisioned that its recommendations would be discussed further by ANC 3/4G and the Chevy Chase community. Essential to the discussion is the understanding of privilege and responsibility – on both an individual

and collective basis – which is also foundational for equity, justice, and a positive future that welcomes all to Chevy Chase DC. The report by the Community Work Group of the Task Force on Racism is offered in this spirit.

The following recommendations are divided into 3 categories:

Community Input and Awareness (recommendations 1-5)

Physical Space (recommendations 6-7)

Support for District Programs and Policies (recommendation 8)

Executive Summary

Community Input and Awareness (Recommendations 1-5)

1. Establish an Ongoing Task Force on Racial Equity and Adopt a Guiding Mission Statement

Our Group proposes the creation of an ongoing Task Force on Racial Equity within ANC 3/4G and established through existing ANC by-laws. The issue of addressing and eradicating racism is a long-term effort. The recommendations presented to the ANC in this report are just the first steps that the ongoing Task Force will build on as it moves forward.

To define the purpose of the ongoing Task Force and guide its work, the Community Group recommends adopting the following mission statement:

The mission of the Chevy Chase Task Force on Racial Equity is to raise awareness about the ongoing effects of historical and systemic racism in our community and promote change in pursuit of racial justice, diversity, and equity.

In crafting this statement, the Group carefully considered our community history, the current issues we face, and our goals moving forward together.

Please review Attachment 1 for an in-depth review of this recommendation.

2. Develop a Racial Response Network

We discussed the challenges that are sometimes faced by those who seek to report or discuss racial incidents and issues in our neighborhood. We recommend the development of a Racial Response Network that would provide a means for quick, confidential, and safe reporting of racially motivated incidents that occur in the community. In response to an incident, the Network would help victims decide what course of action to pursue, ranging from confidential discussion to police reporting. This type of community network is groundbreaking; the ongoing research and planning that

will be required for its development would be carried out by the ongoing Task Force, with the ANC's support as well as input from the community, MPD and other government entities or organizations. In addition to designing a simple, workable framework, the Task Force would also explore any potential liability issues that could arise. The logistics of this Response Network will be refined in practice, with input and feedback from the community. Many of the questions and issues that will need to be explored are laid out in Attachment 2.

Please review Attachment 2 for an in-depth review of this recommendation.

3. **Create a Website to Share Information and Resources**

Our Group discussed the need for improved website access to materials and links to support the mission. The goal is to foster an informed community that has easy access to current information about the activities of a permanent Task Force on Racial Equity and about the issues surrounding race, equity, and inclusion in our immediate community and throughout DC. We recommend the creation of a webpage, accessed via a link on the ANC3/4G website, that would house and highlight information concerning the work of the ongoing Task Force, as well as a list of community resources on issues of race and inclusion. Many of these resources would highlight the history of Chevy Chase and surrounding neighborhoods as a way of contributing to a shared understanding of our past in order to become more just, diverse, and equitable.

Our Group researched a range of community resources that focus on issues of racism and inclusion. We have compiled a list of resources in Wards 3 & 4 that could be included as links on a webpage.

To keep this webpage current and useful, we would seek to use the services of the ANC office manager and any interns that may be assisting the ANC.

Please review Attachment 3 for an in-depth review of this recommendation and list of community resources.

4. **Foster Partnerships with Other Organizations**

Our Group recommends that the ANC - and the ongoing Task Force - seek to reach out and work closely in partnership with other community organizations, including the Chevy Chase Community Association, Historic Chevy Chase DC, Friends of Chevy Chase Circle, and other grassroots and civic organizations.

Please review Attachment 4 for a list of these recommended Partnerships.

5. **Propose Community Survey Questions**

It is our understanding that, along with questions from the other Working Groups, the ANC will disseminate a survey to all residents within our ANC, in a manner that best

ensures we get a fair range of responses from our residents. We recommend that the ANC incorporate survey questions that will give us a better sense of the community's view on renaming Chevy Chase Circle Fountain. The other proposed survey questions track some of the other recommendations in this report. Attachment 5 sets forth our proposed community survey questions.

Physical Space (Recommendations 6-7)

6. Create Community Center Space for Events and Activities

Like the community, our Group is excited about the redevelopment of the Chevy Chase Community Center and prospects for greater community utilization of the new space. We believe that the new Center can play a central role in furthering diversity and inclusion in our neighborhood. We would like to see spaces in the new Center specifically set aside for such uses. For example, the Center can be used to promote social interaction, education, workshops, seminars, cultural and artistic activities, local business events, and other events to support racial equity and inclusion. We recommend a dedicated, safe, and neutral space within the Center as a hub to host and organize these activities.

Prior to the completion of the new Community Center (targeted for 2024), we recommend the dedication and utilization of space in the existing Chevy Chase Community Center for events, workshops and activities that further racial equity and inclusion.

Please review Attachment 6 for an in-depth review of this recommendation, including the kinds of workshops and events that could be held in the new Community Center.

7. Facilitate Ongoing Work Regarding Newlands Fountain and Naming Issues

Our Group strongly supports the removal of the Newlands name from all areas of the Chevy Chase Fountain, consistent with the unanimous July 27, 2020 ANC Resolution. We recommend that the ANC, perhaps through the permanent Task Force, regularly inquire with the National Park Service about their progress in this regard, express our community's desire that the removals proceed with all due diligence and dispatch, and ask what else our community can do to further the removal, including (if needed) seeking formal and informal support from the D.C. Council, the Mayor, Chevy Chase MD, and U.S. Representatives on both sides of the DC-MD border.

Our Group has also discussed the possible renaming of the Fountain after an individual whom our community (and City) wishes to honor. We believe, however, that the ANC should first seek community input before taking a position on a new name. In that regard, we have included some questions that could be incorporated into the planned public survey. (Recommendation 5).

Our Group also supports the placement of a “wayside exhibit” at the Circle to explain and contextualize the history of the Circle and Fountain. We hope to work closely with the National Park Service on the content of such a history board (possibly as part of a connected series of history boards in our neighborhood).

Our Group also supports the renaming of Lafayette-Pointer Park.

Please review Attachment 7 for an in-depth review of this recommendation and other re-naming issues that may be considered at a later time.

District Programs/Policies (Recommendation 8)

8. Support District Programs/Policies

Our Group discussed how we can better participate in DC wide opportunities to help us meet our mission. For example, we would like to support applications for Mayoral and D.C Council grant programs, such as the DC Main Street Initiative/Business Diversification program, and the Mayor’s Innovation Accelerator Grants program (which is a new initiative to increase access to business development and financial support for DC-based businesses led by underrepresented entrepreneurs). In this area, we would also remain focused on DC legislation that could impact issues of racial justice in our area and the City, such as involving police reform. We would be prepared to issue statements and appear for testimony before the D.C. Council Subcommittees involved. The proposed ongoing Task Force would be responsible for learning about initiatives, policies and programs that the ANC would want to publicly support and advocate for.

Please review Attachment 8 for an in-depth review of this recommendation.

Conclusion

Our Community Working Group, with ANC approval, plans to stay together and see these issues through, with ongoing involvement from our ANC and constituents. Thank you for your attention to these issues. We look forward to further discussion with the ANC.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chanda Tuck Garfield
On behalf of the Community Work
Group of the ANC 3/4G Task Force
on Racism

Attachment 1

ANC 3/4G Task Force on Racism The Community Work Group

Recommendation: Establish an Ongoing Task Force on Racial Equity and Adopt Guiding Mission Statement

Goal: To advance the ideals of diversity, equity, and inclusion in the Chevy Chase community.

Objective: To establish a group that will continue the mission and work of the Task Force on Racism created by ANC 3/4G in June 2020, under the guidance of its own mission statement.

Activities:

1. Overview: an ongoing Community Task Force on Racial Equity will be an important part of the continuation of the Task Force on Racism because it will take the emerging ANC 3/4 Task Force on Racism Report to the next level of detail, advance key activities that need to occur during the next year for the ANC to successfully execute the report's goals, and effectively implement these recommendations.
2. Activity/outcome: The Community Task Force on Racial Equity will continue the work of the Task Force on Racism, and report regularly to the ANC regarding its status and/or achievements.
3. Membership: The Task Force will have two co-facilitators and will include members from across the ANC 3/4G community.
4. Timeframe: The Task Force will continue its work, setting specific date objectives as its work continues.
5. Leadership: The co-facilitators will lead the execution of the Task Force work and serve as liaisons to the ANC and the greater community.
6. Overall meeting format: The Task Force will use the Task Force Report as a starting guide and have flexibility as to how and when to meet (in person, teleconference, videoconference, etc.). In addition to the co-facilitators, the Task Force should have a scribe to document the work and may assign individuals to be responsible for projects, as needed, to assist the co-facilitators.
7. Adoption of Mission Statement: The Task Force will adopt a proposed mission statement to guide and define its role and purpose.

Process

In launching its work, the Task Force on Racism identified “Community Awareness” as one of its key areas of focus. As our Community Work Group began to address this topic, it became clear that we needed to start with a guiding mission statement to help us define our goals and scope.

Our Group adopted the following mission statement and it is our recommendation that this mission statement be adopted by the permanent Task Force on Racial Equity:

The mission of the Chevy Chase Task Force on Racial Equity is to raise awareness about the ongoing effects of historical and systemic racism in our community and promote change in pursuit of racial justice, diversity, and equity.

The Group discussed the importance of each word in detail. The words “ongoing effects of historical and systemic racism” summarize the problem. The word “ongoing” specifically underscores the continuing, persistent nature of the current problem, and “systemic” encompasses the many forms and breadth of the problem. The words “racial justice, diversity, and equity” describe the ultimate goal. “Raise awareness” refers to change and “pursue” indicates action now and into the future, through a range of initiatives and efforts.

More specifically, the work of the Full Task Force on Racism aims to provide long overdue support to the District’s People of Color through:

- cultivation of a more inclusive, just, diverse, and equitable community;
- access to affordable housing for groups that have historically been excluded from Chevy Chase;
- improved access to quality pre-school and K-12 education;
- encouragement of efforts that lead to better health care and outcomes;
- support of Black-owned enterprises; and
- support of generational wealth transfer within communities where such transfers have been historically impeded.

After our Group provides its report to the ANC, the Group will reorganize as needed and become an Ongoing Task Force on Racism (new name and structure to be determined.)

The Group may also adopt a separate vision statement. The statement would be aligned with the mission, describe our long-term goal, and, among other things, be used to promote outreach and engagement activities within the community.

Activities: We have identified the following specific steps the ANC can take to promote positive change in pursuit of racial justice, diversity, and equity.

1. Liaise with the Community Work Group on its plan to create an Ongoing Task Force on Racism and implement the other recommendations in this report.
2. Work with our Group as we move forward with implementation of approved actions.

Attachment 2

ANC 3/4G Task Force on Racism The Community Work Group

Recommendation: Develop a Racial Response Network to respond to racially motivated incidents occurring in the neighborhood.

Goal: To ensure that people of all races and backgrounds feel supported and welcome in the community.

Objective: To create a system whereby people in the community can share/report racial incidents if and when they occur and receive support and feedback. This system would have two primary functions. The first is to establish a process whereby racially motivated incidents can be reported and tracked, and the community can be informed about them; and secondly, to provide support to families or individuals who have experienced a racially motivated act.

Background: In the past year, there have been a couple of reports posted on the Chevy Chase listserv of racially motivated incidents targeting families in the neighborhood. One involved a racial epithet written on the sidewalk in front of a house; a second incident, which took place in Maryland, involved the burning of a Black Lives Matter flag in a front yard; and a third incident (reported on NextDoor) described a family who felt compelled to move due to racial issues. These are only three incidents that were reported on the listserv, so it is quite possible that there were other incidents that went unreported to the community since there is currently no system in place to make the neighborhood aware of these incidents when they occur.

Activities: The Permanent Task Force would explore and develop a framework for providing this service to the community. A response network might potentially assist victims in several ways:

- have an individual phone call between the victim and a response team member who could listen and provide support;
- arrange for an in-person visit from the response team (adhering to appropriate social distancing protocols);
- help to contact/include the victim's family in the communication if the victim so wishes;
- connect the victim with neighbors or a racial justice group to receive support;
- have a small group take action to remedy or repair any physical damage to property, e.g., remove graffiti; and
- assist the victim in notifying/connecting with police (hate crime task force?).

Following are some questions for the permanent Task Force or ANC to explore as this recommendation is evaluated:

- Are there other communities that have created a response approach to racial incidents similar to this? If so, has it been successful?
- How might this network be perceived by the community?
- Are there liability issues that might arise? How should they be addressed?
- How will individuals reach out to the network if they experience or witness a racial incident?
- How will the community know about the network?
- How do we ensure confidentiality for victims?
- How will the community be informed of any incidents that occur? E.g., will it be disseminated in the neighborhood listservs? Put on the webpage? Emailed only to those who opt in to receive reports? Simply kept in a database and not disseminated? Or not reported to the community or tracked at all?
- Should we meet with MPD and Council officials to see what, if any, resources or collaborative efforts can be applied?

Attachment 3

ANC 3/4G Task Force on Racism The Community Work Group

Recommendation: Create a Website to Share Information and Resources

Goal: To have an informed community that has easy access to current information about the activities of the permanent Task Force on Racial Equity and about the issues surrounding race, equity and inclusion in our immediate community and throughout DC.

Objective: To create and maintain a website – or webpage – through which the Ongoing Task Force can share ideas and provide information to the community about its activities and about relevant events, issues and resources.

Activities: The Community Work Group recommends the creation of a webpage that would be accessed via the ANC3/4G website.

This webpage could include information on the following:

- Community events such as meetings, speakers, art exhibits, book clubs or other events held in the community to facilitate conversation and feedback on issues of race, diversity and inclusion in our neighborhood and beyond;
- Resources that provide a link to groups and organizations across the City that provide support, information or advocacy on issues of race, equity, justice and inclusion (see Community Resources Table below);
- Updates and minutes from task force meetings;
- Updates about the status of the removal of the Newlands memorial and the history of the ANC's role in this issue;
- A contact form that would allow members of the community to share feedback and ask questions of the Task Force; and
- Information about the racial history of Chevy Chase, including the racist views of its founder, Francis Newlands, the policies and efforts that led to keeping Black and Jewish people from buying homes in the neighborhood, and other problematic issues around race and equity that have not been examined until recently.

Our Group recommends that this webpage be updated and maintained by the Permanent Task Force and be housed within the ANC's website; however, in the future, if the Task Force determines that more visibility is needed, a separate website could be developed.

Community Resources List

The purpose of this database is to share resources in Words 3 & 4 that will help guide the Chevy Chase community become more just, diverse, and equitable. Many of these resources focus on the local history of Chevy Chase and the surrounding neighborhoods as one way of contributing to a shared understanding of our past in order to become more just, diverse, and equitable.

Type	Name	Description	How to access	Notes
Exhibit	Top of the Town: Tenleytown Heritage Trail	"Top of the Town: Tenleytown Heritage Trail celebrates a DC community that started as a tiny Maryland village centered around John Tenney's tavern, years before George Washington chose the site of the Nation's Capital. Take a leisurely walk through a neighborhood rooted in deep family ties that also boasts unique contributions to DC and national history, including racing of Hono City, etc."	https://www.culturaltourismdc.org/portals/2/	
Exhibit	Background to Community: Brightwood Heritage Trail	"Lace up your walking shoes and follow the signs on the self-guided Cultural Journey LC Neighborhood Heritage Trail to experience Brightwood in northwest DC. Indulge your Inner Civil War buff in one of DC's early communities, where you'll see the site of the only Civil War battle to take place within the boundaries of the District of Columbia."	https://www.culturaltourismdc.org/portals/10/	
Exhibit	African American Heritage Trail: Brightwood	"As early as the 1720s, free African Americans settled in a community called Vinegar Hill near the intersection of today's Georgia and Missouri avenues, NW, an area now known as Brightwood. By the time of the Civil War (1861-1865), most were enslaved, and the majority of these were women. During the Civil War, a military fort was built within Vinegar Hill that repelled the only Confederate attack on the District of Columbia."	https://www.culturaltourismdc.org/portals/10/portals/22/brightwood-african-american-heritage-trail	Full booklet for all African American Heritage Trail can be downloaded here: https://www.culturaltourismdc.org/portals/10/portals/22/22-5d3c4e401555c0b9a69610701984
LC/LH Resource Guide	1968	Online eRead, reading logs, and more. "For the 50th anniversary of 1968, DC Public Library highlighted its role as the "people's university" for the District of Columbia, not only a vehicle for studying Dr. King's death but as an equitable community institution serving as an agent of social change. Throughout 2018, the Library hosted a variety of programs and events to mark the experiences that shaped 1968 for D.C. and for the nation."	https://lsguides.dc.library.org/1968	
DCPL Research Guide	Frederick Douglass in Washington, D.C.	"This guide includes online and in-library resources related to the 2015 DC Reads selection, Frederick Douglass in Washington, DC: The Lion of Annapolis. Use the tabs to navigate between resources on Frederick Douglass, Annapolis neighborhood history, and slavery and emancipation in the District of Columbia."	https://lsguides.dc.library.org/fred	
LCPL Resource Guide	Getting Started with Washington, D.C. History	"This guide provides in-library and online resources related to the general history of Washington, DC."	https://lsguides.dc.library.org/dchistory	Notably, there are specific research guides for SE, SW, and NE, but not for NW.
LC History Resource	Ward 3 Heritage Guide	"This guide examines the history and physical heritage of Ward 3 as a way to enhance public recognition and appreciation of its role within the District of Columbia. It provides a brief history of the ward and presents a thematic framework for understanding the large variety and number of historic and cultural resources in the ward. The guide includes a color map of those places that illustrate the course of history and the lives, accomplishments and cultural legacy of the past."	https://planning.dc.gov/sites/default/files/assets/plan/03/w3guide.pdf	
DC Library Resource	Ward 4 Heritage Guide	"This guide is intended to identify historic or culturally important places in Ward 4 and to provide a framework for developing strategies necessary to capitalize on, and if necessary, protect the historic resources."	https://planning.dc.gov/sites/default/files/assets/plan/04/w4guide.pdf	
Exhibit	Alice Paul Middle School Art	"Walk in the new outdoor area decorated with beautiful panels containing information about the history of the school and the surrounding Tenleytown area. The panels include a timeline of Tenleytown, photos relating to the history of the neighborhood, and information about the creation and restoration of the three school buildings."	https://planning.dc.gov/sites/default/files/assets/plan/03/w3guide.pdf	Description of the panels pulled from this article: https://ajournal.jasonson.com/2017/07/new-outdoor-deck-and-ten-school-opens-up-the-history-landmark/
Exhibit	The Birth of Our Dreams	Mural by Cecilia Lueta located at 1077 Missouri Avenue NW. "Born in Argentina, Lueta started studying the arts at a very young age and she graduated from the Universidad Nacional de Plata. Shortly afterwards she moved to the United States and began exhibiting in the United States, Argentina, Mexico, and the Caribbean."	https://www.muralproject.com/artist/cecilia-lueta/	
Exhibit	Salt Dome	Mural by Colby Kennedy located at 3800 Fox Drive, NW. Kennedy's work in art and design spans continents and mediums, but the DC native and Duke Ellington School of the Arts alum is best known for his work in car design. After graduating from Pennsylvania State University with a BA in Industrial Design, Kennedy went on to design concept automobiles for major international corporations including Honda, Volvo, and Alfa Romeo."	https://www.muralproject.com/artist/colby-kennedy/	
LC History Resource	Letovtsov Center Project	"Chevy Chase DC has a rich and interesting history as one of the first suburban suburbs in America. But the stain of racial discrimination is also part of our development. Letovtsov Center is spearheading an effort to acknowledge and honor the heritage of a small community of African Americans who once lived along streetcar branch hood and were displaced in 1926 to build what is now Letovtsov Park and School."	https://www.historychevychase.org/letovtsov/	
DC Library Resource	Chevy Chase Oral Histories	Oral histories from Chevy Chase residents including Ralph Benson who "Recalls Pinetree Neighborhood in an Uproar Over Racially Mixed Couple in the 1940s" and L. Bertie Taylor "Spanish Scholar, AUC Commissioner, Tenniswoman, and Social Pioneer: Demaria Taylor Makes a Difference"	https://www.historychevychase.org/oralhistories/	
DC History Resource	Mapping Segregation: Illustrating Systemic Racism's Impact in DC	Webinar recording on "Mapping Segregation in Washington DC" a project that reveals the role systemic racism has played in shaping neighborhoods in the nation's capital. The webinar, held Sept. 24th, featured Maria Cherkasova, of Prologee DC, who co-founded the mapping project with Sarah Swoerfelo. The webinar was a partnership between Historic Chevy Chase DC and the Howard Hughes Library in "Uplift."	https://www.historychevychase.org/recordings/	
LC History Resource	"Jim Crow Comics to Uplift Chevy Chase"	Webinar recording that explores the Black-owned history of racial discrimination that occurred in Chevy Chase nearly 100 years ago to the descendants of enslaved man George I center."	https://www.historychevychase.org/recordings/	
DC History Resource	Historic Chevy Chase DC News Archives	Collection of news relevant to Chevy Chase history, including many items that explore history of racism and injustices.	https://www.historychevychase.org/category/news-archives/	
Book Group	A Seat at the Table	A Politics & Prose book group. "A Seat At The Table Book Group is here to explore the depth of black women within literature. This group is for anyone and everyone who wants to read the works of black women across genre lines. The group is led by Morjan Harling with 10 books and 100+ and now mostly ethnic. (October 2021)"	https://www.politics-prose.com/?q=book-group	

Attachment 4

ANC 3/4G Task Force on Racism The Community Work Group

Recommendation: Foster Partnerships with Other Organizations

Goal: To reach out and work collaboratively in partnership with other community organizations to pursue the Task Force’s mission.

Objective: To identify and liaise with groups and organizations that are working on similar issues and goals with the purpose of sharing information, promoting the work of the Task Force, and learning from the work and mission of other organizations.

Activities: Create, update and maintain a list of proposed community partnerships within Wards 3 and 4, as well as City wide.

PROPOSED COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Below is a list of organizations that should be considered to work with the Permanent Task Force in furtherance of the recommendations offered by the Community Work Group. The list is preliminary, not exhaustive. It focuses on local organizations.

ANC 3-4 G <https://anc3g.org/>

Chevy Chase Citizens Association <https://www.chevychasecitizens.org/>

District Bridges (administrator for the Main Street program)
<https://www.districtbridges.org/>

DC Neighbors for Racial Justice <https://www.nopeneighbors.org/racial-justice>

Chevy Chase for Racial Progress contact: Lisa Oakley

MLK Library (esp. “People’s Archive” formerly known as the Washingtoniana Collection) <https://www.dclibrary.org/mlk>
<https://www.dclibrary.org/thepeoplesarchive>

Historical Society of Washington DC <http://www.dchistory.org/>

Chevy Chase Historical Society <http://www.chevychasehistory.org/>

Historic Chevy Chase DC www.historicchevychasedc.org

Prologue LLC (Mapping Segregation project) <http://prologuedc.com/>

Friends of Lafayette Park <http://thefolp.org/>

Friends of Chevy Chase Circle www.friendsofchevychasecircle.org

Chevy Chase Art ChART <https://www.chevychaseart.org/>

Northwest Neighbors Village <https://nwnv.helpfulvillage.com/>

DC Office of Planning/Historic Preservation <https://planning.dc.gov/page/historic-preservation-office>

DC Dept of Parks and Recreation-Chevy Chase Community Center
<https://dpr.dc.gov/page/chevy-chase-community-center>

Schools: deferring to Work Group on Education

Attachment 5

**ANC 3/4G Task Force on Racism
The Community Work Group**

Recommendation: Propose Community Survey Questions

Goal: To gather and take into account community input regarding possible changes to our public spaces.

Objective: To pass on to the ANC our Group’s proposed survey questions for ANC consideration and reformatting before finalizing the whole survey to be shared with the community. The questions are stated in binary format, but could be expanded to a scale of 1-to-10 to get a better sense of each view’s strength.

Activities: Develop Survey Questions

DRAFT SURVEY QUESTIONS

Q. Following a removal of the Newlands name and plaques from Chevy Chase Circle Fountain, would you be in favor of (a) renaming the Fountain for someone new; or (b) not renaming it at all, such that it will just be an unnamed fountain at Chevy Chase Circle?

- a. Rename it for someone new (see next question)
- b. No name

Q. Whatever your answer to the first question, if there is a renaming of the fountain at Chevy Chase Circle, please fill in a name that you suggest: _____

Q. Consideration is being given to identify a space in the new Community Center to reflect our values of inclusiveness, including for education, a history library area (in partnership with HCCDC), meetings, potluck dinners, arts, and entertainment. Do you:

- a. Favor the idea
- b. Disfavor the idea

Q. Please add any comments about the above idea: _____

Q. Consideration is being given to new public art in our neighborhood to reflect our values of diversity and inclusiveness. Do you:

- a. Favor public art (e.g., mural, sculpture, or other)
- b. Disfavor

Q. Please add any comments about the above idea: _____

Q. Consideration is being given to installing a series of “wayside exhibits,” similar to other neighborhoods (like Tenleytown), providing information about the history of our neighborhood, likely in a walking tour sequence. Several of the boards would include information regarding African-American history in our neighborhood, such as about Captain George Pointer (of Lafayette-Pointer Park), and also about Francis Newlands and the Circle. Do you:

- a. Favor such a series of wayside boards
- b. Disfavor such a series of wayside boards

Q. Please add any comments about the above idea: _____

Q. The Task Force is interested to know if you think we should look into possibly renaming anything else in our ANC area, such as street or park name. Please add your comments here: _____

Q. Do you have any other comments about how to make our public spaces more welcoming to all? _____

NOTE: Members of the Community Group desire to know about residents’ awareness levels and attitudes regarding racism. We recommend that The Permanent Task Force formulate additional survey questions intended to elicit community input.

Attachment 6

ANC 3/4G Task Force on Racism The Community Work Group

Recommendation: Create Community Center Space for Events and Activities

Goal:

- Address the long term impacts of racism in Chevy Chase and our country;
- Ensure that this neighborhood becomes more diverse, inclusive, and equitable;
- Strengthen and enrich Chevy Chase as a community.

Objective: Create programs, activities and a prominent place conducive to information sharing, interaction and the development of positive relationships

In order for Chevy Chase to become more racially and economically diverse, residents must understand the problems we are dealing with locally and as a country. It is important and transformative for our community to learn about Chevy Chase's history of racial injustice and how systemic racism has prevented African-Americans from gaining generational wealth and purchasing homes such as those in this neighborhood. Residents must also understand that they – both individually and collectively – can change things for the better. We seek to cultivate a heightened and new form of community awareness in Chevy Chase.

Our Group sees the future Chevy Chase Community Center as an ideal conduit for sharing information, raising awareness, and building community. Our expectation is that among the Center's many roles, it will serve as an emblematic and influential site that promotes learning, understanding, interaction, and greater solidarity between all neighborhood residents and those who may want to move here.

Attaining these goals depends on relationships that are egalitarian and positive. According to research from the Harvard Study, *Fostering Inclusion in American Neighborhoods*: “simply creating mixed-income, mixed-race neighborhoods may not result in inclusive, cohesive communities if people do not also develop meaningful social interactions across race and class.”

Among many things, the Community Center will serve as a prominent meeting place and source for information in the neighborhood. In particular, our Group has identified the need for a dedicated space that would be housed within the Center to address issues relevant to diversity and equity. This special room or area should bring together all people as equals in terms of power, respect, and importance. The space should help foster interaction and inclusion and lend itself to a range of activities such as social functions, educational workshops, cultural and artistic events, entertainment, local business outreach, and joint efforts with law enforcement. This will also be an ideal place to house and showcase archives about Chevy Chase and its interesting history, especially as it relates to issues of race, diversity and inclusion. Above all, our

Community Group recommends the creation of a safe, inviting and neutral environment for addressing these issues and where people can openly express their thoughts and concerns.

Naturally, the design of this unique Space will be crucial to its success. Physical attributes such as the “feel of the place,” the lighting, seating amenities, and appropriate room for art displays and meals will be especially important.

The community should be invited to offer input about the space. Residents, leaders of community organizations, schools, local businesses, etc. will appreciate learning about this interesting new component to the future Center. Philanthropists and the business community could be considered as potential sponsors. Also important is the naming of the space, which should be recognized as an act toward furthering our mission to promote diversity.

Activities:

- lobby strongly for the creation of a dedicated space within the Community Center for addressing issues pertaining to diversity, equity, and inclusion;
- liaise with key parties and play an integral role in the planning and design;
- work to ensure that the design of the space reflects the objectives envisioned by this Task Force;
- invite input from key stakeholders in the planning and design process;
- consider opportunities for donors or sponsors; and
- leverage the act of naming the space to raise awareness.

Educational Events:

In keeping with its mission of raising awareness, the Permanent Task Force should plan educational events for the community. In particular, programs that either directly or indirectly promote the application of a racial lens will be beneficial. Compelling presentations, especially those relevant to the history of our neighborhood, should be offered such as:

- Survey of demographic changes in Chevy Chase since the Civil War
- Organization of the community before revival of (partial) home rule
- Exclusions: aggressive removal and segregation: mechanisms and outcomes
- Local heroes
- The impact of MLK and the revival of (partial) home rule
- Fiscal crisis, gentrification
- Doing history
 - History of your house
 - Mapping segregation
 - Oral histories

Also, workshops and training for a wide variety of knowledge levels and applications will enable more individualized, concrete learning and encourage reflection and action. Some examples:

- Racism basics (definitions, history, behaviors/biases)
- Racism deepened (uncovering unconscious material)
- Bystander / intervention training
- Guest speakers

Example of a Possible Community Service Event:

One of the best ways to promote positive change within a community is through service. This Work Group recommends the creation of an annual service project that aligns with our mission. Making an event annual in nature enables residents to rally around and build on a neighborhood “tradition.” In addition, a symbolic “kick off” of the event would increase notoriety.

Our Group is interested in partnering with another organization such as a local Black-run group, with which we could jointly plan a service event around a common goal. First, this project would serve an important cause (for example, fighting hunger, supporting at-risk youth, caring for women and/or families, repairs to neighborhood or natural environment). Secondly, the project would enable partnership between two diverse groups and foster relationships between individuals. Last but not least, the annual event could serve as a springboard for other events and education.

Arts Events:

Create Art out of Action

Art is a powerful tool for encouraging thought and building community. Whether through exhibits, demonstrations, classes, or informal acts, there are innumerable ways in which art can touch us and speak to universal issues such as justice, humanity and the need for change. The future dedicated Space in the Center will be an excellent venue for such activities. In considering arts-related events, this Work Group discussed the significance of outdoor public art, such as a mural, sculpture, installation, in support of racial justice, equity, and inclusion. We also considered the power inherent in the actual production of art, whereby the creation process can become an experience that allows the community to take part. Whether through brainstorming, planning, fundraising, commissioning of a professional artist or participating in the actual art making themselves, Chevy Chase residents would advance the stated mission and essentially attain the objectives of this group: engage in activities conducive to social interaction, learning, sharing, and positive relationships. An arts-related project or event in support of the stated mission values represents a strong opportunity for outreach and engagement with Chevy Chase and other residents.

Additionally, the project could be all the more valuable if the partner group from our Service Project were to join us. Working together to discuss, plan and create an art project in support of diversity, equity, and inclusion would advance our mission and result in a tangible artistic symbol in the neighborhood, for all to visit and contemplate.

Activities: We have identified the following realistic steps the Commission can take:

- emphasize the importance and unique power of art as it relates to our mission in Chevy Chase;
- encourage the City Council to prioritize and plan for public art during the design and budgeting phase for the future Gateway;
- consider ways in which a public art project focusing on racial justice, equity, and inclusion can be funded;
- support efforts via survey to Chevy Chase residents to garner interest and participation in a community-wide arts project.

Attachment 7

ANC 3/4G Task Force on Racism The Community Work Group

Recommendation: Facilitate Ongoing Work Regarding Newlands Fountain and Other Naming Issues

Goal: To remove the Newlands name from Chevy Chase Fountain and possibly replace it with a new name; and to consider other new names for parks or streets in our neighborhood that bear the Newlands name or that of other problematic historical figures.

Objective: To pass on to the ANC our Group's view on these matters, including proposed survey questions to assist with further consideration.

Activities: Follow through with the actual de-naming, and possible re-naming, of Chevy Chase Fountain, Lafayette-Pointer Park, and possibly other things in our ANC area.

Naming/Fountain Work Continuation

The background and reasons for removal of the Newlands name from the Chevy Chase Fountain have been well documented elsewhere. The facts reveal why our Group, and the ANC and community as a whole, strongly support removal of the Newlands name.

Francis G. Newlands (1846-1917) was born in Natchez, Mississippi, a Southern sympathizer during the Civil War, and eventually moved to Nevada, where he became a U.S. Representative (1893-1903) and then an appointed U.S. Senator from 1903-1917. In the late 1880s, Newlands and his partners began to acquire farmland in northwestern Washington, D.C., and southern Montgomery County, Maryland, in order to pave the way for development of a "residential streetcar suburb" for the nation's capital. This led to the 1890 creation of the Chevy Chase Land Company and the eventual development of the Chevy Chase neighborhoods on both sides of the DC/MD line. Francis Newlands was an avowed and outspoken racist and white supremacist. His vision was for Chevy Chase to be forever racially segregated. His legacy led to property deeds in Chevy Chase that included a racist covenant precluding land from ever being owned by Black or Jewish people (these covenants have since been declared void but are still present in original deeds, usually lined out).

During the early days of Chevy Chase, Senator Newlands remained an outspoken racist and segregationist. In 1912, he ran for President based on his "White Plank," including to amend the U.S. Constitution to prohibit the vote to Black people and limit

immigration to Whites only. During his political career, he also fought to limit education for Black people to domestic and menial work only, and for other measures to suppress the rights of Black people. The historic public record reveals many of his racist writings. For example, in 1912 he said: “I believe this should be a White man’s country, and that we should frankly express our determination that it shall be.” New York Times, June 17, 1912.

Chevy Chase long ago progressed beyond his segregationist vision for our neighborhood, over the last many decades building a community that seeks to be more open, tolerant, and inclusive. But his name at the Circle remains problematic and embarrassing to our community.

In light of the above, our Group strongly supports the removal of the Newlands name from the Chevy Chase Fountain. This entails physical removal of the name from *three areas*: the separate brass plaque on the ground; the engraving on the side of the fountain; and the engraving of the Newlands name on the top of the fountain. We understand that the National Park Service (NPS) is looking into how to proceed with removal of all three areas, subject to all appropriate approvals that may be needed. We recommend that the ANC regularly inquire with NPS about their progress, express our community’s desire that the removals proceed with all due diligence and dispatch, and ask what else our community can do to further the removal, including (if needed) seeking formal and informal support from the D.C. Council, the Mayor, Chevy Chase MD officials, and U.S. Representatives on both sides of the border.

Our Group also discussed the possible renaming of the Fountain for an individual who our community (and City) wishes to honor. We believe, however, that the ANC should first seek community input before our Group can take a formal position. In that regard, our Group has included some questions for the planned ANC public survey. We have discussed the following possibilities:

- No name at all for the Fountain (simply, the Fountain at Chevy Chase Circle)
- John Lewis
- Frederick Douglas
- Harriet Tubman
- Marian Anderson
- Other names as may be suggested

After community input and further discussion, our Group will reconvene and recommend one of the above options to the ANC.

Our Group also supports the placement of a “wayside exhibit” board at the Circle to explain and contextualize the history of the Circle and Fountain. We hope to work closely with the NPS on the content of such a history board (possibly as part of a connected series of history boards in our neighborhood).

Other Possible Re-Namings

Our Group also considered other possible name-changes within the ANC borders. We noted that the small wooded park area at Military Rd. and 28th/30th St. is alternatively called “Francis G. Newlands Park” and also “Little Forest Park.” As of 2011, the NPS lists the park as “Little Forest - Formerly Francis G. Newlands Park.” However, the park still shows up in Google Maps, and other locators, as “Francis G. Newlands Park.” We recommend that the ANC help reinforce a permanent name change of the park to be called “Little Forest Park” without reference to Newlands (as “formerly” called or otherwise).

Our Group also supports the renaming of Lafayette Park to Lafayette-Pointer Park, to co-honor Captain George Pointer. This is well researched and proposed by Historic Chevy Chase D.C. at <https://www.historicchevychasedc.org/category/lafayette-pointer-project/>

Our Group did not identify any other recommended name changes within our borders, but is open to suggestions from the community. When it comes to street names, we discussed the renaming of Newlands Street NW, but we defer to the residents of that street (about 12 households) as a street name change would create practical burdens for the residents.

Outside our ANC area, our Group supports the renaming of nearby Wilson High School. For a replacement name, we defer to the High School group actively working on that issue.

Attachment 8

ANC 3/4G Task Force on Racism The Community Work Group

Recommendation: Support District Programs/Policies

Goal: The Community Workgroup of the Task Force on Racism recommends that ANC 3/4G support programs and/or policies that increase diversity, equity, justice, and inclusion within the Chevy Chase community.

Objective: To identify and support specific programs and/or policies that increase diversity, equity, justice, and inclusion within the Chevy Chase community.

Activities: Support the following District Programs and Policies:

DC Main Streets Program - Support the Chevy Chase Application in order to diversify businesses along the Connecticut Avenue Corridor

DC Main Streets is a comprehensive program that promotes the revitalization of business corridors in the District of Columbia. Created in 2002 through the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Main Streets serves as the citywide coordinating program that provides services and funding for the 24 Main Streets found in the District of Columbia. Main Streets' mission is to support the traditional retail corridors in the District. DC Main Streets is a Main Street America™ Coordinating Program. As a Main Street America™ Coordinating Program, DC Main Streets helps to lead a powerful, grassroots network consisting of over 40 Coordinating Programs and over 1,200 neighborhoods and communities across the country committed to creating high-quality places and to building stronger communities through preservation-based economic development.

Through 24 independent, nonprofit neighborhood Main Street programs, the program revitalizes communities by retaining and recruiting businesses, improving commercial properties and streetscapes, and attracting consumers. Leaders in these neighborhood organizations assist businesses and coordinate sustainable community-driven revitalization efforts in their neighborhoods.

As a result of the DC Main Streets program, the District has seen an increase in new businesses and jobs. In addition, facade improvements and building rehabilitation projects have upgraded the image of the commercial corridors, while marketing and branding efforts have resulted in additional exposure and increased market share.

In July 2020, residents of the Chevy Chase community submitted its grant application to this program. To date, the application has been approved and an announcement selecting Chevy Chase was released in Fall 2020, although the program is

now delayed due to the pandemic. Our Workgroup recommends that ANC 3/4G support both present and future efforts of the DC Main Streets program.

The DC City Council's Emergency Police and Justice Reform Measure

In June 2020, the DC Council, in response to the urgent need, and intense public demand for action, passed emergency legislation as the appropriate first step for police and justice reform. The absence of a hearing on the topic was mitigated by the fact that most if not all of the reforms included in the bill had either previously been discussed at length in the past on the Judiciary Committee level, and/or they were best practices borrowed from other municipalities. Regardless, when the permanent legislation comes up for consideration, there will be extensive opportunity for all those concerned, from the police to the public, to speak out on all details of the bill. Regarding the bill's content, as passed, the measure:

- bans chokeholds and neck restraints by police and special police
- requires the release, within 72 hours, of body-worn camera footage after any officer-involved death or serious use of force, requires release of footage from past shootings, and bans officers from reviewing it prior to drafting crime reports
- prohibits use of tear gas, pepper spray, riot gear, rubber bullets and stun grenades by MPD (or federal police while on non-federal land) in response to First Amendment protests
- bans the hiring of officers fired for (or who resigned facing charges of) police misconduct or other serious disciplinary measures
- modifies the composition of the Police Complaints Board, moving from a five-member board with one Metropolitan Police Department representative, to a nine-member board with one member from each Ward, plus an at-large member, and no police representatives
- repeals the District's mask ban legislation
- creates a 20-member Police Reform Commission
- requires that all MPD personnel working at a First Amendment protest wear identification indicating they are with local (as opposed to federal) law enforcement
- ensures the right to a jury trial in cases where assaulting a police officer is alleged
- limits and details what constitutes unlawful police use of force, and how it will be dealt with
- bans MPD from purchasing military equipment from the federal government
- requires the Department of Corrections to provide voter registration forms, voter guides, and absentee ballots to everyone in the Department's care
- requires the Department of Corrections to conduct a weekly review of all those in its care to determine who might be ready to transition to home confinement
- clarifies that collective bargaining agreements cannot be used to shield employees from accountability and discipline

- requires additional training of officers on topics including racism and white supremacy

Bridging the gap between rapid-but-short-lived emergency legislation and long-lasting permanent legislation is what's called "temporary legislation." It requires two votes and is in effect for 225 days. Like permanent legislation, it must passively lay over before Congress. A few proposed amendments to the emergency police and justice reform legislation needed further review and refinement prior to possible inclusion in a final bill. If the details on these amendments can be worked out, the changes could be incorporated in the bill prior to the second vote on the temporary version of the bill, and/or in the permanent bill.

In light of the new legislative action, our Workgroup recommends that ANC 3/4G support both this interim, emergency police and justice reform measure and ultimately the final measures recommended by the DC Council.

Mayor's Bowser's Equity Inclusion Priority in RFP's for District Development

In July 2020, Mayor Muriel Bowser and the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED) announced a new strategy for enhancing equity and making DC's prosperity more inclusive: an equity inclusion prioritization in forthcoming Request for Proposals (RFP) that will increase access to development opportunities for entities or organizations that are owned or majority controlled by individuals determined to be part of a socially disadvantaged population.

To facilitate equitable access to District development projects, DMPED will begin incorporating a prioritization in their RFPs for teams that maximize, by percentage of ownership and control, entities designated as Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) and Residence Owned Business (ROB), or any entities (including non-profits and community institutions) led by, or majority controlled by, individuals designated as socially disadvantaged under the Small Business Administration's (SBA) definition.

To date, there are no current construction projects underway within the community. However, in light of this new policy, our Work Group recommends that ANC 3/4G support this new policy in future developments within the Chevy Chase community.