

Government of the District of Columbia ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3/4G

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Government of the District of Columbia Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3/4G

RESOLUTION - Establishment of the Racial and Social Equity Standing Committee

Adopted January 25, 2021

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3/4G (Commission) takes note of the following:

- 1. The Commission's By-laws, amended January 11, 2021, allows the Commission to establish Standing Committees to address the areas of greatest concern (see By-laws Article VI, Section 2)¹ to the Commission. The By-laws also provides that the Commission shall define the composition and approve the mission of any Committee.
- 2. Equity is anchored by justice, fairness, and addressing core systems to advance opportunities that provide equitable outcomes, regardless of race, color, income, gender, sexual orientation, social status, disability, age, or neighborhood. Strategies that promote equitable outcomes for all population categories are beneficial to the entire population.
- 3. The Commission has historically recognized the importance of its influence in public and policy discourse about racial and social inequities experienced by the District of Columbia's most marginalized citizens and communities, and the value of leveraging its position within the Chevy Chase community and the District of Columbia, to shape equitable racial and social outcome strategies through transformational policy

¹ https://anc3g.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/By-Laws-2021-v.Final_.pdf

recommendations.

- 4. Through its public statements and Resolutions, the Commission has sought to bring public awareness to the underlying, historical, and systemic structures and issues that exclude segments of our city's population from access to critical social opportunities and resources, and create the deeply entrenched disadvantages that we continue to witness today. For example:
 - Resolution dated June 24, 2019²: Oxford House Leases at 5745 and 5900 Moreland Street, N.W.
 - Resolution dated July 8, 2019³: Supporting Adding the Name of Captain George Pointer to Lafayette Park and Lafayette Recreation Center.
 - Resolution dated July 8, 20194: Support of Mayor Bowser's Statement on President Trump's Threat to Arrest and Remove Immigrant Residents.
 - Statement on Racism adopted on June 8, 2020⁵, reaffirming continued commitment to equity, inclusion, and justice for all and creating a representational working group within the Commission tasked with identify equity and justice issues within our community and to propose concrete solutions.
 - Resolution dated July 27, 2020⁶: Calling for the Francis Newlands Name Plaque Removal at the Fountain at Chevy Chase Circle.
 - Resolution dated December 14, 20207: Regarding the Task Force on Racism.
- 5. On June 22, 2020, the Commission developed a framework for its Task Force on Racism. The Task Force organized its membership into three (3) Work Groups: Community, Education and Mental Health (later narrowed to Mental Health) and Housing. On November 16, 2020, the Work Groups provided the Commission its draft reports and recommendations (see Community, Education and Mental Health, and Housing) for Commission consideration. All three (3) Working Groups provided clear and sufficient justification to establish a permanent Standing Committee to continue advising the Commission on strategies that advance equity. For example:

² https://anc3g.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Resolution-Oxford-House-6-24-2019.pdf

³ https://anc3g.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Adding-Capt-Pointers-name-to-Lafayette-Rec-Center.pdf

⁴ https://anc3g.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/In-Support-of-Mayor-Bowsers-Statement-on-Trumps-Threat-to-Arrest-and-Remove-Immigrant-Residents.pdf

⁵ https://anc3g.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/ANC-34G-Statement-on-Racism-6-8-20.pdf

⁶ https://anc3g.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/scan0003.pdf

⁷ https://anc3g.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Framework-for-Task-Force-on-Racism-7-3-20-final.pdf

- The Task Force on Racism's Community Working Group recommended the establishment of an "Ongoing Task Force on Racial Equity," whose mission would be "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 equity8."
- The Task Force on Racism's Education and Mental Health Working Group identified the goal of establishing a "coordinated, community-based effort across the city to achieve educational equity among all schools in the District of Columbia" and as an objective, recommended the establishment of a "permanent, standing ANC3/4G education equity committee to investigate, communicate and advocate in support of an equitable education landscape for all children in Washington, DC9."
- The Task Force on Racism's Housing Working Group¹⁰ recommendation #1 stated that, "the ANC take the following specific actions to include affordable Housing above the Chevy Chase Community Center and the Chevy Chase Neighborhood Library:
 - Create a standing task force to coordinate programmatic requirements for residences above the new Community Center and Library and to oversee and implement these specific actions".
- For Recommendation #2, the Working Group recommended that, "the ANC take the following specific actions to encourage significant affordable Housing at Chevy Chase Gateway sites:
 - Create a standing task force to work with the Office of Planning on the Chevy Chase Gateway Small Area Plan and to oversee and implement these specific actions."
- 6. Inequality is historical and its pernicious effects are generational as is evidenced by disparities in numerous opportunity areas (health, educational, housing, criminal justice) for individuals and communities. Recent local and national events, including calls for police reform and the creation of more affordable housing, and disparities exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, have created an urgency for communities across the nation to address these inequities. This urgent call to action includes:
 - Examining the racial and social impact public policy has on communities;
 - Developing racial and social equity frameworks for analyzing programs, practices, and policies and offering solutions to advance equity; and

⁸ https://anc3g.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/ANC-Community-Work-Group-Report-Final.pdf

⁹ https://anc3g.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Education-and-Mental-Health-Work-Group-Report_FINAL_11_14_20.pdf

¹⁰ https://anc3g.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Housing-Group-Draft-Report-11-13-20-.pdf

- Proactively operationalizing racial and social equity solutions and assessing community impact.
- 7. The Commission believes it is in the best interest of the Chevy Chase community and the District of Columbia to continue using its influence on our community's public and policy debate to raise equity issues through the formation of a permanent Standing Committee of the Commission, where members of the Committee are committed to advocating for the just treatment of all those disadvantaged by systemic inequality.

RESOLVED:

- 1. The Commission establishes a Racial and Social Equity Standing Committee. The Committee shall study and advise the Commission on how to most effectively:
 - Implement the initiatives developed and recommended by the Commission's Task Force on Racism and adopted by the Commission;
 - Advocate for racial and social equity in the community and the city; endeavor to develop racial and social equity frameworks for analyzing issues and policies;
 - Promote community involvement and engagement; develop key stakeholder (community and City-wide) relationships; incorporate the most affected community members;
 - Champion education and training to increase awareness and understanding of equity frameworks; connect individual and collective experiences to systemic equity issues; and
 - Value data-driven analysis to aid decision-making.
- 2. The Task Force on Racism with its final reports given and the Commission's resolutions based upon them, has fulfilled its mandates as set by the Commission, and is hereby dissolved. The new Racial and Social Equity Standing Committee is hereby established, and shall advise the Commission on how best to pursue equity issues in the context of the community and the broader District. Members of the Task Force on Racism are encouraged to request appointment to the new Standing Committee. The Commission commends the Task Force for its exemplary and thoughtful work on a complex set of issues during a period of great strain in our community, city and nation.
- 3. That the Commission appoints Commissioner Lisa R. Gore, ANC 3/4G-01 and Commissioner Randy Speck, ANC 3/4G-04, as Co-Chairs of the Racial and Social Equity Standing Committee and designates that the Committee shall be comprised of a minimum of nine (9) members, who will be selected according to the Commission's By-

Laws.

FURTHER RESOLVED:

- 1. The Committee shall be advisory to the Commission and shall not act on behalf of the Commission, act independently, or represent its recommendations or opinions as official Commission policy to others, without having obtained the Commission's formal authorization.
- 2. The Commission shall not delegate official decision-making authority to the Committee.
- 3. The appointment of Committee Chairs shall precede the appointment of Committee members. The Commission, by majority vote, shall appoint two (2) Commissioners as Committee Co-Chairs.
- 4. Any resident of the Commission area shall be eligible to be appointed as a designated Committee member. Such Committees may also include local business or non-profit representation, as appropriate. The Commission may involve representatives of other neighborhood groups in the work of the Committees.
- 5. Committee members shall serve for a period of one year from the date of their appointment and may request to renew their membership for additional one-year terms without limit.
- 6. The Commission should make every effort to appoint Committee members that represent each Single Member District. The Commission shall advertise and recruit members of the community that represent a range of diverse backgrounds and experiences for inclusion on the committee from the day following approval of this Resolution for forty-five days or until the maximum number of members have been recruited, whichever comes first.
- 7. The Commission shall appoint members of the Committee at the first public meeting following the recruitment period. Appointments shall be by a majority vote of the Commissioners present and voting.
- 8. The Committee may elect officers as necessary. Committee officers shall hold office coterminous with those of the Commission. The Committee shall designate a member to record and report, to the Commission Secretary, the results of each Committee meeting.
- 9. The Committee shall have the authority to create sub-Committees as needed. Sub-Committees must consist of the Committee members, except in circumstances where the sub-Committee requires expertise beyond those of sub-Committee members. Sub-Committees report directly to the Committee.
- 10. The Committee shall adopt rules of procedure and practice under which it shall operate, to be submitted to the full Commission for approval. The Committee shall prepare a mission statement to be submitted to the full Commission for approval.

- 11. The Committee shall have the power and the responsibility to develop attendance requirements for the Committee and its sub-Committees.
- 12. The Committee shall require a quorum to adopt any recommendations. It shall satisfy this requirement if a meeting is attended by either a majority of the Committee's members then serving or the Committee Chair and one other Committee member.
- 13. There shall be no voting by proxy.
- 14. Commissioners shall be ex-officio members of the Committee.

FURTHER RESOLVED:

- 1. All meetings of the Committee shall be open to the public and may be held virtually.
- 2. The Committee shall give the public at least seven calendar days' notice of each meeting.
- 3. The Committees and any sub-Committees shall operate in conformity with the By-Laws of the Commission and in conformity with relevant District of Columbia law regarding the scope of Commission activities.
- 4. In its deliberations, the Committee shall hear from all constituents who wish to participate, regardless of race, sex, age, voting status, religion, economic status, or sexual orientation.

FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Commission designates Commissioner Lisa R. Gore, ANC 3/4G-01, to represent the Commission in all matters relating to this Resolution.

ADOPTED at a regular public meeting notice of which was properly given, and at which a quorum of seven (7) of seven (7) members was present on January 25, 2021, by a vote of **7** yes, **0** no, **0** abstentions.

Randy Speck, Chair

Lisa R. Gore, Secretary