



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

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COMMISSIONERS

3/4G-01 - Lisa R. Gore, Vice Chair 3/4G-02 - John Higgins, Treasurer
3/4G-03 - Randy Speck, Chair 3/4G-04 - Michael Zeldin 3/4G-05 - Connie K. N. Chang
3/4G-06 - Peter Gosselin, Secretary 3/4G-07 - Chris Fromboluti

Minutes
ANC 3/4G Public Meeting
June 28, 2021
Zoom Meeting, 7- pm
Meeting [Link](#)

[00:00:00](#) **Introduction of Commissioners**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Chair Speck, (3/4G-03), presiding. Also present were Commissioners Lisa R. Gore (3/4G-01), John K. Higgins (3/4G-02), Michael Zeldin (3/4G-04), Connie K.N. Chang (3/4G-05), and Peter Gosselin (3/4G-06). Chris Fromboluti (3/4G-07) was on vacation and absent. Chair Speck declared a quorum (being four Commissioners).

[00:03:33](#) **Zoom Meeting Procedures**

As has been the case since the beginning of the COVID pandemic, the Commission met virtually. Chair Speck described the body's Zoom meeting procedures

[00:04:42](#) **Adoption of Agenda**

Chair Speck moved to approve the agenda. The motion passed 6 (Yes), 0 (No), 0 (Abstain), 1 (Absent).

00:05:55 **Commissioner Announcements**

Chair Speck

- **Episcopal Children’s Center** – The ECC and Maret issued a joint statement about Maret’s 50-year lease of part of the ECC property for sports fields, available at <https://bit.ly/2Swj0vq>. The statement indicated that over the summer, there will be preliminary site and engineering studies as Maret prepares a plan for the fields. Maret will be meeting with the appropriate city agencies about traffic, trees, zoning, and related matters. They expect to share plans with the Commission in late summer/early fall and then submit an application to the District’s Board of Zoning Adjustment. Maret said that it is “committed to a transparent and open dialogue with the ANC and the community.” The Commission will continue to review Maret’s plans as they become available and solicits any questions or comments from the community. Separately and following up on our June 14, 2021 meeting with DCPS Chancellor Ferebee, the Commission has arranged for Dr. Ferebee to meet with ECC and the Commission to review the site on June 30, 2021, and to explore the possibility of using the site to relieve overcrowding at Lafayette Elementary School.
- **Beach Drive** — Congresswoman Norton, the National Park Service, and DDOT will hold a virtual community meeting on the possible continued closure of Beach Drive at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, June 29, 2021. You can register by sending an email to NortonEvents@mail.house.gov. The NPS will host a live, virtual public meeting on July 8 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Attend the meeting by clicking: https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_YjE1YTA0ODMtMzMOOS00NmQzLTk3ZjUtZGFjNzY2M2I4OTE1%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%220693b5ba-4b18-4d7b-9341-f32f400a5494%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%220a5e74c3-26d9-4282-8ef6-6d9112be2457%22%7d. To connect to audio, use the meeting website link or dial, [+1 202-640-1187, 815310000#](tel:+1202-640-1187). A recording of the meeting will also be available to view at <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/beachdrive> after July 8. You are invited to review the proposal and provide comments and ideas from July 8 through August 22. To provide comments online or get additional information on the project, visit <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/beachdrive>. If you prefer to mail your comments, make sure they are postmarked by August 22, 2021, to receive consideration. Mail comments to the following address: Superintendent, ATTN: Beach Drive, Rock Creek Park, 3545 Williamsburg Lane, NW, Washington, DC 20008.

Vice Chair Gore

Commissioner Chang

- **Sidewalk Palooza** – Sidewalk Palooza took place across the District from June 4 to June 11. ANC 3/4G Single Member District #5 continued after this period of time and over twenty 311 requests for sidewalk improvements were submitted. Constituents are asked to bring to the Commissioner’s attention any sidewalks that need attention.
- **Lead Water Pipes** – Commissioner Chang reported that she and Chair Speck participated in the June 25, 2021 EPA Region 1, Lead and Copper Rule Revisions Community Roundtable event. DC was selected as one of ten of these roundtables around the country. The DC Roundtable went well. Presentations by experts with over 20 years of experience in lead-in-water were outstanding and made an impression on the EPA staff in attendance. Chang and Speck emphasized throughout what the Commission has been saying, namely that all lead service lines should be eliminated at no cost to customers in order to address equity and safety reasons. Commissioner Chang pointed out that EPA is the authority that oversees DC Water and that EPA has certain rules of when to take action – 15 ppb – not when it is safe and healthy – 0 lead in water.

00:16:56 **Community Announcements**

Kishan Putta, community outreach specialist with DC Health Link:

Putta told the Commission about three new, low-cost health insurance benefits available to qualifying individuals under the recently enacted American Rescue Plan. He asked commissioners to help make residents aware of them. For workers laid off at any time during 2021 for periods as short as a week, health insurance coverage is available for the calendar year for as little as \$2 a month. In addition, lower health insurance premiums for coverage through DC Health Link are available for all of 2021 and 2022. Finally, COBRA coverage for workers who are laid off, but want to continue with their previous employer’s coverage is available for free until Oct. 1, 2021. Normally, workers can continue their previous coverage for up to 18 months, but take over from the previous employers paying the premiums.

Dee Smith, deputy chief of staff, Councilmember Mary Cheh:

Smith posted a notice in the chat function of the meeting informing the Commission that all Connecticut Avenue rush-hour parking citations issued between June 1 and June 29, 2021 will be administratively dismissed. No action is required. Individuals can confirm that their

citations have been dismissed by entering the citation number at the DC Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) online ticket payment site. Smith also reported that beginning June 30, 2021 all rush-hour restrictions are again effective after a pandemic hiatus and enforcement will resume.

Haley Peckett, associate division director, DC Department of Transportation (DDOT): Peckett told the Commission that the DC Department of Transportation (DDOT) has launched a new online system for residents to get visitor parking permits. Residents with a valid DC license who reside on residential parking permit streets can go to <https://www.parkdc.com/>, set up an account and print passes for visitors who are then protected from ticketing.

Emir Gur-Ravantab, Ward 3 liaison, Mayor's Office of Community Relations & Services: Gur-Ravantab invited commissioners to march in the 4th of July parade in the Palisades. On another subject, he said that the DC Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) will resume walk-in service for adjudication on July 19, 2021 and for all services centers on July 20. The center at 95 M Street SW and the Inspection Station at 1001 Half Street SW will also have special weekend hours the weekends of 7/3, 7/11, and 7/18, 8:15 AM-4 PM for 95 M Street, and 6AM-2PM for the Inspection Center.

00:31:23 **Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rescue Squad Chief Edward Sherburne**

Sherburne told the Commission that the Maryland-based rescue squad, which has served northwest Washington and adjoining Montgomery County, Maryland for decades, is likely to discontinue service to the District. He cited declining call volume, improvements in DC fire and emergency medical services and the fact that the squad is not connected to the District's automated emergency communications system, making coordination difficult. He said calls from the District to the rescue squad has dropped from 1,413 in 2003 to 381 last year. He said the squad's board of directors will make a decision about discontinuing service later this summer and will continue responding to calls in DC until there has been broad public notification of the change. Commissioners questioned Sherburne about whether the heart of the problem is that DC is not giving the squad access to its communications system and what arrangements are in place in case DC Fire and EMS are at capacity.

01:27:57 **DDOT on Chestnut Sidewalk Project**

Samer Alhawamdeh, DDOT's project manager, said construction of the sidewalk will begin July 19, 2021, and take four months to complete. He said work will begin on the segment from Oregon Avenue to 32nd Street. That will be followed in sequence by work on segments from 32nd to Greenvale Street, Greenvale to 33rd Street and 33rd to Western Avenue.

01:57:54 Grant Application Presentation by Feed the Family Pantry

Judith Ingram with Feed the Family told the Commission it needs help providing fresh food for food-insecure residents in our ANC, particularly 15 low-income households at Regency House, 5201 Connecticut Ave. NW. The group is applying for \$1,990 for refrigeration equipment to keep its deliveries fresh until distribution days. The Commission's rules require the ANC to hear grant applications at one meeting, but not vote on it until a subsequent meeting so the Commission took no action.

02:07:23 Chevy Chase Community Center Program Instructors & Reopening

The Commission spoke with Cesar Enriquez, site manager for the DC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), about how DPR is treating Community Center program instructors. DPR has thus far not renewed a contract with Raymond Finkelman, who has conducted fencing classes at the center for decades. Enriquez said the agency used the pandemic shutdown to review program contracts and decided it did not have adequate means to monitor services it was receiving under the fencing contract. Chair Speck said the DPR's treatment of Finkelman was "not reasonable;" it sent him a substantially changed statement of the work he's to perform under a new contract and gave him just 24 hours to respond. Enriquez promised to meet with Finkelman.

In addition to fencing, a representative of Lynn B. Walters, who teaches ballet at the Community Center, said that DPR ended all contracts for cultural arts including ballet several years ago, and Walters has continued to teach without a contract. Enriquez said DPR wants to move from contracting to a permit system, where the agency allows instructors to use the center, but classes are run as private affairs. The Commission ask for DPR's written procedures for the permitting process.

Enriquez told the Commission that the Community Center's hours this summer will be from 7 a.m. until 6 p.m. Monday through Friday as well as from 6 until 8 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday nights.

02:44:24 Chevy Chase Small Area Plan Update

Commissioner Chang reviewed where the Office of Planning (OP) is in its work. OP conducted four "visioning" workshops in June and has received about 600 responses to its visioning survey. It is collating the information, will make a presentation at the

Commission's July 26, 2021 meeting, and will begin incorporating the information into suggested designs to be presented at a design charrette in the fall.

Commissioner Gosselin discussed efforts – so far unsuccessful – to implement the Commission's April 2021 resolution to sponsor community forums to discuss plans with the community. A group of commissioners met with OP and its facilitation contractor, Josh Lasky and his team at LINK Strategic Partners, on June 16 and 21, 2021, and has a third meeting scheduled for June 30, 2021. The group initially agreed to June 30th for the first community forum and began to work through how to divide up the preparatory work. But by June 21st meeting — with minimal progress, only 10 days left to advertise the session, and an informal survey by Gosselin of his constituents that found little appetite for a June session – it was decided to put off the first forum until after Labor Day.

Chair Speck discussed software developed by Citizenlab that would have made the planning process easier and more inclusive. Commissioner Chang said she wants to sponsor an information exchange session about neighborhood commercial overlays.

03:04:26 Vote on Letter Drafted by ANC's Racial & Social Equity Standing Committee (RASE) Requesting A Meeting with DC Councilmembers and Metropolitan District Police to Discuss Evidence of Racial Bias

Vice Chair Gore reported that RASE prepared the letter after reviewing statistics showing that over a 17-month period 64.5 percent of non-traffic stops in the Second Police District, which includes the Chevy Chase community, were of Black people despite the fact Blacks make up less than eight percent of the area's population. On a motion by Gore, the Commission voted 6 (Yes), 0 (No), 1 (Absent) to send the letter to councilmembers Cheh, Lewis George and Pinto, MPD Chief Contee, and Second District Commander Bedlion with all members of the Council copied.

03:12:00 **Commission Business**

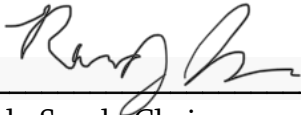
The Commission approved

- Minutes of its June 14, 2021 meeting. On a motion by Commissioner Gosselin, the Commission's secretary, the vote was 6 (Yes), 0 (No), 1 (Absent)
- Five checks: For DC Dept. of Employment Security (DOES) one for \$14.73 (Unemployment Insurance); another for \$4.17 (paid family leave); to U.S. Treasurer Form 941 FICA for \$10.28; to Verizon for \$156.44 and reimbursement of expenses of \$44.00 to Commissioner Higgins as reimbursement (regular and certified postage and tax forms). On a motion by Higgins, the Commission's treasurer, the vote was 6 (Yes), 0 (No), 1 (Absent).

Higgins noted that a previously reported appeal of a \$200 penalty from 2020 was granted by DOES, so that pending liability has been cancelled.

The Commission discussed possible agenda items for its July 12, 2021 meeting.

[03:21:26](#) Adjourn



Randy Speck, Chair



Peter Gosselin, Secretary