



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 - Charles Cadwell

Minutes
ANC 3/4G Public Meeting
March 14, 2022
Zoom Meeting 7:00 – 9:12 pm
Meeting [LINK](#)

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

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

[00:02:32](#) **Moment of Silence for Victims of Parthenon Accident**

[00:05:08](#) **Modification and Adoption of Agenda**

Chair Speck said that an appearance by members of the Lafayette Elementary School Local School Advisory Team has been postponed. In addition, he said a discussion and possible vote on a memorandum of understanding between the ANC and Maret School

has been added. With those changes, the Commission approved the agenda 6 (Yes), 0 (No), 0 Abstentions.

[00:06:37](#)

Commissioner Announcements

Chair Speck

Maret Sports Field — The Board of Zoning Adjustment held an eight-hour hearing on March 9, 2022, to consider the Maret School’s application to build athletic fields at the Episcopal Center for Children. Information about the Commission’s consideration of this application is on a dedicated [page](#) on its website. The hearing included presentations by Maret, Friends of the Field (the party in opposition to the application), and the ANC. In addition there were about 40 public witnesses, evenly split between supporters and opponents. At the conclusion of the hearing, the BZA asked Maret to submit its post-hearing submission — including a Memorandum of Understanding that incorporates all of the ANC’s proposed conditions — by March 16, 2022. The Friends of the Field must file any opposition to Maret’s post-hearing submission by March 23, 2022. The BZA will vote on its order at its March 30, 2022 meeting.

FY 2023 Budget — The Mayor will submit her FY 2023 budget to the Council on March 16, 2022, and the Council’s Committee of the Whole will hold a meeting on the budget on March 18, 2022. The Council’s committees then hold hearings on each agency’s budget between March 21, 2022, and April 7, 2022. The complete schedule for those hearings and the instructions for participating are available [here](#). The Commission will be considering testimony at some of these hearings tonight and at its March 28, 2022 meeting. Anyone may submit testimony as well.

ANC Redistricting — Yesterday the Ward 4 ANC Redistricting Task Force discussed two maps that incorporated feedback from the March 8th public hearing and accompanying written commentary (including [ANC 3/4G’s March 10, 2022 resolution](#)). The Task Force members provided feedback and asked questions about these maps. They will draft the written report this week to present to the full Ward 4 Task Force and the public on March 20th.

As it relates to 3/4G, both maps maintain the ANC as one which spans two wards. Both maps remove the census blocks currently in 3/4G-03 that are in Ward 3 and move blocks from 3/4G-04 to 3/4G-03 to make up for the lost population. Both discussion maps look largely similar to Discussion Maps 1 and 2 from the public hearing and avoid more substantial changes to SMDs as in Map 4. There are two remaining points that the Task Force discussed and are considering: (1) whether to move one census block between Upland Terrace and Pinehurst Circle from 3/4G-01 to 3/4G-04 to balance population; and (2) Whether to add the ~15 homes on the north side of Aberfoyle to 3/4G-01 to make 3/4G-01 slightly more compact and balance population. The Task Force will draft the report and include recommendations that address those two elements.

[00:11:48](#)

Community Announcements

Emir Gur-Ravantab, Liaison, Ward 3, Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS)

Street Sweeping – The Department of Public Works (DPW) will begin residential street sweeping on Tuesday, March 1, 2022, through October 31. Motorists are asked to obey posted signs indicating the schedule for street sweeping parking restrictions to ensure our equipment can thoroughly sweep.

Alley Cleaning -- DPW will resume cleaning residential alleys between April 1, 2022, through October 31. Crews will operate on a schedule, but residents can call 311 to request an alley cleaning for alleys that pose a hazard to public safety or have become inaccessible to emergency vehicles.

Graffiti Removal – Residents can call 311 to request graffiti removal services. A waiver of liability form will be provided, which must be signed by the property owner and returned to DPW before abatement will occur on private property.

Virtual Job Fair -- Mayor Bowser and the DC Department of Human Resources (DCHR) encourage residents to register for the District's virtual hiring fair that will take place over two days, on Wednesday, March 16, 2022 and Thursday, March 17, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. each day. Job seekers can chat with hiring managers from across District government and qualified applicants may have an opportunity to interview via video chat or phone call. Some agencies may make on-the-spot job offers. All will respond within 30 days following the event, pending extensions due to suitability. The administration aims to fill over 500 vacancies.

Parthenon Restaurant Accident – Gur-Ravantab's mention that city officials had contacted the restaurant owner after the accident on March 11, 2022 prompted an exchange among commissioners about the possibility of installing bollards along the sidewalks along the Connecticut Avenue commercial district to protect pedestrians and those dining in the future. Chair Speck asked the Public Space Committee about whether the city is considering such a move. He said that the committee is generally reluctant to install bollards. But he said the Commission would look into the matter and see if it can change the Committee's mind. Commissioner Chang and Zeldin also spoke in favor of the idea.

[00:22:52](#)

Presentation by Boy Scouts of America

Commissioner Zeldin introduced Christa Waterwiese, the district executive for Boy Scouts of America, National Capital Council, who described the activities of the Scouts

in the region and said that the organization is looking for community service opportunities. She provided her contacts for people who have questions or need directions to particular programs. They are: Phone: 202-714- 5412, Email: christa.waterwiese@scouting.org

00:35:36 Public Space Permit for Wayside Exhibit, Chevy Chase Circle and Fountain

The issue before the Commission was a public space permit application by the National Park Service (NPS) to install a wayside exhibit at 1 Chevy Chase Circle along the sidewalk on the outer rim of the rotary to put into context the history of the Circle and Fountain (Tracking No. 388740)

Commissioner Chang, in whose single-member district the exhibit would be located, provided background. She described a July 27, 2020 resolution approved by the ANC calling for the removal of a plaque bearing the name of former U.S. Senator and Chevy Chase developer Francis Newlands removed from the Circle because of his racist views. Drawing from the resolution, she cited two examples. Newlands was quoted in a June 17, 1912 New York Times story as saying: "I believe this should be a white man's country, and we should frankly express our determination that it shall be." In addition, as part of his 1912 "White Plank" for the Democratic Convention platform, Newlands called for amending the Constitution to prohibit the vote to African Americans and limit immigration to whites only.

Chang introduced Brad Krueger, NPS cultural resources manager for Rock Creek Park, who said that since enactment of the ANC resolution, the park service, working with local groups, has been committed to "more fully interpreting and telling the story of Newlands and providing information on who he was and the views he held" by installing a sign with information at the Circle. He said NPS is seeking a District public space permit to install the sign along the sidewalk beside the Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church after concluding that it would not be easily viewed if placed near the fountain because of the challenges pedestrians face negotiating vehicular traffic to get to the interior of the Circle.

During a Q&A session with commissioners, Krueger said that Newlands' name will remain on the fountain for the time being until Congress acts to remove it. DC Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton, and Rep. Jamie Raskin and Sen. Chris Van Hollen, both of Maryland, have introduced bills to have the plaques with Newlands' name removed, but progress has been slow. Chair Speck said that in addition to the plaque carrying Newlands' name, the name is engraved in the fountain stone itself. He said it is unclear whether that will be removed or covered.

Krueger said the sign panel will measure three feet by two feet and sit between three and four feet above the ground. He said that if NPS receives a public space permit and

a District Department of Transportation (DDOT) construction permit, the wayside exhibit should be installed in May or June of this year.

The ANC voted to approve the public space permit. The vote was 6 (Yes), 0 (No), 0 (Abstentions).

[00:57:11](#) **Development Plans, Lisner Home, 5425 Western Ave. NW**

The Lisner-Louise-Dickson-Hurt Home, which has provided assisted-living and skilled-nursing services to more than 100 low- and modest-income DC residents since 1941, proposes to build a 93-unit, affordable, independent senior living apartment building on its campus to serve those 50% or below AMI (average median income). This proposed project was selected in February 2022 by the Department of Housing and Community Development to be the first Housing Production Trust Fund investment in Ward 3. It has applied to the District's Zoning Commission for a zoning change (Zoning Case No [21-11](#)), which has scheduled a hearing on March 17, 2022. Although the site is in ANC 3E, it is adjacent to the Commission's community so the organization's board of directors was seeking support from ANC 3/4G. ANC 3E passed a resolution on March 9, 2022 supporting the application.

Lisner board president Matthew Frumin presented the organization's original plans at a [November 22, 2021 meeting](#). Frumin, Lisner CEO L Ward Orem, and architect Michael Wiencek presented revised plans at this meeting. Among the revisions made to accommodate neighbors' concerns:

- Limiting the zoning change for the project to just a portion of the campus, rather than its entirety, to address concerns the change could open the way for future expansions with no additional community input;
- Reorienting the proposed building so it sits back from bordering Western Avenue, Livingston Street and 42nd Street to provide more buffer and protect heritage trees;
- Moving the parking garage and delivery entry from Livingston Street near the playground to a site off the circular driveway inside the campus to avoid traffic congestion and interfering with pedestrians; and
- Lowering the structure on the bowl-like site so it appears as a three-to-three-and-a-quarter story building from the adjacent streets and has a roofline no higher than those of adjacent houses on 42nd Street.

The ANC voted 6 (Yes), 0 (No), 0 (Abstentions) to support the zoning change being sought for the project.

[01:35:23](#) **Request Timeline Change for Small Area Plan**

The DC Office of Planning (OP) issued a draft small area plan for Chevy Chase today. OP project manager Erkin Ozberk told the ANC at its March 10, 2022 meeting that the agency would give the Commission and residents 30 days from the issue date or until April 13, 2022 to comment on the draft at which point it would immediately hold a hearing in the small meeting room at the Library. Subsequently, it would compile and release the comments it received.

Commissioner Gosselin said that at the March 10th meeting he and fellow commissioners tried to convince Ozberk to extend the comment period, make arrangements for a hearing that could accommodate more people than at the Library and provide comments in real time, rather than after the fact. Neither Ozberk nor later OP interim director Anita Cozart indicated any flexibility. Gosselin said that he would ask the ANC to authorize a letter to Cozart again calling for these changes.

Gosselin said that he is coordinating a short-lived working group of residents nominated by the commissioners to help the Commission assess the draft plan by comparing it to the [ANC's February 12, 2020 resolution](#) calling for a small area plan to be carried out in Chevy Chase and gathering facts that will in the drafting of a resolution reacting to the draft. He said that while the group had had its organizational meeting the previous day, March 13, it was still open to new members.

Commissioner Chang added that OP planned to hold both virtual and in-person office hours for residents during the period through April 13th and would compile and release the comments it receives on the draft.

On a motion by Gosselin, the ANC voted to authorize a [letter to Cozart](#) to be signed by Chang and him asking for a 60-day comment period, a hearing at a larger meeting venue, and real-time release of public comments. The vote was 6 (Yes), 0 (No), 0 (Abstentions).

[01:44:33](#)

Racial and Social Equity Standing Committee Update

Chair Speck said that he and two members of the committee met on March 11, 2022, with the director and a staff member of the city's new Office of Racial Equity (ORE), Speck said the discussion centered on the need for a "community response network" and ORE's fiscal 2023 budget request.

[01:46:19](#)

Discussion and vote on ANC Budget Testimony

The Commission voted to authorize testimony on the budget for the Department of Aging and Community Living asking for \$100,000 or amounts needed for a study of the feasibility of establishing a senior wellness center in Ward 3. It authorized testimony on the budget of the new Department of Buildings that will assume functions now part of the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) on October 1, 2022. With regard to vacant and blighted properties, the testimony asks that the agency audit and

consolidate its database of such properties, provide adequate funds for hiring, training and supervising inspectors and staffing follow-ups. The testimony calls for additional funds for the agency to perform inspections on replacements for lead-service water lines. The District's water utility is seeking to replace 28,000 remaining lead lines by 2023. The vote in both cases was 6 (Yes), 0 (No), 0 (Abstentions).

[02:00:28](#)

Maret-ANC Memo of Understanding on ECC Sports Field

At a March 9, 2022 hearing on Maret School's proposal to develop sports fields on a portion of the campus of the Episcopal Center for Children (ECC) at 5901 Utah Avenue, the District's Zoning Board of Adjustment (BZA) asked that conditions placed on the project by the Commission in its February 28, 2022 resolution be embodied in a memorandum of understanding between the ANC and Maret rather than being included in the BZA decision about the project. Chair Speck said the BZA asked that the conditions be handled in this way out of concern that the board does not have adequate resources to enforce the conditions.

Speck said that the memorandum of understanding would simply change the form, but not the substance, of the conditions that the ANC placed on the project in its resolution. He said the memo would include two amendments as well that arose during the March 9, 2022 BZA hearing — a requirement that Maret report annually to the ANC about its compliance with the conditions and a new requirement that the school use "best practices" involving artificial turf.

Commissioner Higgins suggested this amending language:

"Per Roberts Rules for amending a prior document (Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised -- In Brief, p.132), the following motion is offered:

A Motion to modify the MOU between Maret School and the ANC regarding the conversion of the ECC field in the following manner: Modify Part 1 (One) section (h) by adding:

"Maret shall not use crumb rubber infill, which the District Department of General Services no longer permits for District-owned fields. Maret shall observe "best practices" regarding the composition and installation of the field, including consideration of chemical and bacterial factors."

And by adding a new section I: as follows:

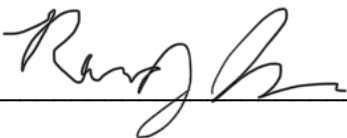
"Maret shall present an annual report at a regularly scheduled ANC 3/4G Public Meeting that provides details regarding the operations of the athletics facilities over the prior year and provides the public an opportunity to provide comment. Maret shall provide the first annual report, one year after use of the athletics facilities has commenced and will provide the annual reports for ten years." The Chair is authorized to execute the MOU on behalf of the Commission."

The Commission approved the memorandum of understanding with amendments. The vote was 6 (Yes), 0 (No), 0 (Abstentions).

[02:07:38](#) **Commission Business**

[02:11:31](#) **Adjourn**

APPROVED at a regular public meeting notice of which was properly given, and at which a quorum of four (4) of seven (7) members was present on March 28, 2022, by a vote of **5** (Yes), **0** (No), **0** (Abstentions).



Randy Speck, Chair



Peter Gosselin, Secretary