



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

Chevy Chase, Barnaby Woods, Hawthorne
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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
May 23, 2022
Zoom Meeting 7:00 – 9:44 pm
Meeting [Link](#)

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

Commissioner Randy Speck (3/4G-03), the Commission’s chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. 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 (3/4G-01) was absent. Speck declared a quorum (being four Commissioners present).

[00:02:57](#) **Zoom Meeting Procedures**

The Commission is now in its third year of meeting virtually because of the COVID pandemic. Chair Speck described the ANC’s Zoom meeting procedures, including its request

that residents register in order to attend the meeting as a means of controlling so-called Zoom bombing.

[00:03:55](#)

Adoption of Agenda

Commissioner Higgins proposed modifying the agenda to take up a proposed alley closing at 5931 Utah Avenue NW. The agenda as modified was adopted 6 (Yes), 0 (No), 0 (Abstain).

[00:05:25](#)

Commissioner Announcements

Chair Speck

Temple Sinai Construction — Temple Sinai is breaking ground on a 9,500-square foot, two-story addition on the southwest side of its building in mid-late June. Planning for this project was interrupted during the pandemic, but it is now permitted and on track for completion over the course of 16-17 months. Temple Sinai invites its neighbors to an information session on Thursday, June 9, 2022 from 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Temple officials will share architectural plans and address the ways they will work to minimize disruption and share information during the project. You can attend in person at Temple Sinai, 3100 Military Road, NW. No RSVP required but they are following Covid safety guidelines (<https://templesinaidc.org/updates/>). You may also register to join on Zoom at https://templesinaidc-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_e1fPWM-2T9mGnQaBMk-P7Q. If you have questions, you may email construction@templesinaidc.org.

Proposed Military Road Trail — The National Park Service in partnership with DDOT is hosting a virtual public meeting from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm on May 24, 2022, to present a proposed pedestrian and bicycle trail study along Military Road within Rock Creek Park. The project will provide a safe, efficient east-west pedestrian and bicycle connection through the park. The proposed connection will be between Oregon Avenue NW and 16th Street NW and will provide connections to the existing trail network within the park. The link to join the meeting is <https://bit.ly/3LWLHbj>.

FY 2023 Budget — The Council took an initial vote on the FY 2023 budget on May 10, 2022. The budget that the Council passed on first vote includes \$500,000 to the Department of Aging and Community Living (DACL) to fund a feasibility study for a senior wellness center in Wards 2 and 3, as the ANC had requested in its March 23, 2022 [testimony](#) at the Council. The capital budget includes \$7.6 million in FY 2023 for the Community Center and Library complex, which is what the Commission sought to

begin planning for the Civic Core. The budget also includes about \$800,000 to bolster the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (OANC), which the Commission supported. The second vote by the Committee of the Whole will be at its meeting on May 24, 2022, beginning at noon.

Redistricting — The Council’s Redistricting Subcommittee met on May 20, 2022, and adopted a [map](#) and a proposed bill ([B24-700](#)) designating ANC and Single Member District boundaries. The boundaries for our ANC are the same as had been recommended by the Ward 3 and Ward 4 Task Forces. The one difference on the map, however, is that our ANC is designated as “ANC 4G” rather than “ANC 3G.” The proposed bill, however, makes our ANC officially “ANC 3/4G.” Subcommittee’s staff confirmed that “the map is not an official document,” and “the text of the bill, as reported out by our subcommittee, officially designates the ANC as ANC 3/4G” — our self-identified designation for several years. The Council’s Committee of the Whole will take a first vote on the proposed bill at its meeting on May 24, 2022, beginning at noon.

Commissioner Zeldin

M4 Bus Route Extension Delayed – Because of continued construction on Oregon Avenue, plans by the District’s Department of Transportation (DDOT) to extend the M4 bus route to the Knollwood retirement community have been delayed.

Commissioner Higgins

Gala to Raise Money for Homeless Services -- ANC3G has received notice that Friendship Place, which has a mission to support the homeless in Washington, D.C. through a variety of programs, has announced its annual Gala will take place on June 16, 2022, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. The event will be hosted by Philippe Etienne, ambassador of France to the U.S., and will take place at the French embassy, 4101 Reservoir Road NW. Tickets for the Gala are priced at \$250 each. Sponsorships are also available at various levels of support. Visit friendshipplace.org/gala for information.

Commissioner Chang

DDOT’s Department of For-Hire Vehicles – Since WMATA has not put the E6 bus back in service, the Department of For-Hire Vehicles is conducting an internal study for a microtransit option, at the Commission’s request, to connect Barnaby Woods & Hawthorne residents to Connecticut Avenue and Friendship Heights. This study is expected to be completed this summer.

Commissioner Gosselin

Chevy Chase Circle Fountain – The fountain will not run at all this summer because the National Park Service will be performing long-delayed repairs.

[00:17:23](#) **Community Announcements**

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

Aura Cruz Heredia, Constituent Services Coordinator, Ward 4 Councilmember Janeese Lewis George:

School in New DC Budget – The FY 2023 budget will help with overcrowding in Ward 4 schools and remove key obstacles to the much-needed modernizations of Ward 4 schools. Among highlights:

- Roosevelt STAY Academy will move to Garnet-Patterson on U Street NW, a renovated, transit-accessible location that will serve its citywide population well;
- Roosevelt High School will get to keep its entire building for itself and thus resolve the severe overcrowding it is experiencing seven years ahead of schedule;
- Truesdell Elementary will swing at Sharpe Health Campus, ensuring that it has a local, renovated swing space with outdoor recess space during its modernization. The previous plan was to have Truesdell swing at Garnet-Patterson on U Street, which is too far, has no outdoor space, and is not suited for elementary/Pre-K students;
- By addressing the shortage of swing space in Ward 4, we also helped ensure that the modernization of Whittier and LaSalle Backus can stay on track (they were at risk of being delayed); and
- The DC budget also includes funding for a new cafeteria addition for Coolidge High School so Coolidge and Ida B Wells no longer have to share their cafeteria space.

Green New Deal -- Councilmember Lewis George has introduced two pieces of legislation. The first -- the Green New Deal for Housing Act -- would bring sustainable, climate-friendly social housing to DC. Social housing is mixed income, DC-owned housing that puts the profits and the power in the hands of the people. Because social

housing is publicly owned, instead of surplus rent going to landlords those funds are invested to lower costs for tenants and create more affordable housing across the city. Each social housing building will be transit oriented, have sustainable features, and net-zero emissions. Social Housing is the critical missing piece to confronting DC's affordable housing crisis while also aligning our housing policies with the urgent need to mitigate climate change.

Meanwhile, the second -- the Green New Deal for a Lead Free DC Act -- would accelerate removal of hazardous lead water service lines on public and private land in DC, while simultaneously delivering good green jobs that inject opportunity in our communities. According to recent DC Water reports, DC is currently on track to only replace 20% of known lead water service lines by 2030. This legislation accelerates this to 100% by 2030. The bill places the burden of lead line removal more squarely on District government and on DC Water.

Abandoned and Dangerous Vehicles -- Earlier this month, the Council unanimously passed a bill to streamline DC's removal of abandoned and dangerous vehicles from our neighborhoods.

Summer in the City -- The councilmember is touring every Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) site in Ward 4 with DPR and Department of General Services (DGS) staff to make sure DPR staff and facilities are ready for summer.

Safety Planning -- The councilmember invites the community to a Ward 4 Summer Safety Strategic Planning Meeting on Wednesday, June 8, 2022 from 5 to 7 pm at MacFarland Middle School, 4400 Iowa Ave NW). You may RSVP at www.eventbrite.com/e/ward-4-summer-safety-strategic-meeting-tickets-348451165817

Robert Gordon, president, Chevy Chase Citizens Association

Chevy Chase DC Day 2022 -- Once again, Chevy Chase Citizens Association is sponsoring Chevy Chase DC Day on September 17 from 1-4 pm at the Community Center. Our family event will feature a Zydeco band, face painting, art show, balloon art, free ice cream and much more. The police will hold a prescription medicine disposal program and the fire department will have a large fire engine to show off. Many of the local civic organizations will have tables describing their activities.

00:33:27

Liquor License Renewals

On a motion by Commissioner Chang, the Commission voted unanimously to support a liquor license renewal for Blue 44 Restaurant at 5507 Connecticut Ave. (License Number: ABRA-085977) NW. On a motion by Commissioner Gosselin, it voted

unanimously to support each renewal of licenses separately for the Parthenon Restaurant and Chevy Chase Lounge at 5510 Connecticut Ave, NW (ABRA-013995), Little Beast Bistro at 5600 Connecticut (ABRA-109091), and Bread and Chocolate at 5542 Connecticut (ABRA-007792).

[00:38:00](#) **Alley Closing**

Meredith Rathbone of 5931 Utah Ave. NW who purchased the property with her husband a year ago, said the couple has applied to the District’s Office of the Surveyor to eliminate a four-to-five foot alley that runs along their property and that of the adjacent Episcopal Center for Children. She said the alley has been unused and records suggest it has been treated as if part of their yard for more than 50 years. On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, the Commission voted unanimously to support the alley’s closing and elimination.

[00:47:57](#) **Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA)**

Isaac Boateng, Ward 3 account manager for the District agency provided a brief overview of the department. During Q&A, Commissioner Zeldin asked who enforces the city’s ban on gas-powered leaf blowers. Boateng said residents should report use to the agency’s consumer protection unit and it will investigate. Commissioner Chang asked how the agency handles owners of vacant property who repeatedly renew construction permits to avoid fines for failing to put the property back into use. Boateng said he would look into the issue.

[01:06:20](#) **Lafayette Local School Advisory Team (LSAT) Update**

Kristen Keefe, Andrea Perll and Martin Levine briefed the Commission on the budget for Lafayette Elementary School for the coming year. The school expects an enrollment decline of about 60 students. Because the school receives about \$10,000 of funding per student and because emergency COVID funding in previous years will end, the school expects a budget decline of more than \$500,000. To cope with the reduction, the school will, among other things, eliminate offering Spanish as an elective subject. Commissioners asked whether the enrollment decline will help relieve some of the overcrowding that last year required the school to eliminate several pre-kindegarten classes. Apparently, it will make only a minimal difference.

[01:42:05](#)

Chevy Chase Main Street Update

Brianne Dornbush, executive director of District Bridges, which manages the Chevy Chase Main Street that was launched to help improve business in the upper Connecticut Avenue corridor, said she is recruiting a new manager for the local program after its previous manager left early this year. Commissioners Gosselin and Chang, whose single member districts including the Connecticut corridor, expressed disappointment in Main Street's performance to date and asked that Dornbush return during a future meeting for a more extended discussion of what can be done to improve the program.

[01:57:41](#)

Department of Transportation (DDOT) Presentation

Christian Pineiro, DDOT's community engagement specialist for Wards 3 and 4, repeated a presentation he had earlier given to the Commission about the agency's traffic safety investigation process. A PowerPoint deck of it can be found [here](#).

[02:39:01](#)

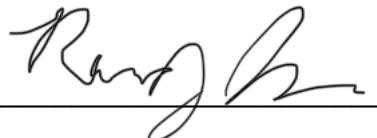
Commission Business

- **Minutes** – On a motion by Commissioner Gosselin, the Commission unanimously approved minutes for its April 11, 25, and May 9, 2022 meetings.
- **Finances** – On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, the Commission approved three checks, one for \$162.26 for Verizon and two for \$222.58 each for Chair Speck to reimburse him for payment of the ANC's Zoom subscription.
- **Administrative Assistant** – Commissioner Zeldin asked about what has happened with the effort to hire an administrative assistant for the Commission. Higgins answered "Nothing." The ANC has been unable to fill the position for almost a year.
- **Possible items for the ANC's June 13, 2022 Meeting** -- Discussion and possible vote on resolution to support the "Enhancing Reproductive Health Protections Amendment Act of 2022" ([BA24-0726](#)) before the District Council and the "Women's Protection Act of 2021" ([HR 3755](#)) before the U.S. Congress; DDOT update on the Connecticut Avenue NW Multimodal and Safety Project Study; discussion and possible vote on creation of a Standing Committee on Zoning, Design, and Development to advise the Commission on implementation of the Chevy Chase Small Area Plan.

[02:43:51](#)

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 June 13, 2022, by a vote of **6** yes, **0** no, **0** abstentions.



Randy Speck, Chair



Peter Gosselin, Secretary