



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

Chevy Chase, Barnaby Woods, Hawthorne
5601 Connecticut Avenue N.W. P.O. Box 6252 Washington, D.C. 20015
3G@anc.dc.gov <http://www.anc3g.org> YouTube: ANC3G Office: 202.363.5803

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
June 27, 2022
Zoom Meeting 7:00 – 9:07 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 Lisa R Gore (3/4G-01), John K. Higgins (3/4G-02), Connie K.N. Chang (3/4G-05), Peter Gosselin (3/4G-06), and Charles Cadwell (3/4G-07). Commissioner Michael Zeldin (3/4G-04) joined about five minutes into the meeting. Speck declared a quorum (being four commissioners present). He 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.

[00:04:52](#) **Adoption of Agenda**

The agenda was adopted on a vote of 7 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions.

[00:05:39](#)

Commissioner Announcements

Chair Speck

Congratulations to Commissioner Gore — Although Commissioner Gore did not win the Democratic Party primary on June 21, 2022, she came in second with more than 32,000 votes for At-Large Council. She ran an outstanding race and raised important issues for the District. We appreciate her dedication and commitment in running.

Palisades July 4th Parade — The 56th Palisades July 4th Parade will be on Monday, July 4, 2022. Line-up begins on Whitehaven Pkwy at 10:00 am in the order in which people appear. No registration is necessary. The parade begins at 11:00 am, and there will be a free picnic at the end at the Palisades Rec Center. More information is available at the Palisaded Community Association [website](#).

[00:08:08](#)

Decision not to Run for Re-election & to Step Down as Chair — Chair Speck said the following: “I am proud to have served as an Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner for ANC 3/4G since January 2013, and as its chair since January 2015. I’m grateful to the 19 commissioners with whom I’ve served and from whom I’ve learned. It’s now time, however, for others to assume this demanding but rewarding role. Thus, I will not seek re-election in November to represent ANC 3/4G03.

The last two years have been especially challenging. Not only did the pandemic require the Commission to meet virtually, but we’ve had six new commissioners who had to learn on the job while tackling some particularly difficult and controversial issues — e.g., the DCPS proposal to make the Military Road School exclusive for Lafayette Elementary pre-kindergarten rather than open it to all the District’s kids, the development of the Chevy Chase Small Area Plan, and Maret School’s proposal to build a sports field behind the Episcopal Center for Children. The Commission addressed these and other topics energetically, transparently, sincerely, and cooperatively — though it was impossible to satisfy all of our constituents.

As will always be the case, the commissioners who are elected in November will be expected to offer their views on a number of formidable decisions. They will have a major role in helping to shape the new Civic Core with the Community Center and Library that will serve the community’s needs and housing that will bring more diversity and affordability to Chevy Chase. Commissioners and their new Zoning, Design, and Development Committee will be key to implementation of the Small Area Plan. The Commission will continue to press for

ways to address overcrowding at Lafayette, the implications for our neighborhood of the plans for bike lanes on Connecticut Avenue, the continued vitality of our small businesses, and the constant need to address racial and social equity issues.

While I will no longer be a commissioner, I expect to help where I can to support and strengthen our neighborhood and to make it an even better place to live, work, play, and learn. I also plan to work with the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions as a mentor for the new commissions that have been created by redistricting and for the newly elected cohort of commissioners. I hope to share my ten years of experience to shorten the learning curve for first-time commissioners — including whoever represents ANC 3/4G03 next year.

I encourage anyone who cares about this neighborhood to pick up the petitions after July 20th to get on the ballot, to collect the required 25 signatures by August 11th, and to run to be a commissioner in the November 8th election. You will get to know your neighbors better, learn how to make the District government work more effectively for us, and contribute to the community's well-being. I appreciate the opportunity that I have had to make what I hope has been a positive difference for Chevy Chase, Barnaby Woods, and Hawthorne.

To facilitate our Commission's transition, I am also resigning as chair, effective at the Commission's July 11th meeting, when the commissioners will select a new chair for the remainder of this year. I will, however, remain on the Commission until the end of my term on December 31, 2022."

Commissioners congratulated Speck on his decision and thanked him for his long and productive leadership.

Commissioner Gosselin

Three Important Meetings about Chevy Chase's Future – On Tuesday, June 28, 2022, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. DDOT will host a virtual public meeting to lay out its plans for Connecticut Avenue from Calvert Street in Woodley Park to Legation Street here. Here's the information you need to attend:

- Attendee Meeting Link: rebrand.ly/ConnAveRevStudy
- Webinar Number: 2313 486 8372
- Webinar Password: June28!
- The Webex system will prompt you for an Attendee ID, this is not required
- Press the # key to join the meeting.

On Wednesday, June 29, 2022, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. DDOT will host an in-person meeting for the same purpose at University of the District of Columbia in Van Ness. Here are the specifics:

- Location: UDC, 4200 Connecticut Avenue, NW. Meeting will be held in the Student Center Building, 3rd Floor Ballroom
- Nearest Metro Station is Van Ness-UDC Metro Stop on the Red Line
- L2 Chevy Chase Circle Bus also drops off directly outside the Student Center

On Tuesday, July 5, 2022, starting at 11 a.m., the Council has scheduled a Public Roundtable as it prepares to approve the Chevy Chase Small Area Plan. Those who wish to testify must register by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, July 1, 2022. To learn more and register to testify, visit: dccouncil.us/event/committee-of-the-whole-public-roundtable-46/.

Dangerous Military Road-Chevy Chase Parkway Intersection – Chevy Chase Parkway from Legation Street to Military Road was repaved on June 18, 2022. Unfortunately, this involved removing the pavement markings and bollard or flex-post island that neighbors and the Commission had fought hard to get installed to improve safety. Commissioner Gosselin asked and received permission from fellow commissioners to write to the District’s Department of Transportation (DDOT) if the markings and bollards have not been installed by mid-July.

00:23:38 Community Announcements

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

Monkeypox Vaccination – The city has received an allotment of monkeypox vaccine and began accepting signups from residents for appointments to receive doses at 1 p.m. June 27, 2022. As happened during the early distribution of COVID vaccines, all appointments were taken within minutes, but further sign ups are planned. For more information, go to: <https://dchealth.dc.gov/page/monkeypox>

Cleaning Up After Dogs – Questioned by Commissioner Gore, Gur-Ravantab said the city has signs that notify owners that it is illegal not to properly dispose of dog waste. He said he has seen receptacles for dog waste, but did not know whether these were erected by the government or others and would find out and report back.

Enforcing the Gas Leaf Blower Ban – Commissioner Zeldin complained that the city is not enforcing a ban of gas-powered leafblowers that took effect at the beginning of the year. He asked what residents should do if they see a yard crew using gas blowers. Gur-Ravantab said

the city has a website for reporting violations. He posted the following link for the site: <https://dcra.kustomer.help/contact/consumer-complaint-form-Sk6BW94Lu>. He said the city's Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) has authority to investigate and levy fines of \$500 per offense.

[00:35:25](#) **Liquor License Renewal for Knollwood**

Paul Bricker, chief operating officer, and June Schroenhamer, executive chef, both with the Knollwood Retirement Community at 6200 Oregon Ave. NW, asked the Commission to support renewal of the community Class C restaurant liquor license ([License Number ABRA-096716](#)). The Commission voted 6 yes, 0 no. Commissioner Higgins, a Knollwood resident, recused himself.

[00:48:10](#) **Presentation on Grant Application to Restore Neighborhood Call Boxes**

Historic Chevy Chase DC (HCCDC), as the main applicant, together with the Chevy Chase Citizens Association (CCCA), Ch/Art and Chevy Chase Main Street applied for a \$2,000 grant from the ANC to partially pay for refurbishing one of several long-abandoned police and fire call boxes in the neighborhood, including using them for small art installations. Edward Hayes Jr, an HCCDC board member, said the boxes were installed beginning in the 1870s to allow residents to alert the Fire Department of blazes and to help police communicate in an era before telephones. He said they were in use until the 1970s. The plan is to refurbish the metal stanchions and use the surfaces and compartments for art and history exhibits.

Under its rules, the Commission must hear a presentation on a grant application at one meeting, but then delay a vote on it until the next. So the Commission will take the matter up at its July 11, 2022 meeting.

[01:13:04](#) **Establish Zoning, Design & Development Standing Committee**

Commissioner Gosselin said that more than half of the ANC's resolutions during the first 18 months of its 2021-2022 term involved issues of zoning, design and development and that, with the redevelopment of the Community Center-Library in the offing and the possibility of private development proposal more likely with passage of the Chevy Chase Small Area Plan (SAP), these issues will remain front and center for the Commission in the coming years. He said that dealing with these issues often requires research and connecting with the proper municipal officials. For these reasons, he said the Commission should create a standing committee of at least two commissioners and three to five residents to act as an "initial study group" and "adviser" to the full Commission.

To illustrate the need for the committee, Gosselin reported that he had examined the extent to which the city's Office of Planning (OP) took recommendations for changes in the draft SAP that a [Commission majority made on May 9, 2022](#). A summary of his findings can be downloaded here: <https://anc3g.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/GOSSELIN-Comparison-of-5-9-22-ANC-SAP-resolution-OP-6-1-3-22-final-SAP-docs-for-6.27.22-public-meeting.xlsx>

Goselin said OP did agree to create a special zoning area for the upper Connecticut Avenue commercial corridor and eliminated a recommendation to alter rules for single-family zoning area in the community. Otherwise, he said "the Office of Planning essentially took none of the majority's recommendations..."

On a vote of 7 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions. the Committee agreed to establish the standing committee.

[01:45:18](#) **Council Testimony on Chevy Chase Small Area Plan**

Chair Speck described testimony he drafted for delivery during a July 5, 2022 Council roundtable on the Chevy Chase Small Area Plan that is preparatory to the full Council voting on the plan OP has presented them with on July 12, 2022. While acknowledging that OP has given the ANC an "institutional response" to the Commission's calls for changes in the draft plan, he said that the city agency has indicated that it envisions a "bigger role for the ANC." This is the start of a lengthy process," Speck said. "It's very important that we continue to be strongly involved in this; that we continue to be strongly pushing forward for the things that we think are important for our community."

Much of the discussion among commissioners revolved around the tone of the testimony. For example, Commissioner Zeldin said that the ANC's May 9, 2022 resolution made the Commission's support for the OP's draft SAP contingent on the agency agreeing to changes. Zeldin said that since the OP has not agreed to many, perhaps most, of the changes, the Commission should oppose Council approval of the SAP. Speck responded to Zeldin and other commissioners, saying "I don't think we should be talking about opposition...It's just unnecessarily negative." At another point in the discussion and speaking of the city, Speck said "I think they gave us a good deal. And I think we're going to be able to work with OP on this." Gosselin said he would be testifying at the roundtable in his own capacity.

On a vote of 7 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions. the Committee agreed to adopt with modifications the testimony Speck drafted.

[02:00:53](#)

Commission Business

- **Minutes** – On a motion by Commissioner Gosselin, the Commission unanimously approved minutes for its June 13, 2022 meeting.
- **Finances** – On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, the Commission unanimously approved checks for \$222.58 to reimburse Chair Speck for its Zoom subscription and \$162.26 for Verizon.
- **Possible Items for the ANC’s July 11, 2022 Meeting** – Election of new chair; discussion with District Bridges regarding needed improvements to Chevy Chase Main Street; presentations and discussion on improving pedestrian access to Chevy Chase Circle; discussion with Christopher Geldart, Deputy Mayor for Public Safety, regarding enhancing public safety in apartment buildings; discussion and possible vote on Historic Chevy Chase DC’s grant application.

[02:06:52](#)

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 July 11, 2022, by a vote of **7** yes, **0** no, **0** abstentions.



Randy Speck, Chair



Peter Gosselin, Secretary