



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

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<http://www.anc3g.org> | YouTube: ANC3G

COMMISSIONERS

3/4G-01 - Lisa R. Gore, Chair 3/4G-02 - Bruce Sherman, Secretary, 3/4G-03 - James Nash, 3/4G-04 - Michael Zeldin 3/4G-05 - Peter Lynch 3/4G-06 - Peter Gosselin, Vice Chair 3/4G-07 - Zachary Ferguson, Treasurer

Regular Meeting
March 4, 2024
Minutes

Meeting called to order. Commissioners Gore, Gosselin, Lynch, Nash, and Sherman in attendance.

Amendments to agenda: (1) discussion of WMATA proposed bus line cuts, (b) brief on Transportation Cmte formation; amended agenda approved, 5-0

Comm. Sherman's Civic Core resolution: to reiterate ANC 3/4G's position requesting that DMPED amend the Civic Core RFP to restrict building height to 60' with a preference for proposals that concentrate height along the Connecticut Avenue side of the site to respect the scale of adjacent single-family homes

Residents speak in response to the resolution:

Sheryl Barnes in support: upzoning diminishes low-income housing

Karynthia Simmons: why is height an issue?

Christopher Vaden opposed: ANC should focus on April 29th meeting

Michelle Wolin in support: ANC should heed the survey, preserve green space and public uses

Claudia Russell in support: height takes away light, sense of space, qualitative aspects of streetscape

Leonard Shambon in support: important to protest, exercise political rights

Andrea McCabe: questioned 60% in opposition to housing at the site figure

Commissioners speak in response to the resolution:

Comm. Nash opposes, questions ANC survey

Comm. Lynch offers friendly amendments: protect outdoor space and heritage trees, no hotel or retail

Comm. Gosselin supports as written. OK with no hotel, seeks to preserve trees on NW Civic Core corner

Comm. Gore opposes: too many resolutions, too much information, not proper process

Call for vote: approved 3-2-0 (Commissioners Gosselin, Sherman, and Lynch in support; Comms. Gore and Nash opposed) as amended to include specifying protection of heritage trees on NW corner, limited retail, and no hotel

(Commissioner Zeldin joins the meeting in progress.)

Commission testimony for DC Council oversight hearings: Comm. Gosselin has sent testimony to DDOT (to be shared and posted). Others will prepare for the next meeting: Comms. Lynch and Zeldin, DCPS; Comm. Sherman DDOE (bio-retention and artificial turf); Comms. Gore & Gosselin, DMPED. Comm. Gosselin noted testimony should be widely palatable in hopes of unanimous support.

Look-ahead to April 29 Zoning Commission hearing on proposed amendments to Connecticut Avenue. Com. Gore asked OP to come to March 27 ANC meeting to brief the Commission.

Look-ahead to Commission testimony for upcoming budget hearings. Comm. Gore notes testimony at oversight and budget hearings outweighs resolutions.

Comm. Sherman's WMATA Resolution. Calls on WMATA not to cut the M4 or curtail the L2, as proposed pending budget reductions. Comm. Nash supports, asks to include the D31, 32, 33 and 34, and to call on DC to honor the government's \$200M pledge to help fund WMATA. Michaela Platzer suggests adding the E6 and appending past ANC resolutions.

Call for vote: approved, 6-0.

CVS Parking lot special exception. Discussion now, vote at the next Commission meeting. Attorney Marty Sullivan, representing the owners, discusses the request. In the past, the exception has been for 10 years. Owners would now like an unlimited exception. The only parking lot with such an exception is Safeway. Larger issue: there's enough parking in the area, but too much of it is heavily restricted and not available (e.g., PNC, Wells Fargo, Citibank, Fishery lots). The ANC should use these and other restrictions as leverage to encourage greater access/fewer restrictions on parking lots. Bike lanes will limit parking further.

Community/Commissioner comments:

Karrenthya Simmons: if parking not allowed, could there be housing?

Jerry Malitz: There is low occupancy at many lots. When banks are closed lots should be available.

Elizabeth Nagy: Civic Core RFP downplays parking.

Comm Zeldin: who is using the lots? Employees? Are there restrictions?

CVS sign says no employee parking. No zoning restrictions.

Discussion of Civic Core RFP special meeting. Comm. Lynch has emailed but gotten no commitment from Office of Planning to attend. He senses OP's reluctance, that they can't answer questions.

Guidance/protocol on Commissioners' speaking with potential Civic Core bidders: Comm. Sherman will check with OANC or OAG and share. This particular RFP might be different as it specifically calls on bidders to reach out.

Community announcements

Comm. Nash notes first planning meeting for transportation committee.
Comm. Sherman mentions SMD 02 Zoom call on DCPS budget, Lafayette.
The Lafayette Field meeting with DGS and DPR will be March 13, 6-7:30 at the school.

End of Meeting

Peter Gosselin, Vice Chair



Bruce Sherman, Secretary


