

WPCA Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Pesto Ristorante: 2915 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Recorded by Stephanie Zobay

I. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:07pm, on February 26, 2006, by President Nour Jurgenson.

II. Agenda Items

A. Schedule Special Meeting: President Jurgenson offered March 9, 2006 as the date for the WPCA Special Meeting requested by petitioners. Discussion included when was the petition mailed. President Jurgenson said she received her copy on either February 8 or 9, 2006. President Jurgenson noted that the petitioners had requested JBG at the meeting. A copy of the petition was circulated among the Executive Committee. President Jurgenson noted her respect for Marriott/JBG Chair Kurt Vorndran and his countless hours spent negotiating with lawyers, JBG representatives, the Zoning Office and informing the Executive Board and the community of developments. Stephanie Clipper asked for clarification on correspondence and discussions. She stated that there had been talk of a Special Meeting and that a meeting took place on February 8, 2006 at St. Thomas Apostle Church. Was this the Special Meeting or was it an Executive Committee meeting? President Jurgenson stated that the meeting at St. Thomas on February 8, 2006 was a community meeting to provide information to the community. President Jurgenson added that Deborah Jane Lindeman was hosting a separate community meeting on February 28, 2006, 6:30-10pm at Oyster Bilingual Elementary School.

Stephanie Clipper also inquired as to whether it was prudent to hold an Executive Committee meeting the day before the Special Meeting. President Jurgenson said she would consider rescheduling the Executive Committee meeting. President Jurgenson also said there were a lot of issues and a web master had been invited to brief the Executive Committee about developing a web site for WPCA, and that she could hold another Executive Committee meeting later, if necessary.

Barbara Ioanes stated that an email she received said that the presentation by JBG at the meeting hosted by Deborah Jane Lindeman on February 28th would be their 8th presentation. When were the previous 7? President Jurgenson said she preferred to allow Kurt Vorndran answer that when he arrived, as he had previously indicated he would be late to the meeting.

B. Treasurer's Report: Ellen Passman was not in attendance to provide the Treasurer's Report. President Jurgenson noted that WPCA had outstanding

- bills relating to the attorney's fee and the Wells traffic review by the Berger Group.
- C. Establishment of a Quorum: At the request of President Jurgenson, Stephanie Zobay, Secretary, confirmed that at 6:47pm a quorum consisting of at least 6 members of the Woodley Park Community Association Executive Committee were present.
 - D. Approval of the Minutes: Stephanie Zobay moved that the January 2006 minutes be approved, and received a second from Bernie Arons. Stephanie Zobay noted that a few typographical edits needed to be made. Discussion about the accuracy of the attendance list resulted in the addition of 3 names to the attendance list. With no further discussion, the minutes were unanimously approved by a vote of 6-0.
 - E. Committee Reports:
 - a. Stanford in Washington: No update was provided by Chairperson Stephanie Clipper at this time.
 - b. Call Box Committee: Liaison Camille Kurtz was not in attendance to provide an update.
 - F. Working Group Reports:
 - a. Swiss Embassy Update: Liaison Sally MacDonald provided an update. On February 24, 2006 at the request of Stephanie Zobay, the expanded WPCA working group met with Davis Construction, and Martin Von Arx, Consul General for the Embassy of Switzerland. President Jurgenson was also in attendance. According to Sally MacDonald, the public space work is done and the permanent street patches will be done when the weather warms up. PEPCO work still needs to be done. In the spring the landscape work will commence. The Embassy has increased the number of trees and increased the size of the trees. Davis Construction is responsible for the maintenance of the trees for a one year. The project is slated to be completed by the end of April 2006.

Roy Woodall noted that a PDF file detailing the landscape plan will be sent to Stephanie Zobay and distributed for neighbors. He added that the current concrete portion of the building will be painted gray and that due to the tree coverage of the old residence he never saw the old residence. Stephanie Zobay added that the Embassy is planning to provide a green roof on the Embassy and that the working group has asked for information on mature tree heights of the proposed plantings.

Sally MacDonald added that the landscaper is arriving from Germany soon and will meet with the community, and that the Embassy building itself won a worldwide architectural competition.
 - b. Acorn Newsletter Update: President Jurgenson introduced Judy Orvos as the Acorn Newsletter Editor. President Jurgenson said WPCA had received 10-11 advertisements and that these would help defray the costs associated

with printing and distributing the Acorn. She also indicated that an E-newsletter was pending.

- c. Tregaron Conservancy Update: Stephanie Zobay provided the update. The northern boundary of Woodley Park borders the historic landmark, the Tregaron Estate. Washington International School (“WIS”) is located within this landmark. Part of the property is to be deeded to WIS so they may expand their athletic fields. The property owners wish to sell the property and an agreement has been reached between the owners, WIS, and Friends of Tregaron (“FOT”). A total of 8 lots are to be sold (2 on Macomb Street, NW, 1 on the open portion of Klinge Road, NW, and 5 on the closed portion of Klinge Road, NW, understanding that the building will only commence if the road is reopened). A liaison committee is being formed to protect the landmark property and a WPCA liaison is provided for on this committee. Thus, WPCA needs to appoint a liaison for this position.

Sally MacDonald volunteered, stating she was involved in the initial communications on this property as past ANC3C Commissioner. She also said she would be happy to allow any community member interested in the project to take her place, should such a person step forward. Stephanie Zobay moved to appoint Sally MacDonald as the WPCA liaison for Tregaron. The motion received a second from Bill Kummings. The motion was approved by a vote of 6-0.

- d. Financial Committee: No update was provided by Liaison Nour Jurgenson at this time.
- e. Maret School: Liaison Sally MacDonald reported no issues at this time.
- f. St. Albans: Liaison Nour Jurgenson reported no issues at this time.
- g. Aidan Montessori School: Liaison Anne Marie Bairstow was not in attendance to provide an update.
- h. House Tour: Liaison Nour Jurgenson provided no update at this time.
- i. JGB/Wardman Park Marriott Hotel: Liaison Kurt Vorndran provided an update.
 - 1) On February 20, Kurt Vondran received calls from the Calvert Woodley House because of construction. According to Mr. Vorndran, D.C. Code limits noisy construction on holidays. After several hours of interacting with them, JBG agreed to Mr. Vorndran’s demand that they stop the work on the project for the day.
 - 2) The community meeting on February 8, 2006 was well attended. The questions from the community are to be transcribed and forwarded to JBG as well as emailed. The meeting lasted for 2.5 hours.
 - 3) The subcommittee has taken several actions. After 2 meetings, the draft Construction Management Agreement (“CMA”) is finished. The committee requested no construction work on Sundays or 4 holidays (Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Years Day, and Easter). Given that

Easter is a Sunday holiday, Mr. Vorndran stated that he used his discretion and amended the draft agreement to replace Easter Sunday with Good Friday. The draft agreement was forwarded to JBG and they responded, indicating they would like the attorneys for both sides to meet. Kurt Vorndran and Stephanie Zobay will monitor this meeting.

- 4) The subcommittee voted 15-2 in support of the west-most curb cut only. JBG still wants 3 cuts. A minority report was presented to the subcommittee subsequent to the vote which favored no new curb cuts and use of the existing cuts to circulate traffic internally.
- 5) Where does the Board go from here? Aidan has had discussions with JBG and these were added to the WPCA CMA. The construction entrance will be the current hotel entrance. Mr. Vorndran stated that WPCA should wait and see what JBG offers with respect to the CMA.
- 6) Jeff Jennings of DDOT identified 3 criteria DDOT will take when deciding the curb cut issue:
 - a) safety: 27th Street NW is one of the main issues as is site lines on Woodley Road, NW.
 - b) parking: JBG indicated a net loss of 2 parking spaces, which is not significant.
 - c) traffic: WPCA has shared the Berger Group review with DDOT.

Bill Kummings asked if WPCA raised issues with respect to safety on Calvert Street as well as Woodley Road, or just Woodley Road.

Janet Frank noted that the meeting hosted by Deborah Jane Lindeman was not a presentation by JBG, but that JBG was to be present at Deborah Jane Lindeman's invitation. She also noted that the ANC ought to have a chance to review the CMA.

Barbara Ioanes noted that the ANC is not involved in the CMA. There is no tie-in with the CMA and curb cuts. Charles Carlsen asked if there was a tie-in with the CMA and curb cuts.

Stephanie Zobay commented that no Sunday work is allowed in DC with out a special permit.

Sally MacDonald said that the WPCA need to respond before the ANC acts.

President Jurgenson addressed the fiscal responsibility of WPCA. She stated WPCA had approximately \$39,000 in the bank and approximately \$2500 outstanding to the Berger Group and approximately \$1200 outstanding in legal fees.

Bernie Arons asked for a brief recap. Stephanie Zobay gave a brief overview of the project to the Executive Committee.

Barbara Ioanes asked if the curb cut application by JBG asked for 3 cuts or only one cut.

Chuck Carlsen asked to address the Executive Committee and present the minority opinion of the curb cuts. He stated that a majority of the

community was dissatisfied with the subcommittee recommendations. He asked about the police presence at the February 8 community meeting. President Jurgenson stated that the police were invited as a result of the vulgar language displayed at the last Executive Committee meeting.

Mr. Carlsen stated he felt that the subcommittee was favoring a trade-off between the curb cuts and the CMA and he wanted to know if this was in writing. A very heated discussion arose between President Jurgenson and Mr. Carlsen, as President Jurgenson felt Mr. Carlsen was accusing Mr. Vorndran of acting inappropriately with respect to his chairing of the subcommittee.

Stephanie Clipper asked Mr. Carlsen as to what he expected from her as an Executive Committee member acting on the curb cut issue. She stated that as a citizen, she has made up her mind on the issue and political allegations would not change her vote.

Stephanie Zobay stated that technically WPCA had no authority to weigh in on the curb cut vote, and that he should attend the next ANC meeting to make his feelings known, as the ANC's recommendation was given great weight by DDOT.

- j. WPCA Activities: Liaison Erin Seckso was not in attendance to provide an update.
- k. Speakers Committee: Liaison Judy Waxman was not in attendance to provide an update.
- l. Oyster Bilingual School: Liaison Stephanie Zobay reported no updates at this time.
- m. Crime: Liaison Nelson Morais was not in attendance to provide an update.
- n. Website: President Jurgenson briefed the community on the status of the WPCA website. Kevin Johnson is no longer the Webmaster for WPCA. President Jurgenson has contacted several people and asked them to submit a proposal to update the WPCA website. Jeff Porten has responded and would include a forum for discussion on the website.
- o. Annual Awards Dinner: Liaison Nour Jurgenson provided no update at this time.
- p. Woodley Triangle Park: No update was provided by Liaison Martin Murray at this time.

III. Old Business

All Wrapped Up: Barbara Ioanes provided an update. Subway restaurant has been given permits to open a restaurant in Woodley Park. Woodley Park is protected by an overlay zone which limits the number of restaurants at the street level. A walking meeting was held on Wednesday February 22, 2006 to recheck the restaurant store front linear footage in our overlay zone. Ms. Ioanes stated she attended the walk-about at the invitation of Mr. Bill Crews, the DCRA

Zoning Administrator. In addition to Mr. Crews, others attending the walk-about were ANC Chair Nancy MacWood, ANC Commissioner Stephanie Zobay, Cleveland Park resident Peter Espensheid, and a team from DCRA. Ms. Ioanes stated she was sorry Nour and /or Kurt had not attended, as Mr. Crews had invited them as well. Both indicated they had not received his e-mail. Ms. Ioanes said that by DCRA's issuance of the permits without following proper procedures and notification to our ANC, that DCRA is setting an unworkable precedent in our overlay zone. She said Mr. Crews issued Stop Work Orders.

IV. New Business

- A. WPCA Kids: Stephanie Zobay provided the update. This new working group is designed to involve the children of Woodley Park in the community. Activities will be designed or scheduled that allow children and families to participate, such as Woodley Park Day at the Zoo to see the pandas, or showing a movie on a Saturday, with snacks and drinks. Barbara Ioanes stated that no panda tickets were necessary before 11am.

Barbara Ioanes also expressed concern with WPCA's liability at such events. Stephanie Zobay commented that the activities would not be "babysitting" type activities, but rather family oriented.

Kurt Vorndran moved that the new working group be approved. The motion received a second from Stephanie Clipper. The motion was approved by a vote of 6-0.

- B. WPCA Future: Nour Jurgenson provided the update. This new working group will address what the community envisions the future holds for WPCA. It will address such items such as how can the Association be promoted, and how can the association attract members. President Jurgenson noted that people have joined because of the construction project. The group welcomes diverse opinions.

Bernie Arons added that good, continued discussion is necessary as people get involved because of an issue, but tend to drop out once the issue is resolved.

Keeping people in the Association needs focus.

Stephanie Clipper discussed the issue of dues. Currently WPCA does not require dues. She commented on the fact that people tend to get galvanized around an issue and the association is the vehicle. However, people she has approached about joining the association have commented that they have no time or energy to do more. She concluded by acknowledging that a dynamic website was critical.

Bill Kummings commented that the Fall Fair and the Christmas party were well attended by the community and wondered what the follow-up was. President Jurgenson stated that 45-60 new members were attracted as a result of these activities, so social activities are important. Social activities allow residents to feel part of the community without dealing with issues affecting the community.

Activities can retain people and keep the momentum. President Jurgenson stated that it is difficult to find Board members, noting that people want to come to a meeting fostered by a positive attitude and not a gripe session.

Stephanie Clipper inquired as to whether WPCA was in shape to take on issues in the community with respect to the BZA, HPRB, etc.

Barbara Ioanes commented that as past president, the job of the president is too much work if there are no volunteers. She noted that the Association has become smaller with respect to the number of people who regularly attend WPCA meetings.

President Jurgenson said that the current Board is active and supports the president. She noted that we need to make the organization a priority for the community.

Stephanie Clipper reiterated that WPCA needs to utilize the website as the source for information. WPCA needs to build credibility by having up to date information on the website. She added that each officer/committee could have their own space to promote their activities.

President Jurgenson added that there will be advertising on the website and this advertising would help defray the cost of the website.

Sally MacDonald stated that Woodley Park used to engage in high profile activities such as Woodley Park Day whereby Connecticut Avenue was blocked off for part of the day.

V. Announcements

President Jurgenson was asked what date she meant for the Executive Meeting, as the agenda listed, Wednesday, March 11 for the Board Meeting. After consulting with a calendar, she stated that the Board meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, March 8, and the Special Meeting was on March 9.

VII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was offered by Kurt Vorndran. Stephanie Clipper seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

List of Executive Member Attendees:

Nour Jurgenson, President

Kurt Vorndran, Vice-President

Stephanie Zobay, Secretary

Bill Kummings, At-Large Member

Bernie Arons, Past President

Stephanie Clipper, At-Large Member
and Stanford Committee Chairman