

Meeting Minutes
WPCA Executive Committee
April 7, 2010

Present:

Jay Sushelsky, President
Barbara Ioanes, Vice President
Sarah Taber, Secretary
John Goodman, Past President
Bruce Forrest, Treasurer
Bill Menczer
Warren Gorlick
Emily Wagner
Paul Poe
Peter Brusoe
Tamora Ilasat
Anne-Marie Bairstow, ANC3C03 & Chairperson
Bill Kummings, ANC302
Lee Brian Reba, ANC3C01

Call to Order

President Jay Sushelsky called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

The minutes of the March 3, 2010 Executive Committee meeting were approved by unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report

Checking: \$2,420.98. Recent payment of \$485.10 to cover *Acorn* postage.
Savings: \$3,129.14 Recent additions of \$790 (dues and contributions).
CD: \$25,365.57 (BofA)

TOTAL: \$30,906.69.

Notes: Acorn mailing bill has doubled. The annual review of books conducted by Paul Poe has been completed through March 21, 2010, with no adverse findings.

Committee Reports

Tamora Ilasat will be moving forward with the painting of 8 call boxes. No contractors expressed interest in sandblasting them due to environmental issues regarding the possible presence of lead paint. The Committee determined that it was not an issue since the boxes no longer contained any original lead paint. Those willing to paint should contact Tamora.

Old Business

1. Spring Activity

- On April 14, 2010, at 7:30 p.m., there will be the Woodley Park Overlay Panel Meeting, sponsored by the WPCA and the 3 ANC commissioners.
- The much anticipated Shredding/Hazmat event will be held on April 17, 2010, from 10:00 a.m-1:00 p.m., at the All Souls parking lot. Councilmembers Mary Cheh and Jim Graham will attend. While Peter Brusoe and Paul Poe have volunteered already, more are still needed if you are available. Our sincerest thanks to Ann-Marie, who has volunteered to drive the hazmat laden truck to the Fort Totten Transfer Station!

2. May *Acorn*

Please submit your contributions to John, Jay, or Emily by May 20, 2010. The goal is to mail the issue out at the end of May, to arrive in mailboxes by early June.

Jay Sushelsky reported that while there was an unanticipated additional postage charge of \$400.00 by Print1 (due to new Postal Service regulations), the company deducted this amount from the printing charges, so no additional money was required for this issue. He will be working with Print1 to determine what changes are needed to the *Acorn* address format in order to avoid these additional postal costs in the future.

3. Metro Fare Increases

Peter Brusoe requested a press release be featured in the *Northwest Current* to express the views and ongoing concerns of the WPCA Executive Committee regarding this matter. The Committee agreed for John to send a copy of the letter to the *Current*. Peter also will draft a letter that could be sent to the Interim Metro General Manager on the safety issues raised by broken escalators at the Woodley Park Metrorail station and will suggest that “Zoo” be added to the Cleveland Park Metrorail station signs to alleviate crowding at the Woodley Park station.

4. CAPA

Marlene Berlin has submitted the requested documentation to the board for review. WPCA action will be reviewed at the next meeting.

5. Donation of Items to the American University Auction

At an earlier meeting, the committee voted not to donate articles to the AU Auction, since there was not enough information on which to make a decision. Jay told the committee that after that meeting, he spoke to Peter and determined that donating a Woodley House book and a WPCA hat was appropriate. He asked for and received from the committee ratification for the items he provided for the auction.

6. Review of WPCA books

Thank you to Paul Poe for completing the review of the WPCA books, which is required by the by-laws of the organization. Paul noted that Bruce has kept excellent and accurate records of the accounts. Bruce will be researching the Internal Revenue Code to determine the number of years of that financial records need to be retained for the WPCA, a nonprofit organization under Section 501(c)(3).

7. Summer Picnic

The date of the picnic is June 12, 2010. Tamora Ilasat and Sarah Taber are co-chairs of the Picnic Committee. Other members include Bill Menczer, Warren Gorlick, Jay Sushelsky, and John Goodman. The budget and further details of the picnic will be reviewed at the next meeting.

New Business

1. City Trash Pick-up from Woodley Park

Peter Brusoe will be contacting the 311 DC Mayor's call center to request an additional trash receptacle to be placed between Woodley Road and 27th Street, as well as one in the vicinity of Klinge Rd. and Woodley Rd.

2. WPCAOnline.org Web Hosting

John Goodman reports to us that rates for hosting the WPCA website will be increasing to \$700 per year. He will be researching what is involved in transferring to a more affordable company that should cost only \$200 per year and was authorized by the Committee to engage a new company to host our website.

3. Public Conduct Ordinances

The Committee approved Peter Brusoe's request to draft a letter that could be sent to Councilmember Mary Cheh regarding the lack of MPD enforcement taken against those individuals who illegally deposit human liquid waste in public spaces.

4. Hands-on-DC

This is a volunteer program that provides basic maintenance and cleaning to schools in less privileged areas of DC. Their request for WPCA endorsement was approved by the Board. John will be posting information on the website. The annual one-day event will be held on May 15.

5. Oyster School Donation

It was motioned and approved by the Board to donate \$200 to the benefit auction.

6. Laptop computer purchase proposal

It was agreed not to pursue this idea, since it would be difficult to determine who is responsible for the machine and since most everyone already owns a laptop. In addition, the secretary would need on-going remedial instruction as to how to operate the device.

7. WPCA Business Association

There is limited interest in the WPBA, since only 4 businesses have signed up (2401 Calvert, Syracuse University, Open City, and one unknown) of the 40 that were notified by e-mail. With the exception of Open City, none of the businesses that have had problems with rats have joined. There also is no leadership, and the only DC government reps who recently participated were from the rat control unit. Peter volunteered to contact Councilmember Mary Cheh's office to make the rat laws and regulations enforceable. Presently, rat citations are mailed to the building owners rather than being given directly to the business operators whose actions create the presence of rats. Jay suggested that the WPCA Business Committee decide on the next action to be taken.

Reports of ANC Representatives

Bill Kummings reported that the rather substantial trailer in front of the Debonair Cleaners is serving as their temporary receiving area for their business while the building is under construction. No action will be taken by WPCA at this time. He also investigated a rumor that the alley was closed to facilitate construction of the Woodley Wardman condos. He found that not to be true, since only temporary closings were taking place to allow movement of large equipment.

Lee Brian Reba reported that the walk-through of the alley behind the Stanford was a success. He was accompanied by the DOH and was impressed as to how thorough they were in treating the tunnels and burrows. He reports that one half of the residential back areas were treated for rodent infestation, as 2-6 burrows per site were found.

Lee Brian also reported that, during further exploration in the neighborhood, it was noted that there was actual food discarded in some of the tree boxes in front of Open City and McDonalds.

Questions/Discussions/Thank-You

John Goodman reports that the residence at 2910 Garfield, recently purchased for \$1.4 million, is scheduled to be razed. We will be watching to see what structures rise in its place.

Warren Gorlick will be drafting a letter thanking Debra Shumate and Chang Liu for their informative presentation to the Board on the changes and improvements to the Cleveland Park Library. Jill Bryant of FOCPL also was part of the dialogue.

We extend our sincerest thanks to Lee Brian for his dedication and enthusiasm in his work on the Rodent Infestation Remedial Program.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. by unanimous vote. The next meeting is scheduled for 7:30 pm on May 5.