

**Minutes of the Woodley Park Community Association
January 9, 2013**

Present:

Executive Committee Members

President: Bill Menczer
Treasurer: Warren Gorlick
Secretary: Peter Brusoe
Emily Harris (term expiring 2014)
Barbara Ioanes (term expiring 2014)
Zev Lewis (term expiring 2013)
Rob Meisnere (term expiring 2014)
Sarah Taber (term expiring 2013)
Bill Kummings (Term expiring 2013)

Guests:

Gwen Bole, ANC3c2
Will Handsfield from Mary Cheh's Office
Lee Brian Reba ANC3C1

Administrative Matters:

Bill Menczer called the meeting to order at 7:30PM and thanked everyone for taking the time to attend the meeting.

The Committee reviewed the minutes of November 26, 2012. The Committee added a written report submitted by ANC Commissioner Lee Brian Reba. Minutes were approved. The group thanked Jay Sushelsky for filling in for Peter last month.

Treasurer's report

Current Balances:

 Checking: \$5158.15
 Transfer from savings (\$1900 credit)
Meisnere – Holiday party supplies \$54.21
Menczer – Holiday party tips to waiters - 240
Tashdinian – Membership expenses --- 111.19

Citizen's Advisory Council Contribution -- 100

Savings: \$6,519
 Additions since last report: Deposits of \$1465 and minor interest.

CD: \$14,031.60

PayPal: \$869.77

Additions since last report: \$275, minor fees deducted.
Total: \$26,578.52

Acceptance of the Treasurer's report was moved by Peter Brusoe and seconded by Bill Menczer. The report was unanimously accepted with the Committee's thanks. Bill explained that the Committee had previously approved our contribution to the Citizen's Advisory Council, which supports MPD-2 and Warren added that the check was deposited 3 months after Bill sent it to them.

Neighborhood Watch: Nour was unable to join us so there was no formal report from the neighborhood watch. Rob Meisnere reported that the crossing guard near Oyster School may need help. During the morning the volume of students crossing at the school causes delays for cars getting through. Some drivers are very impatient about the traffic flow around Oyster and challenge the Crossing Guard's authority. Having a police officer there for focused enforcement may improve the safety of the neighborhood. . Rob agreed to draft an email to MPD for Bill to sign expressing the concerns of the WPCA The board approved the decision based on a motion from Peter and a second from Barbara. Barbara loanes brought up a concern about fire drills at the school that may create problems. There was a recent fire drill where teachers lined up and the children were spilling out into the sidewalk

Parking Strategies:

Emily reported on parking strategies. She gave a brief update but will defer a more complete report until the February 6, 2013 Committee meeting.. John Goodman recommended that Emily talk to Anne Marie Bairstow and possibly Gwen Bole about these issues.

Holiday Party 2012 Report

Bill Menczer reported that the holiday Party had a total of 275 RSVPs, 200 attendees of whom only 160 RSVPed, and that 40 of the 200 showed up without RSVPs. The discrepancy is possibly due to the fact that some people RSVP'd for multiple persons and those may not have registered upon arrival at the party. There was a discussion of food expectations versus appetizers and dinner. The Committee agreed on the need to continue to convey to people that it is light fare, and not a full meal. There was some discussion about possibly moving it around to different hotels, which was deemed impractical due to past experience and the lack of interest by other hotels. Bill sent a thank you note and followed up with the Marriott Management, which in turn, shared their holiday video with us.

Annual Verification of Budget Accounts:

Annual verification of budget accounts: Vice President Paul Poe is currently conducting the verification and should be able to complete this task by our February Committee meeting.

Concerns about School Consolidation:

Rob Meisnere brought up some concerns about the consolidation of Oyster School. Barbara brought up that Oyster could become a magnet school. The shifts in how Oyster is setup may change its fundamental nature as a neighborhood school. The Committee agreed in principle about the importance of a neighborhood school. While there is nothing directly actionable on this at the time, the group approved a committee to be called "The Oyster School Committee" consisting of Rob Meisnere and Barbara Ioanes as the co-chairs.

Filling Board Vacancy.

Bill Menczer explained that Bruce Forrest resigned from the WPCA Executive Committee due to his increasing travel schedule. The Committee expressed their sincere appreciation and gratitude for all of his hard work as a member of the Committee. Under the bylaws we have the ability to appoint a replacement for this vacancy. Bill noted that based on a request of 3 members, we put out a call for volunteers through the electronic newsletter and word of mouth asking if there were any volunteers. The only one who responded was Bill Kummings. Bill is a past WPCA treasurer and ANC commissioner. Bill Menczer moved, Peter seconded to approve the nomination and the board voted unanimously. His term expires in 2013, consistent with Bruce's.

Budget:

Warren and Bill Menczer developed a budget for CY 2013 consistent with the requirements of the Bylaws. The initial draft of the budget showed a budget deficit. The summary of the final approved budget appears below:

WPCA Budget		
2013 Budget : Organization Summary		
		2013
		Budget
Revenue		
	Sales (eg, t shirts, hats)	50
	Interest income	60
	Contributions	8,329
Total Revenue		\$ 8,439
Expenses		
	Acorn	3,500
	Picnic	2,200
	Holiday Party	400
	Spring clean-up day	350
	Other Events	500
	Membership (postage, envelopes, etc.)	350

	Membership dues, annual dinner, and DC registration	300
	Miscellaneous contributions and gifts	250
	Internet hosting expenses	125
	Contingency Costs	\$ 300
Total Expenses		\$ 8,275
Surplus		\$ 164

Thanks to end of the year donations we're anticipating \$8,300 for income, and we're spending \$8,275. The two largest expenses are the picnic and the Acorn.

The budget provides for Acorn publications as follows: one copy in black and white and the other one in color. A vigorous discussion occurred over the publication. It may be possible in the future to opt out of print publication and only publish online. That idea was not approved. Emily volunteered to look at the property records for people who moving into the area to make sure they're getting the publication, as well as providing the opportunity to become members of WPCA.

The picnic's largest single expense was the food followed by the face painter. The budgeted costs for cleanup day was on target. It was agreed and discussed that we should have the shredder this year. Bill Menczer indicated that he will work with Larry Aurbach, president of Woodland Normanstone Community Association, for a joint cleanup day in which both associations would share in the costs and benefits of this event.

Bill Menczer providing the inventory status of WPCA tee shirts

Tee Shirts:

9 small

10 medium

10 large

1 extra large

Bill indicated that based on the minimal sales of tee shirts at the picnic, there would not be any need to produce more in the near future. Some roundtable discussion occurred about other ways to spend money and improve the WPCA.

Rob Meisnere moved, Peter Brusoe seconded, and the budget was approved as presented.

Cleveland Park Village:

Bill Menczer discussed the Cleveland Park village. The president, Barbara Stevens, told him that they are in the final stages of rolling out the Cleveland Park program (this Spring), and therefore do not want to include Woodley Park at this time, but plan to extend the boundaries to include us next year. If someone wants to participate now from Woodley Park, then they should contact her or Bill or sign up

directly on their website at www.clevelandparkvillage.org. Volunteers are also welcome to join to help with aging in place. Lee Brian Reba reported that \$7,500 of DC tax payer dollars was given by the ANC to support this initiative.

Earth Day:

Peter proposed sponsoring a neighborhood clean up day. Barbara suggested that he reach out to Judy Shapiro about the specific dates, but generally around Earth Day. Lee Brian mentioned that the office of community engagement is always looking to engage with community groups and that Peter may want to reach out to them. Lee Brian agreed to provide their contact information and website.

Tree Assessment for Safety:

Many neighbors on 29th street have been complaining about the danger the trees on the Western Side of 29th street are posing to human life, vehicles, and property. Peter proposed a committee to study and review this dangerous situation and seek out the best way to solve this. Gwen Bole mentioned that she and other neighbors are writing a letter as well as seeking a legal opinion regarding responsibility (home owner vs DC government). The Committee voted to create the Tree Safety Committee with Peter chairing and Rob on the committee, to report back to the WPCA about the trees. Additional members will be solicited to join the committee.

Inauguration:

Barbara reported on her concerns about the inauguration and the inability to access homes. There was also a concern about the tent that the Marriott erected four years ago and the eye sore resulting from not taking it down in a timely manner. Zev volunteered to get a contact phone number regarding the reporting of traffic problems, parking, etc and share it with the Committee.

ANC reports:

Lee Brian Reba

1) Accessible Pedestrian Signals [APS] - *Talking Crossing Signals*

He had two [2] **Accessible Pedestrian Signals** for the visually impaired stalled at two [2] crosswalks in Woodley Park. The locations include:

- a) Connecticut Avenue, NW & 24th Street, NW
- b) Connecticut Ave & Woodley Road, NW.

Future **Accessible Pedestrian Signals** will be installed at the following two [2] locations / intersection:

- a) Connecticut Avenue, NW & Cathedral Avenue, NW
- b) National Zoo entrance located on Connecticut Avenue, NW

2) Baked by Yael

He is continuing to work with Yael Krigman - by advising, assisting and directing her accordingly.

Yael's business plan is currently under review by her advisors. She is hoping to have a final draft by mid-January, at which point - she will be ready to move forward. Yael's business plan is tailored specifically for the space at 2633 Connecticut. More information will be available in the future.

3) DDOT Presentation // January ANC 3C Meeting

Mr. Angelo Rao - Citywide Program Support Manager - will be making a DDOT presentation regarding VPP, RPP, and Performance parking at the January ANC - 3C meeting.

Gwen Bole: Was just sworn in, but she is attending the ANC meeting on January 22nd.
Jeff Kaliel and Catherine May were unable to attend.

Will Handsfield from Council Member Cheh's office addressed the Committee. The Council has entered period 20. Primarily this Council period 20, will primarily do oversight and the budget to dictate where the budget is spent. Councilmember Cheh's committee had a name change to Transportation and environment with the same jurisdiction

General comments:

There was some discussion about the mayor's Ward 3 representative Petar and Andrew did an amazing job under the previous administration of attending and being engaged in the WPCA events, and Tom C. Smith who followed them. However, the new mayor's person has not been to a meeting yet, and no one could recall his name.

Emily asked about police protection and the need for safety and increased presence of the police. It was also pointed out that Cleveland Park residents have experienced a rash of airbag thefts from cars. Based on the discussion, Bill Menczer agreed to ask Nour to invite appropriate MPD management personnel to attend our February 6 meeting to discuss crime in Woodley Park, deployment of resources, actions to mitigate airbag thefts, etc.

The next Executive Committee meeting will be held on February 6, 2013 at 7:30 pm at the Stanford in Washington.

The meeting adjourned at 9PM