

**Minutes of the Woodley Park Community Association**  
**February 6, 2013**

**Present:**

Executive Committee Members

President: Bill Menczer  
Vice President: Paul Poe  
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)

**Guests:**

Nour Jurgenson (Program Director, Woodley Park Neighborhood Watch)

Commissioner Catherine May, MD ANC3C8

Commissioner Jeffrey Kaliel, JD ANC3C3

Commissioner Lee Brian Reba, ANC3C1

Nan Simpson, WPCA Member

Roger White, WPCA Member

Commander Michael Reese, 2<sup>nd</sup> District MPD

Captain Melvin Gresham, 2<sup>nd</sup> District MPD

Lieutenant Patricia Roman, 2<sup>nd</sup> District MPD

Lieutenant Ralph Neal, 2<sup>nd</sup> District MPD

Officer Bob Fennell , 2<sup>nd</sup> District MPD

Alfredo Fernandez, WPCA Member

Michele Blackwell, Councilmember Cheh's Office

**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 January 9, 2013 and the treasurer's report filed by Warren Gorlick which is appended to the minutes. Peter moved adoption of both, seconded by Paul Poe, and unanimously accepted by the Executive Committee.

**Police Presentation:**

Nour Jurgenson (at Bill's request based on January's meeting), invited Metropolitan Police Department officials which consisted of Michael Reese, Commander, MPD-2, Captain Melvin Gresham, Lieutenant Patricia Roman, & Lieutenant Ralph Neal to address crime in Woodley Park, deployment strategies, and other issues.

Before he began, the Commander offered his direct phone 202-439-0007 and email address: [Michael.Reese@dc.gov](mailto:Michael.Reese@dc.gov) for people to contact him with any concerns or interests.

The Commander indicated that PSA 204 is a very diverse area that extends from Woodley Park to Glover Park. The violent crime in the neighborhood is driven by the presence of and access to Metrorail. Criminals follow people across the bridge from Adams Morgan. Most often it originated in Adams Morgan. The people who are doing the robberies are nomadic, and have been successful.

One of the biggest issues is theft from autos. Underground parking garage thefts from cars are the single biggest problem since people break into multiple vehicles undetected.

Paul Poe asked if there were photos that we can share of the criminals. The Commander said he would email them to the neighborhood watch for distribution. The committee thanked Officer Bob Fennell for all of his hard work in patrolling the Woodley Park business district.

Speeding remains an issue. There is no shortage of tickets that can be written in Woodley Park, according to the Commander. President Menczer reported on positive developments with targeted traffic enforcement outside of Oyster School. He commended MPD for their rapid and effective response to his request. During the targeted enforcement, no tickets were issued.

A conversation occurred around the youth curfew. The city has a curfew for ages 17 and younger of 11PM, while during the summer it is 1AM.

Commissioner Jeff Kaliel, asked about coordinating with Metro Transit police. Captain Gresham reported that the Metro police have increased their presence. Metro should increase the number of transit police officers according to the 2<sup>nd</sup> district commander.

#### **Oyster-Adams School:**

Barbara announced that there was a front-page article by Elizabeth Werner in the Northwest Current about changing the boundaries for the Oyster-Adams school

Anne Marie Bairstow reported that DC School Chancellor Henderson has started a process to review school boundaries, as several schools have recently been closed, and other schools are overcrowded. There was a meeting at the Oyster school where the administration presented several issues that the school is facing, including overcrowding, the difficulty of maintaining the balance of Spanish and English speakers and a special needs program is hard to manage in crowded classrooms. They discussed possible solutions for the boundary of the school. Possible ideas include changing the boundaries,

moving the school to a different facility or leaving it as a neighborhood school on 29<sup>th</sup> and Calvert Street. There is a working group of some parents and teachers. The principal suggested having a community wide meeting, that would include all the areas in boundary, which is Woodley Park and parts of Kalorama and Mt Pleasant.

Alfredo Fernandez introduced himself to the group. He moved here to be inside the school boundary. There is a strong constituency that wants there to be only one unified campus. Options include: Expand the campus, contract the school, and move out of Woodley Park. Some people seemed to want to move the school. Only 38% are in boundary, 62% were out of boundary.

The executive committee charged the Oyster-Adams School Committee with hosting and setting up a community meeting and inviting the neighboring community associations affected.

The committee voted the school committee to spend up to \$300 for hosting the meeting, including costs for fliers, refreshments, fees for the janitors, other promotional costs. It is not expected that anything close to this amount will be expended.

Armen cautioned about the WPCA getting involved in the Oyster-Adams controversy. Bill clarified that the WPCA is only providing a community forum for discussion at this point and that the WPCA has not yet taken a position.

Nan offered to refer a friend to the committee who was very active in the redevelopment with Oyster..

#### **Parking:**

Emily provided background information about parking. She researched the issue with John Goodman and Will Handsfield of Mary Cheh's office. At this point Angelo Rao, the DC parking official, has not made any changes to city parking rules but must do something by October 1, 2013. It seems that DC is moving towards performance parking for at least Georgetown and Adams Morgan.

Issues include a limit on visitor parking permits (VPP), that VPPs are being abused, and that public space is being used for private storage space. About 6.9 cents a day pays for a Residential Parking Permit (RPP), which represents an inexpensive way for some people to store their cars on public streets. RPP issues include the costs charged for the first RPP and higher costs for subsequent ones, and the change to tighter boundaries. One other suggestion was to put the map on the back of the parking permits.

Commissioner Kaliel voiced that he opposes any change in the Visitor Parking Pass because it is a backdoor tax and the WPCA should oppose it. Residents need VPP for support services such as dependent care, house cleaning, and deliveries.

#### **Verification of the Accounts:**

Paul Poe conducted the annual review of the Treasurer's records as required by the Bylaws. He reviewed

all of the records associated with the savings and checking accounts and stated that no discrepancies appeared and that all of the expenditures and deposits were in line with the reported figures. He had no suggestions for improvement, since he was unable to review how effective Quicken was in managing the accounts.

### **Tree Committee**

Peter provided a report on the tree committee. Bill asked him to make sure that everyone is a WPCA member before serving on the committee. They will be a committee meeting Monday, February 11, 2013 at 7PM. The committee report is appended to these minutes.

### **Earth Day Event**

Peter provided a report on the Earth day cleanup scheduled for April 13, 2013, which is appended to these minutes.

### **Hazardous Materials collection day**

A round table discussion occurred about the hazardous materials collection day. The Executive Committee expressed its desire to have the shredding truck this year, since we did not have one in 2012. One problem that we face is that the DC transfer station is only open the first Saturday of the month, limiting our flexibility in scheduling this event. Anne Marie will again lead this event and stressed the importance of getting volunteers to help her since she cannot empty the truck herself at the transfer facility. It is estimated that the collection day may be in March 2013. Bill reported that he negotiated an agreement with Larry Aurbach, the president of the Woodland Normanstone Community Association, to jointly sponsor this event. Larry's association will pay half of the costs of equipment and vehicle rentals.

### **Spring meeting**

The group decided to have the annual Spring General Membership meeting on May 1<sup>st</sup>. The program agreed to would be a presentation/discussion regarding parking with Angelo Rao as the speaker and a presentation/discussion on the Oyster consolidation plans, with the Principal from Oyster or DC Schools Chancellor as the speaker, since the principal has indicated she will make only one presentation to the community.

Emily will check with Angelo Rao regarding his making a Parking presentation and Rob will check with Oyster and the Chancellor.

### **Acorn Edition:**

Because of the Spring meeting date and the need to announce it well in advance, we agreed to publish an Acorn, with due dates to be assigned by Bill shortly after the meeting. Bill presented several ideas for ACORN articles. This is what people agreed to or were assigned.

Anne-Marie and Rob: Oyster consolidation

Sarah: Picnic June 15

David Ensign: Computer Security/Hacking

Peter: New ANC profiles

Peter: Ace Hardware Comes to WP

Emily : Parking Concepts and Strategies (for inclusion in announcement of Angela Rao's presentation at the Spring General Membership meeting)

Annie Glenn: A neighbor profile TBD

Bill: Alternatives to Auto Ownership (completed) Bill: Profile of June Ensign - Living in WP in the 1960s

Sally MacDonald: Orphan Alley (completed - photos needed)

### **Critical Campaign Finance Reform**

Peter shared that At-large DC Council member David Grosso introduced campaign finance reform legislation that would ensure fewer campaign finance improprieties. Peter pointed out that due to the ongoing federal investigation of Vince Gray's 2008 election effort, and the multiple federal indictments involving DC Politics, WPCA should look at the proposal and consider issuing a resolution in support. The item was tabled for further consideration at the March meeting.

### **DDOT with Traffic Sign**

Nan Simpson mentioned that the "no buses" past this point sign and no left on turn sign were not updated. It was reported that she should reach out to [Lisa.sutter@dc.gov](mailto:Lisa.sutter@dc.gov) directly and ask that they be re-stored.

### **Trees**

Barbara Ioanes mentioned that the city still has not picked up the Christmas trees and other rubbish on her side of Woodley Park. Peter suggested she talk with Council Chairman Phil Mendelson's office, since his office has been great at responding to neighborhood concerns.

### **ANC Commissioner Reports**

ANC3C1: Reported on several items including DPW service, Accessible pedestrian signals and Baked by Yael. The full report is appended to these minutes.

ANC3C2 -> Did not attend meeting

ANC3C3: Commissioner Kaliel reported that Oyster is the major issue for his constituents, as well as bumpy alleys.

ANC3C8: Dr Catherine May, Commissioner for ANC3C8 shared some of the upcoming zoning overlays around the naval observatory. However, nothing was directly impacting her Single Member District for Woodley Park.

Councilmember Cheh's Office: Michele Blackwell was present and talked on behalf of the Council Member's office and thanked the committee for inviting her and reported on some upcoming things

with the Council Member's office.

The next meeting is set for March 19, 2013 **NOTE: This is a Tuesday**

The Committee voted to adjourn at 9:12PM

# **WOODLEY PARK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

## **Treasurer's Report**

**February 4, 2012**

Current Balances:

**Checking: \$5158.15**

(No change from prior month)

Pending: Federation of Cizitzen's Assn of DC -- \$120

**Savings: \$6,519**

(No change from prior month)

**CD: \$14,031.72**

**(minor interest added)**

**PayPal: \$917.77**

Additions since last report: \$50, minor fees deducted.

**Total: \$26,626.64**

To: WPCA  
Fr: Peter  
Subject: Woodley Park Beautification Day

I have been in touch with Judy, many thanks to Barbara for providing contact information.

We want to do it on April 13<sup>th</sup> with the 14<sup>th</sup> being the rain date

8AM Coffee, donuts and sign in.

Pass out trash bags, rubber gloves, and recycling bags with assignments

Noon complete litter abatement

We will break the neighborhood down into sections for people to work on. Judy will handle East of CT avenue, we'll break west of CT avenue down into Woodley Road, Triangle Park, Playground, 29<sup>th</sup> street, Calvert street. Central business district.

Supplies: We're looking at gloves and trash bags.  
Coffee and Donuts

Logistical issues to discuss with board.

We need a dumpster to dump stuff into.

Will need to promote via emails etc.

Do we want to have a raffle where every volunteer who volunteers is entered into a raffle?

Central base of location? St. Thomas Apostle Parish?

To: WPCA  
Fr: Peter  
Subject: Tree Safety Committee

I am pleased to report that we have assembled a tree safety committee. In addition to Rob and myself we have

Ms. Nan Simpson of 2800 Woodley Road  
Tanya Congdon of 2800 Woodley Road  
Mark Colwell of the Delano  
Bruce Forrest of Woodley Road  
Marty Scherr of Calvert Street  
Mondy Katz

Earl Eutsler of the District of Columbia has agreed to serve as a liaison.

We will hold our first meeting on Monday the 11<sup>th</sup> to find a way to make sure our neighborhood is safe.

I have been in touch with Lisa Mitiguy about having someone who lives on the other side of 29<sup>th</sup> street be involved.

I would like to have an ANC commissioner involved as well. I asked Ms. Bole but she has declined due to a possible conflict of interest.

There are no action items at this point.

ANC 3C01 report

1) **DPW**

- a) DPW picked up Christmas trees and leaves along Woodley Road and Woodley Place (east of Connecticut Avenue). A few trees still remain in the alley.
- b) DPW is not overlooking Woodley Park - East and West of Connecticut Avenue - in terms of city services, DPW is experiencing internal issues - which are currently being addressed
- c) Lee Brian spoke with the 311 supervisor as well as the Director's office - this is a citywide problem - not a neighborhood problem - nor is it a redistricting problem

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

DDOT installed two [2] **Accessible Pedestrian Signals [APS]** for the visually impaired at two [2] crosswalks in Woodley Park:

- a) Connecticut Avenue, NW & 24<sup>th</sup> Street, NW
- b) Connecticut Ave & Woodley Road, NW

DDOT came out again - and installed **Accessible Pedestrian Signals [APS]** for the visually impaired at two [2] additional crosswalks:

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

3) **Baked by Yael**

a) Lee Brian set up a meeting between Yael Krigman and the principal representative for KLN Retail - the main representative for Grosvenor

b) Project is moving forward and it is expected that **Baked by Yael** will move to Woodley Park in the coming months.

For questions and further information, please contact Commissioner Lee Brian Reba at [\(202\)  
328.2212](tel:(202)328.2212) or [3C01@anc.dc.gov](mailto:3C01@anc.dc.gov)