

**Meeting of the WPCA Executive Committee  
September 3, 2013 @ 7:30 pm  
Stanford University in Washington  
Piggott Room, Second Floor  
2661 Connecticut Ave, NW DC 20008**

Board members Present – Bill Menczer (President), Barbara Ioanes (At-Large), Sarah Taber (At-Large), Rob Meisnere (At-Large), Paul Poe (Vice President), Warren Gorlick (Treasurer), Bill Kummings (At-Large), Peter Brusoe (Secretary)

Committee Chairs Present: John Goodman, Communications Committee

Guests Present: Larry Aurbach, Agatha Aurbach

Call to Order

Bill Menczer called the meeting to order at 7:32pm.

Approval of Minutes

The Executive Committee approved the minutes of June 5, 2013.

Treasurer's Report

The report was reviewed and is attached to the end of these minutes.

Active Projects

*Neighborhood Watch*

Nour Jurgenson was absent from the meeting, so there was no report.

*Tree committee report*

Deferred awaiting Peter Brusoe's arrival.

*June 22, 2013 Annual Picnic final report.*

Sarah Taber submitted her report. The picnic was a great success, and came in under budget at \$1700. The food contributed by Lebanese Taverna was a pleasant

bonus, as was the popcorn maker donated by Ace Hardware, and staff by its manager, Brian Stauber. The Board thanked Sarah for a job well done. There was a glitch in the counting system used, but Sarah estimated that there were 150-170 attendees in total.

*Fall Acorn edition.*

Bill Menczer reported that it is in production, and should be ready in the next week or two. Bill thanked all the persons who contributed to the Fall 2013 edition who were Peter Brusoe, John Goodman, David Ensign, Sarah Taber, Annie Glenn, Stephanie Clipper, Jane Howard, Elizabeth Fox, Brian Stauber (Ace Hardware), and Emma Ogiemwanye (Stanford in Washington). Bill also reported that he successfully negotiated with Ace Hardware for a full page ad in the upcoming issue for which they paid \$900 (more than half of the cost of this printing). The Executive Committee thanked Bill for his good work on this issue.

*Nominating Committee report.*

Barbara Ioanes submitted the report of the Nominating Committee on August 14. In that report, the Nominating Committee reported that all the present Board members were planning to run again. Subsequent to the Nominating Committee report, Emily Mauney resigned from the Board. Barbara reported that Stephanie Zobay is willing to run for this open At-Large member position. The Board also determined that in the event of a contested election, there will be a vote by hand rather than by written ballot.

*October 9, 2013 general membership meeting status.*

Bill Menczer indicated that he invited MPD Chief Cathy Lanier who was unable to make it and will send Diane Groomes, Assistant Chief for Patrol Services instead to address the membership at their annual meeting. In addition, Michael Reese, Commander of MPD 2, will be available to answer questions after Diane's presentation.

*Oyster-Adams status report.*

Rob Meisnere reported that the DCPS has no immediate plans to change the current boundaries or entry system for Oyster. At the end of this year, however, there will be a report to the Chancellor's office by a third party apparently hired by the District that will make recommendations regarding school boundaries system-

wide. Peter asked whether there should be a Board resolution regarding preferences for the school going forward. Barbara proposed a special membership meeting. A long discussion ensued. John Goodman proposed that a committee be established that would draft a proposal for the WPCA to consider at an upcoming meeting at the membership. Peter then proposed this formally as a Board resolution to consider. It was also agreed that the committee that will consider this further may include not only three existing Board members (Rob, Barbara and Warren), but also someone from the Woodland Normanstone community, as well as WPCA members. Larry Aurbach offered to relay that person's name from his association. The committee will come back with a plan at the October 1, 2013 meeting of the Executive Committee.

Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner Lee Brian Reba is going to work with the ANC next month on a proposal regarding the Oyster School.

### *Tree Committee Report*

Peter Brusoe reported that after sending out several public notices the Ward 3 arborist, Judy Hubbard from Councilmember Cheh's office, Council Member Mary Cheh,, Jessica Sanders from Casey Trees, Nan Simpson, John Goodman, Bill Kummings and Peter joined for an inspection of the trees along 29<sup>th</sup> street on August 27. Action items are:

- 1) Judy to call DPW about the square of pavement missing on 29th Street closest to Woodley road on the south bound lane.
- 2) Judy to call DPW about having the ivy and overgrowth removed from the West side of 29th Street and on the trees.
- 3) Once the ivy and overgrowth is cleared, Urban Forestry will inspect the trees for the angle and safety within 12 feet of the property.
- 4) DPW is to clean the drains on 29th Street west side
- 5) CM Cheh's office to investigate the possibility of putting in a sidewalk on the west side of 29th street between Calvert Street and Woodley Road. This would better protect the soil and keep down all of the growth.
- 6) WMATA/DDOT to look at putting in a bus shelter by the bus stop.

7) DPW to look at putting in a street light closer to the bus stop for public safety.

8) DPW to look at placing a trash can by both bus stops on 29th street.

9) Urban Forestry has agreed to:

(A) Plant a new tree near the Delano apartment building on 29th Street East

(B) Remove the stump within 1 month near 2800 Woodley on 29th Street

(C) Remove and replace the fungus-infected tree closest to 2800 Woodley

10) Discussion about sidewalk repair for damage caused by 9B and 9C

11) John to connect with the legislative director in CM Cheh's office about legislation regarding angle of hills and tree ownership/property.

12) John and Judy to connect about drainage issues on 29th Street West, north of Woodley Road.

13) Urban Forestry and CM Cheh's office to look at trees on Cleveland Avenue and overgrowth there at the request of Bill Kummings.

Things that we agreed NOT to do:

1) Cite the neighbors whose property abuts 29th street.

2) install a side walk on the west side of 29th street north of Woodley Road.

Warren raised several concerns about trees north of Cortland Place, NW It was pointed out that was Federal Land, but Bill Menczer said that development of a pedestrian path where the former Klinge Road was located, north of the Woodley playground, may wind up fixing that in the long run.

## New Business

### *JBG Application to the DC Historic Preservation Review Board on Partial Conversion of Wardman Tower of the Marriott Hotel*

John Goodman, Bill Menczer, and Gwen Bole met with a JBG representative on August 29, 2013 to review the plans and see the site. John reported that JBG is moving ahead with plans to convert the Wardman tower to condos. Current plan is to keep two floors as part of the hotel, function rooms, meeting rooms; access will be via the existing walkway. The condo entrance will be from Woodley Road at

the existing port cochere. The upper floors up will be condos. Vision is one condo for each of the 4 wings for a total of 40 units. A new 80 car garage will be built into the hill bordered by Connecticut Avenue and 24<sup>th</sup> Street, NW with 2 entrances via 24<sup>th</sup> street and their private road. The plans will go to HRPB at the end of the month. John suggested that the only issue for WPCA to address is the safety of reactivating the driveway that accesses the port cochere from Woodley Road and empties onto Connecticut Avenue.

The Committee agreed and Bill Menczer asked John to draft a letter to JBG for Bill's signature requesting that the Connecticut Avenue curb cut be closed and the existing road section be turned into a pedestrian walkway. The sidewalk where the exit is located is heavily used by pedestrians and bicyclists accessing the Metrorail station and the National Zoo. It would be very difficult and dangerous for cars to exit onto Connecticut Avenue considering the traffic, lack of a dedicated traffic signal, heavy sidewalk use, and a visual obstruction caused by the Woodley Park Metrorail elevator's location. JBG is removing and replacing the pool which will likely be open to the neighborhood as the present one is.

#### *November Speaker at Executive Committee Meeting*

Bill Menczer mentioned that Dennis Kelly, Director of the National Zoo offered to brief the Committee on recent and planned Zoo construction at our November meeting. This offer was accepted and Peter Brusoe will be following up.

#### *Historic Preservation Issue on 28<sup>th</sup> St, NW*

Bill Menczer presented information on a historic preservation issue on the 2900 block 28<sup>th</sup> St, NW, halfway between Cathedral Avenue and Cortland Place, NW where all of the houses were built by Harry Wardman. One owner was having stucco applied on top of the brick on their Wardman house. Some neighbors opposed the idea since it would "ruin the character" of the Wardman properties. One neighbor mentioned that in order to prevent such changes in the future, he and others might pursue historic preservation status for their block. No action was taken by the Committee.

#### Reports of ANC Representatives

##### *3C01 Report of Lee Brian Reba*

##### Friendship Place

- A. Friendship Place was contacted regarding the client under the Duke Ellington Bridge
- B. Friendship Place has been out to assess the client
- C. The Department of Mental Health has also been out to assess the client
- D. Friendship Place will process gentleman into their Welcome Center
- E. Working on placing client into shelter

#### Proposed Bike Lanes in Woodley Park

- A. DDOT made a presentation regarding the proposed bike lanes at the July ANC meeting
- B. DDOT's presentation is the beginning of many more conversations and no final determination has been made to date
- C. A future community meeting will be held in the fall at All Souls Memorial Episcopal Church
- D. Commissioner Reba indentified the longstanding traffic issues within 3C01 that have never been addressed and strongly encourage DDOT to conduct a full traffic calming study within 3C01.

#### Future of Oyster-Adams

- A. Commissioner Reba indicated he is working with the Chancellor's office [*Lisa Ruda, Chief of Staff*], to invite Chancellor Henderson to speak at a Fall ANC meeting

*3C02 Report of Gwen Bole* (presented by Commissioner Reba in her absence)

#### Resolution / Safety Study for Connecticut Avenue & 24th

- A. ANC Resolution asking DDOT to conduct safety study was passed
- B. ANC Resolution posted on ANC3C website : [anc3c.org/?wpfbd1+194](http://anc3c.org/?wpfbd1+194)
- C. Follow-up emails have been sent to DDOT

- D. DDOT currently will add “*Don’t Block the Box*” signs at the intersection of Connecticut Avenue & 24<sup>th</sup> Street
- E. Trying to get DDOT to a future ANC meeting

#### DPW

- A. DPW will address the following issues: overgrowth of foliage 1 lights 1 tree stumps on 29<sup>th</sup> Street
- B. Mary Cheh and Judy Hubbard attended community meeting
- C. Notice of community meeting posted on WP listserve – residents on tree committee didn’t know of meeting
- D. Commission Bole will give full update at the September ANC Commission meeting

#### Report of Ward 3 Councilmember Cheh’s staff

Michele Blackwell passed out updates on activities CM Cheh is involved with and told us that the next “Chat with Cheh” will be held on September 15, 2013 at the Palisades Farmers Market from 11:30am to 12:30 pm.

#### Questions from Members:

Barbara mentioned that there are rat problems east of Connecticut Avenue and that she has noticed a spike in crime in the same area.

#### Next Meeting date

Tuesday, October 1, 2013 at 7:30 pm.

#### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm

# WOODLEY PARK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

## Treasurer's Report

September 2, 2013

Current Balances:

**Checking:       \$7273<sup>1</sup>**

Transfer from Savings -- \$3100

Check # 1031 – Hokinson, reimbursement for face painting at picnic, \$150

Check # 1031 – Menczer, reimbursement for picnic expenses, \$119

Check # 1121 – Bairstow, reimbursement for truck rental at clean up day event, \$59

Check # 1112 – Sushelsky, reimbursement for picnic expenses, \$41

Check # 1114 – Ensign, reimbursement for picnic expenses, \$1551

**Savings:       \$5030**

Deposit of \$1625, plus minor interest earned.

**CD:           \$14,033**

Minor interest earned.

**PayPal:       \$481**

Contributions of \$175, minor fees deducted

**Total:       \$27,817**

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<sup>1</sup> All accounts rounded to nearest dollar.