

**Meeting of the WPCA Executive Committee
October 1, 2013 @ 7:30 pm
Stanford University in Washington
Hoover Room
2661 Connecticut Ave, NW DC 20008**

Present:

Executive Committee:

Bill Menczer, President
Warren Gorlick, Treasurer
Peter Brusoe, Secretary (Arrived late)
Barbara Ioanes
Rob Meisnere
Bill Kummings
Zev Lewis
Jay Sushelsky

Committee Chairs:

John Goodman, Communications

Guests:

Commissioner Gwen Bole
Commissioner Lee Brian Reba
Michelle Blackwell, Council Member Cheh's Office
Armen Tashdinian, Membership Manager

Call to Order -- President Bill Menczer called the meeting to order at 7:33pm

Approval of Minutes – The minutes of the September 3, 2013 meeting were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report – This was reviewed and is attached to the minutes.

Active Projects

Neighborhood Watch Nour Jurgenson was absent, so there was no report.

Tree committee report This was deferred awaiting Peter's arrival.

Fall Acorn: The Fall Acorn was published, distributed on September 17, 2013, and was very well received. Bill thanked everyone who wrote, edited and contributed to the publication. He

distributed copies to Stanford, Ace Hardware, Cleveland Park Village, and 25 apartment buildings in Woodley Park.

General Membership meeting is set for October 9, 2013. Diane Groomes, Assistant Chief for Patrol Services is our guest speaker. Michael Reese, Commander of MPD 2, will be available to answer questions at the meeting. Armen, Barbara, and a new member, Gasper Martinez will staff the sign in table. Bill Menczer will preside, deliver his report, and facilitate the elections.

Oyster-Adams status report.— The committee met and David Goldberg, an Oyster parent and education advocate, joined the group. The committee decided to have a special meeting to inform the community about possible changes to Oyster and to obtain input and possibly a consensus from the community as to what they think should be the future of Oyster. The Exec. Com. had an involved discussion if the concerns are about curriculum, or if they are about school boundaries. The special meeting is set for Thursday, November 14, 2013 at 7:00 pm. The committee approved \$100 for flyers for the meeting and they asked the committee to make sure to pass the information along to John Goodman so he can announce it in his email newsletter.

Tree report: Peter provided a report on the tree committee. DPW cleaned out the brush on 29th street, the city has also replaced several lights. The tree planting and the stump removal will need to wait for the weather to get better and they are staying up on the project.

Wardman Tower: John Goodman and Commissioner Bole reported on recent developments. JBG agreed to the Executive Committee request from the last meeting, and the portion of the Woodley Road driveway that exits onto Connecticut Avenue will be converted to pedestrian use. Through the ANC process, Commissioner Bole got JBG to agree to several other changes to the vehicle circulation on the property, including that deliveries would be in the rear and that residents would be encouraged to use 24th Street to get to the building. The ANC opposed JBG's proposed enlargement of the porte cochere on Woodley Road, and HPRB did not approve that part of the proposal. "Kudos to Gwen" for all her good work.

November meeting will have Dennis Kelly, Director of the National Zoo as the speaker. It was agreed to still do it on November 6, 2013 even with the special meeting on Oyster School the following week.

Rats – Barbara reported on rats in the alley between Woodley Place and Cathedral Avenue. There was an inspection by the Department of Health on September 27 and they found 13 different rat burrows in back yards, 19 broken SuperCans, and several cases of overgrowth. Neighbors will be informed of the results of this inspection. The Department of Health will return in about a month to re- inspect and treat the burrows. Neighbors who do not replace or repair their broken supercans or cut down the overgrowth will be cited by DCRA. DCRA could later issue fines, if these identified problems are not corrected. DoH injected chemicals into the rat burrows to kill the rats. Michelle Blackwell offered that Council Member Cheh has allocated money to DPW to help pay for the replacement of all super cans over a 5 year period. Commissioner Reba offered that some of the issues with the rats include uncollected animal debris from dogs, as well as walnut trees being a source of food.

New Business

Holiday Party: The Executive Committee voted to have a holiday party in December at the Marriott and Peter will reach out to see which days they can offer.

WMATA Bus Route Consolidation Bill Menczer and Commissioner Nancy MacWood met with WMATA government affairs and bus operations personnel regarding WMATA's proposal to consolidate the 96/97 lines. Three bus stops would be eliminated, one on Calvert street by the Wardman Park garage, and the ones in front of Maret School on Cathedral Avenue. They have only 2 or 3 people boarding or exiting the bus at those stops daily. Bill pointed out that if these stops were eliminated, other stops are readily available in the immediate vicinity, only a few hundred feet away, on either side. Elimination will aide in saving fuel, reducing costs, reducing pollution, and adding to better on-time bus performance. The number of buses will not be reduced and the schedule will remain the same. Notices were placed on these stops on October 1 and service at them will discontinue as of December 31, 2013. A question was raised if these stops would be converted back to parking spaces which Bill pointed out was a DDOT decision, not WMATA's. Also raised was if the 96 bus would end at U street or continue to the Armory/Stadium.

Report of Ward 3 Councilmember Cheh's staff Michelle Blackwell stated that Ms Cheh was successful in getting \$1.5million appropriated for the phased, 5 year effort to replace all Supercans and recycling cans in the city. She agreed to send us information on the rat inspection and enforcement process. She confirmed that Visitor Parking Permits will be mailed to all residents and need not be applied for. Current VPPs are valid through December 31, 2013.

Reports of ANC Representatives

3C01 Report

1) RATS

On Friday, 9/27 - the Department of Health, the ANC and community activist, Marc Reshefsky, conducted a rat assessment and abatement behind all homes along the alley between Cathedral Avenue and Woodley Place. A number of homes needed to be abated - and a number of homes also needed to have their recycling bins replaced. Any homeowner that didn't have the opportunity to have their home inspected - may call or email me directly.

A rat inspection is being planned within the next two months - for the homes and condominiums that share an alley with the commercial district along Connecticut Avenue.

2) Visitor Parking Passes [VPP]

The current VPP will "remain" VALID through December 2013. At that time, everyone should receive a new pass in the mail. DDOT had planned to enhance and improve the VPP program - in order to address abuse and fraud issues, but the Council passed emergency legislation overriding DDOT's decision and plan.

Resident's that currently do not have a VPP - may obtain a parking pass from 2-D police station on Idaho Avenue. It's important to note - that District residents cannot use a VPP in lieu of registering their vehicles with the District Department of Motor Vehicles. If residents who receive a pass have guests that stay overnight frequently, then the visitor should register their vehicle through the Registration of Out of State Automobile program once a Warning Citation is issued by DPW parking enforcement personnel.

3) ANNUAL COMMUNITY ALLEY SALE

I wanted to give a very special shout out to Judy and Rick Shaprio who always do a superb job - in planning and organizing the Woodley Park Annual Community Alley Sale. It was a beautiful day - and at least 20 residents participated in this annual event. I encourage everyone to participate next year. It's a great event.

Commissioner Gwen Bole reported that in addition to her meeting with JBG she did have the ANC approve the safety report and request for the 24th street safety concerns.

Bill Menczer presented Commissioner Catherine May's, MD report. Police instituted special speed enforcement on Reno Road, Garfield Road, and Cleveland Avenue in response to neighbor requests. To paraphrase Bill "Our guys are kicking butts"

Good of the Order Zev invited everyone to the dedication of the Adas Israel's new sanctuary after a \$12 million renovation on Wednesday night in Cleveland Park. Invited guests include CM Cheh, Mayor Gray, and someone from President Obama's office.

Next Meeting Date The group agreed that November 6, 2013 would be our next executive meeting. Bill reminded everyone that next Wednesday, October 9 is our general membership meeting.

Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 pm.

WOODLEY PARK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Treasurer's Report

September 29, 2013

Current Balances:

Checking: \$6533¹

Transfer from Savings -- \$1200

Check # 1127 – Armen, PO renewal, and stamps, \$212

Check # 1114 – Print1, \$1061

Check # 1123 – Postmaster, \$667

Savings: \$5050

Deposit of \$1625, plus minor interest earned.

CD: \$14,033

Minor interest earned.

PayPal: \$773

Contributions of \$300, minor fees deducted

Total: \$26,389

¹ All accounts rounded to nearest dollar.

