

**Minutes of the Woodley Park Community Association
Spring Membership Meeting
May 15, 2018**

Present: Approximately 30 people were in attendance. WPCA President Carolyn Abbey gaveled the meeting to order at 7:00PM. She thanked everyone for coming and introduced the other Board members that were present – Emily Curley, John Goodman, Warren Gorlick, Barbara Ioanes, Bill Kummings, Katie MacFarlane and Jeff Myers.

- The membership accepted the agenda.
- Update and Open Discussion with Council Member Mary Cheh – Carolyn introduced CM Cheh who presented on various issues, and then answered questions from the membership. Her presentation and subsequent questions included the following issues:
 - Condition of roads and alleys – Cheh said that her efforts had led to an increase in the District’s budget for road and alley maintenance. The current amount is \$5.3 million per ward, which she believes is sufficient. Cheh praised the new DDOT Director, and he is working on enhancing competition for bids, which in recent years has been just one bidder for many if not most projects. But Cheh is optimistic going forward. Cheh also noted other local projects for which she had obtained funding, including improved drainage at the Cleveland Park metro, and the creation of curb-side composting.
 - Comprehensive Plan – Cheh was generally supportive of the proposed amendments and expressed concern about some of the language in the current Plan, including issues pertaining to affordable housing, and the fact that certain ambiguous provisions could allow frivolous lawsuits against developers. Members also expressed concerns about ambiguous provisions in the proposal.
 - Status of Main Street funding proposal and general vision for Ward 3 improvements – Cheh obtained \$200,000 in funding for a Woodley Park project in the proposed budget that is before the Council now. Ryan Wegman, head of the organization that will receive the grant, thanked Cheh for spearheading the funding.
 - Ward 3 Pool – The project is in two phases. The park is the first phase of the project. The pool will be the next phase. However, Cheh stated it was unclear if funding for the pool is actually in the 2019 budget, and asked her assistant to check. [Post-meeting note: Michael Porcello from the CM Cheh's office confirmed that \$5Million in funding for the pool is in the FY2019 budget.]
 - Cleveland Park library – Cheh reported that the new library looks great, and will open on June 16.
 - Paid family leave legislation – Cheh explained the provisions of the bill. The cost is \$260,000,000, with an additional expenditure of \$40,000,000 up front to implement the program. The program will commence in July 2019, and benefits will begin in July 2020. Cheh is concerned that 2/3 of the benefits will go to persons living outside the District, and had supported a separate proposal that would have required employees living outside the District to pay their fair share, but the proposal was rejected.

- Proposed changes to the bus routes along Conn Ave – Cheh described three separate WMATA proposals that would have the effect of reducing bus service on the Connecticut Avenue corridor.
- McDonalds – Cheh and members raised concerns about the fact that McDonalds is storing trash on public space.
- Dockless bikes and scooters – Cheh and some members expressed some concerns about the haphazard way that some bikes and scooters have been left on pedestrian walkways.
- Noise – Cheh is sponsoring a noise ordinance on public spaces. Some expressed concerns about noise on private property, but the current ordinance does not address the concern.
- Zoo traffic concerns – A member raised a concern that the Zoo is not undertaking sufficient planning to accommodate Zoo traffic. Cheh indicated she would write to the Director.
- Updates from ANC and Mayor’s Office – ANC Com. Reba noted that inappropriate windows in a local renovation project will be replaced shortly. Reba also discussed maintenance of local alleys, and the need for both residents and businesses to take proper maintenance steps. Finally, Reba discussed the issues with Zoo parking. He is concerned that the new interim Zoo director has not been as responsive as prior Directors to neighborhood concerns about the parking situation. Special weekend parking restrictions, similar to what has been implemented in other neighborhoods, may be possible, and more attention by Zoo staff to prevent taxis and rideshare services from waiting in crosswalks.
- Cleveland Park Library & Garden Discussion – Jill Bogard, President of the Friends of the Cleveland Park Library was asked to speak about the forthcoming opening of the Library and the design of the garden. Bogard highlighted the excellent design and construction of the new library. She then discussed the possible funding by four local community groups, including the WPCA, of an outdoor garden on the Newark Street side of the library. The budget for the revised plan is \$50,000, but Bogard believes the work could likely be done for no more than \$40,000.
- Community Events (Picnic Planning Update, “Meet Your Neighbor” events, etc) – Carolyn announced the picnic on June 2, and requested volunteers to assist. Carolyn noted that a recent event at Dukes was a great success. Jeff announced an upcoming event on May 23 at Cathedral Mansions, for which he will circulate the details electronically. Planning for a possible Meet Your Neighbors Event in June is also in progress.
- Adjourn – The meeting adjourned at 9pm.