

# Woodley Park Community Association

## Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

May 7, 2014, 7:30p.m.

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### ATTENDEES

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

- Peter Brusoe, President
- Barbara Ioanes, Vice President
- Bill Menczer, Past President
- Warren Gorlick, Treasurer
- Emily Wagner, Secretary
- Sarah Taber, At-Large Executive Committee Member
- Gasper Martinez, At-Large Executive Committee Member
- Stephanie Zobay, At-Large Executive Committee Member
- Bill Kummings, At-Large Executive Committee Member

#### ANC COMMISSIONERS:

- Commissioner Lee Brian Reba

#### COUNCILMEMBER CHEH'S OFFICE:

- Kelly Whittier, Scheduler

#### COMMUNITY MEMBERS:

- John Goodman
- Marty Scherr
- Roger White

### 1. WELCOME

### 2. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

#### a. QUORUM –

- i. Quorum was established.

#### b. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA – Accepted.

#### c. REVIEW OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- i. April Minutes approved. Final PDF posted to WPCA website.

#### d. TREASURER'S REPORT - PRESENTED BY WARREN GORLICK

- i. Warren reported that everything has remained relatively unchanged since our last meeting, and predicted more significant activity in the coming months, given the costs associated with the spring picnic.

#### e. REPORT ON RESIGNATION

- i. Zev Lewis resigned from the board in April. Please let Peter know if you have any suggestions for a replacement. All nominations will be considered.

### 3. ELECTED OFFICIAL UPDATES AND COMMUNITY UPDATES

- a. Marty Scherr– Came to speak with the WPCA about his proposal to develop a park in Woodley Park. He has experience from his time on the board of the Friends of Mitchell Park (at 23<sup>rd</sup> and S Street, NW in Kalorama). Now, Marty is

thinking about working on the lot nearby Southwest corner of Calvert and Connecticut; across from Chipotle and behind the bus stop. The goal is to attempt to develop that corner into “pocket park.” The land is owned by the National Park Service. Marty is seeking WPCA organizational support. The board discussed the need for strong support from the ANC3 Katherine May, and possibly the National Historic Preservation Board/CFA, as well as Tara Morrison, Superintendent of Rock Creek Park. John Goodman provided history about the last time WPCA helped to establish a park at 29<sup>th</sup> and Garfield Streets, NW. Barbara Ioanes shared information about our involvement in the Woodley Park playground. John Goodman will include a call for volunteers in his next email blast; Marty has agreed to convene the first “working group” meeting with any interested parties. Marty will also be in touch with Commissioner May and will reach out to the Rock Creek Park superintendent.

- b. Roger White – Roger White, a member of the Friends of the Cleveland Park came to speak about the DC Library capital building project. He reported that it is now well underway, including 15 branches currently slated for reconstruction. The Mayor’s new budget includes 3 more branches, including Cleveland Park. Mr. White’s concern is that Woodley Park may be able to provide useful input regarding the design, space, and functions that are prioritized in the building, and that we should identify someone to attend the meetings hosted by the Library so that we can have a voice and a presence. He emphasized that having representation from WP is very important. He also explained that the initial \$15.2 million, will soon be \$15.6 M. This projected budget is considered preliminary. Each project has typically had about \$21 million, but this has yet to be decided. That said, down the road, there could be budget issues. Having broader community support could help the cause. Mr. White offered to draft a letter for the WPCA expressing our support. He also suggested we establish a liaison for this project who could handle this issue going forward, and agreed to fill that role for now. WPCA agreed that it would be a good idea to have Mr. White draft the letter, which he will send to Barbara/Peter, who will then circulate it to the board for comment and approval.
- c. Mary Cheh’s Office – Kelly Whittier reported that the entire zoo safety plan is being reevaluated. One of the things they are exploring are the several entrances into the zoo, how many are appropriate, and how they can be secured. The Councilmember believes this will help us to discuss what long-term and short-term actions can be taken to better prepare for and prevent dangerous situations in the future. On the topic of the library, Kelly said she will also bring print out detailing library budgets during the next meeting.
- d. ANC Commissioners – Gwen Bole wasn’t able to attend, but she provided a written report, which is as follows: “With help from Commissioner Reba and others I rewrote and updated the grant guidelines for ANC3. They are posted on the website. We have begun the process of digitizing (some hand indexing, scanning, and OCR’ing) all the ANC-generated documents back to 1974. The scanning company we have contracted with has taken the documents to their plant for this conversion. Eventually there will be a keyword searchable database on the ANC3C website of all these documents.

Got the No Parking bus stop signs removed since the bus stop is gone on 29<sup>th</sup> St. Adds a number of parking places. Got a pedestrian and a traffic light which were bent fixed. Really quick turn-around from DDOT. With neighbor, did the Age Friendly DC survey for my SMD and turned in the results, including reporting a number of dangerous sidewalk locations. Working with neighbors on 29<sup>th</sup> Place with city agencies on slope on 29<sup>th</sup> St.”

- e. Other Legislative Officials – None present.
- f. Executive Branch Officials – None present.
- g. Public Comment period – After his presentation, Mr. White made a comment on Rock Creek Parkway flooding, and requested that we explore ways to prevent future public safety issues concerning traffic. Peter said he will put in a call to the 2<sup>nd</sup> District MPD about addressing future flooding and public safety.

#### 4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Facebook page – We now have 27 subscribers. If you are on Facebook, please find and like our page: [www.facebook.com/WoodleyParkCommunityAssociation](http://www.facebook.com/WoodleyParkCommunityAssociation).

#### 5. OLD BUSINESS

- a. General Membership Meeting recap – Thanks for a great spring meeting!
- b. Public Safety and the Zoo
  - i. Engaging with Zoo and the Friends of the Zoo – Dan Dembkowski, who has agreed to be new co-chair of the Woodley Park Neighborhood Watch, will be the point-person for the National Zoo. Sarah Taber will also work with Dan to engage the Zoo. Topics include: 1) how we plan to address future major holidays and special events; 2) general enhancements to security and access; and 3) how the Zoo is communicating with Woodley Park on a regular basis and during crisis situations.
  - ii. Something nice for Stanford – Peter will send a nice thank you to Stanford for their hospitality. Special Note: We can meet at Stanford for our June 4 meeting, but the months of July, August, and September are not available, due to plumbing construction. Alternative location to be announced.
- c. Hazmat and Shredding Day – Peter and Stephanie are coordinating. 9am to 11am at Maret School, rain or shine! Peter and Stephanie to update instructions and will circulate a flyer for distribution. Stephanie will call Fort Totten to make an appointment and make sure we have updated requirements for collection. Peter will book the shredding truck.
- d. Summer Picnic – More updates from Sarah to come at the next meeting. By way of a reminder, the picnic will take place on Saturday, June 14<sup>th</sup> with Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup> as the rain date. Gasper has volunteered for grilling. Dan and Emily have volunteered to help with sign-in table.
- e. Dangerous Trees on 29<sup>th</sup> Street – Peter provided an update on the situation.
- f. Pot Holes – Should you encounter a pot hole on your street, there are many ways to report it to the city. Call 311, visit the website, [311.dc.gov](http://311.dc.gov), or download the 311 app (for iPhones [here](#); Androids [here](#)) to report exactly where it is

located. Should the pothole remain unfixed, you can use the record of your report to recover the cost of any damage to your vehicle.

- g. Trash pick-up – Barbara reports that the super cans have been removed from her neighborhood, and reports that 27<sup>th</sup> Street still has them.
- h. Arcadia Book Publishing – Peter plans to refer Arcadia to our local historians, Cynthia Fields and Judy Waxman. Barbara will send Peter their contact information.
- i. Mural – Bill Kummings reports that he has been unable to make contact with Humanities thus far. He will ask Lee Brian to reach out.
- j. Mayor’s budget meeting: It was decided that we will not sponsor a meeting with the Mayor to discuss his upcoming fiscal year budget for the District.

## 6. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Nominating Committee – Bill Kummings as Chair, Bill Menczer as co-chair, and a third TBD member.
- b) School Feeder System – Oyster parents wanted to draft a letter for the WPCA, but the letter was never submitted. ANC is scheduling a special meeting with Abigail Smith and her team. Date to be released by the end of this week. Ward 3 Councilmember Cheh has been and will continue to do “boundary walks” with concerned parents. Peter requested that Councilmember Cheh issue a letter updating the community on the status of affairs. Peter also proposed WPCA’s position on the matter: we feel strongly that students attending elementary schools Oyster Adams and Eaton shall continue to feed into Deal middle school and Woodrow Wilson Senior high school. Bill Menczer moves that this is the position WPCA is taking. Bill Kummings seconded the motion. Goodman will ask for membership opinions.
- c) Peter to reach out to MPD District Two Commander Michael Reese to request “No Turn on Red” sign, as well as a police car to monitor the area.
- d) Other announcements:
  - 1. Cleveland/Woodley Park Village is sponsoring an open house with Cokie Roberts as the special guest at the Broadmore on May 18, 2014 from 4-6pm
  - 2. Maret Fete will be held on May 17, 2014 from 11am to 3pm
  - 3. The Oyster School principal, Monica, will be leaving her position before the beginning of the new school year.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 9:07pm.

- **MINUTES PREPARED BY:** EMILY WAGNER, SECRETARY, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
- **NEXT MEETING:** WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 2014, 7:30PM, STANFORD UNIVERSITY IN WASHINGTON, 2661 CONNECTICUT AVE., NW D.C. 20008 (MARET WILL BE THE BACK-UP LOCATION, SHOULD STANFORD BE CLOSED.)