

## Minutes of ANC 3E December 10, 2009 Meeting

The meeting convened at 7:35 pm. Commissioners Jonathan Bender, Sam Serebin, Mathew Frumin, Lucy Eldridge, and Beverly Sklover were present.

### **Announcements**

There were no new announcements from residents or ANC3E members.

### **Open Forum**

Lewis Wolf, a resident of Ellicott Street, described a problem of bright lights emanating from the newly constructed TD Bank. He explained that there are lights in the back of the building and on the roof that reportedly were placed there for aesthetic not security reasons. Wolf said he is not the only one having problems sleeping because of the brightness of the lights. According to Wolf, his neighbors have echoed his concerns. Mr. Wolf said he had met with a representative from the bank, and for awhile, the lights were turned off. The lights, however, have been turned on again and Mr. Wolf requested that the ANC see what it can do to solve the problem. Mr. Wolf lives in Commissioner Eldridge's SMD, and Commissioner Eldridge agreed to see what could be done to ameliorate the problem.

### **Crime Report by Second District**

Lt. Gregory reported no robberies in the PSA 202 in November. She said, however, there was an increase of burglaries and car break ins particularly in the neighborhood near Chevy Chase Pavilion. She noted that there were a number of car break ins – referred to as “smash and grab incidents” -- in the residential areas as well. Lt. Gregory indicated the police hoped that the arrest of two individuals

around November 20<sup>th</sup> would result in fewer home break ins as they believe the individuals arrested may have been involved in other break ins in the area. As part of the arrest, the police recovered significant amounts of property. Lt. Gregory also said the recent arrest of a juvenile involved in some break-ins resulted in property being recovered. Lt. Gregory said the suspects live in the PSA202 areas which might explain how they could execute quick getaways. Lt. Gregory reminded residents again that placing packages in the trunk of automobiles and taking portable DVD players and GPS systems out of cars when parked was an important way to avoid car break ins. With the looming holidays, Gregory also suggested locking windows in residences and making sure garages were locked.

## **Agenda**

### Children's National Medical Center

Representatives of the Children's National Medical Center (the "Center") outlined the programs and services the Center was providing for care of children in the city. Dr. Harris who is head of the Department of Advocacy and Community Affairs gave the presentation. Dr. Harris indicated they spoke to community groups and ANC's to enlist support for intervention programs in certain neighborhoods in the city. As a non-profit hospital, they are required to file an annual report outlining what they provide the community at no cost from research to direct assistance. Dr. Harris said the hospital hired the Rand Corporation to provide it with a pediatric needs assessment. Dr. Harris said the needs assessment offered the hospital a fairly accurate picture of what the pediatric population of the District needs. The Rand Corporation interviewed over 100,000 youth, their families and children to get a comprehensive look at what the hospital needs to focus on spending its money. Some of the data according to Harris is startling and other information they had an idea about but there were recommendations on where to shift some of the funds directly from immunizations to paperwork documenting the actual shots given. The study has provided the hospital where it needs to on issues such as obesity in children and

nutrition. The study says Harris is broken down by topics and wards which give the hospital a better understanding of the pediatric needs in the city.

### 3951 Harrison Street, NW Application for a Special Exception

The owner of 3951 Harrison Street, NW, Ms. Shirley Scribner, presented her plans for a one-story addition to the back of her house. She also presented the background for her application for a special exception to authorize construction of the addition as well as indications of support from the nearby neighbors. Commissioner Eldridge, in whose SMD the house is located, spoke in support of the application and presented a resolution in support which was seconded by Commissioner Sklover. The resolution was approved 5-0 with Commissioners Bender, Frumin, Serebin, Eldridge and Sklover voting for it.

### N8 Bus Route Change

Commissioner Sklover explained that in order for WMATA to begin to explore options for the N8 Bus route which has been the subject of complaints by Yuma Street residences, they needed to receive a formal resolution from the ANC. She proposed a resolution reiterating ANC 3E's request that WMATA "conduct a balanced and thorough study of the N8 route to determine how to alleviate concerns while balancing the needs of those who use it." The resolution noted that WMATA presented ridership data and several options to improve the route at an ANC 3E meeting and that ANC 3E believes one or more of the options could reasonably address the concerns in a balanced fashion and asked that WMATA conduct public hearings on the options previously presented, and at the conclusion of the hearing process recommend on of the options to ANC 3E for approval. The resolution was approved by a vote of 5-0.

## Safeway Plans for Expansion of Tenleytown Store

Avis Black representing Safeway returned to the ANC to outline Safeway's plans for expansion of its store at 41<sup>st</sup> and Davenport Street NW. Brian O'Looney, from the architectural firm hired to develop plans for the new store further elaborated Safeway's plans.

A number of residents, some who live behind the parking lot for the current store, voiced their objections to what they said was a refusal on Safeway's part to compromise on any significant part of the design plan. They further complained the company had started a postcard campaign to win neighborhood support for the design as originally proposed, while at the same time Safeway claimed it was working to modify its design to address concerns of nearby residents.

Neighbors raised concerns that noise and light from the open garage would impose a significant burden on them given Safeway's plans to keep its new store open 24/7. Mr. O'Looney claimed that acoustic tiling would reduce noise dramatically; residents questioned this claim.

Residents and Commissioner Bender voiced concern about hazards to pedestrian safety associated with features of the proposed building likely to attract jaywalkers across 42<sup>nd</sup> Street. They suggested that Safeway close the slip lane at 42<sup>nd</sup> Street and Ellicott, turning the orphaned green triangle into a small contiguous park between Safeway and Wisconsin Avenue.

Commissioners Frumin, Bender, and others noted that Safeway's planned loading dock could expose Georgetown Day School students to undue risks unless Safeway committed to make deliveries only during hours when students were not likely to be at school. Commissioner Serebin suggested that Safeway seek relief from rules prohibiting early morning and evening deliveries.

Commissioner Sklover questioned Safeway's commitment to greening its project, noting that she saw no reason Safeway could not commit to achieve LEED Gold status. Commissioner Bender and a number of residents concurred.

Commissioners Bender, Serebin, Sklover and Frumin expressed dissatisfaction with Safeway's current plan and made clear that the ANC would not support the requested relief unless Safeway made significant changes to its proposal.

### **ANC Business**

The Treasurer's report for November was approved 5-0.

The Treasurer was authorized and wrote checks for:

- Ms. Winthrop's invoice for November 2009 for \$333.75 (check no. 1259)
- Ms. Evans-King's invoice for May 2009 for \$360 (check no. 1260).

At previous meetings the Treasurer had been authorized and wrote checks for:

- Ms. Winthrop's September invoice for \$600.00 (check no. 1256 written at the October 7, 2009 meeting)
- Ms. Winthrop's October invoice for \$900.00. check no. 1258 written at the November 5, 2009 meeting
- To establish a petty cash fund of \$200 (check no. 1257 written at the October 7, 2009 meeting)
- To Ms. Evans-King for her invoice for \$1740 covering 12/10/08 to 4/15/09 (check no. 1255 written at the April 16, 2009 meeting).

The meeting recessed at 11:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Bender, Chair