



ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 7F

Government of the District of Columbia

One Commitment, Our Community.

General Commission Meeting Minutes

February 21, 2023, 6:30 p.m.

Streamed via Zoom & Youtube

1. Moment of Silence

A brief moment of silence was held.

2. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Holcomb called the meeting to order at 6:41pm. Also present were Commissioners Ruff, Orendoff, Hughes, Thompson-Wright, and Bishop.

3. Consideration and Adoption of the Agenda

Commissioner Thompson-Wright moved to adopt the February 21, 2023, General Meeting Agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ruff. The motion passed unanimously with 6 in favor and 0 against (6-0-0).

4. Administrative/Reports

a. Chair's Report

The Commission will send out a mailer to residents in 7F that will contain information on meeting dates for the year, events, and contacts. Most notably, the Commission will host an Open House event on Saturday, March 25, 2023, at the Ward Memorial AME Church. The Commission will also be voting on a special call meeting on the redevelopment matter of NHT and Standard Realty development teams. The meeting will be in-person but streamed virtually.

b. Secretary's Report

i. Approval of the Previous Minutes

1. January 2023 General Commission Meeting

Commissioner Orendoff moved to approve the January 2023 General Commission Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hughes. The motion passed unanimously with 6 in favor and 0 against (6-0-0).

2. January 2023 Special Call Meeting

Commissioner Orendoff moved to approve the January 2023 Special Call Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hughes. The motion passed unanimously with 6 in favor and 0 against (6-0-0).

c. SMD & Committee Reports

7F05 Commissioner Hughes: Regarding the dog park on Texas Avenue, DGS and DPR have reached out to let the Commission know they're waiting for the final approval for all permits for construction and will schedule a last community meeting on the construction of the dog park.

7F03 Commissioner Orendoff: 7F03 has identified all the nuisance properties in the Benning Road and Minnesota Avenue Corridor. They have updated the community liaison list and have created Commission ID cards for residents and businesses in the community.

7F02 Commissioner Ruff: 7F02 has made 311 requests to clean the allies. They continue to push for the left turning signal on East Capital to turn into the recreation center. Additionally, 7F02 is working on the beautification of the SMD by planting flowers. The conference room library is booked for a 7F02 board game night on March 14th from 5pm-8pm.

5. Commission Business

a. Consent Agenda

- i. **Resolution 23-007 (introduced by Commissioner Holcomb): Calling on D.C. Public Libraries to Offer Storytime Events on Saturdays at a Minimum of Two Rotating Library Branches in Ward 7.**

Commissioner Thompson-Wright moved to approve Resolution 23-007. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Orendoff. The motion passed unanimously with 6 in favor and 0 against (6-0-0).

- ii. **Resolution 23-008 (introduced by Commissioner Holcomb): Adopting the 2023 ANC Resolution on Opioids.**

Commissioner Thompson-Wright moved to approve Resolution 23-008. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Orendoff. The motion passed unanimously with 6 in favor and 0 against (6-0-0).

- iii. **Resolution 23-009 (introduced by Commissioner Orendoff): Declaring the McDonalds, Shell Gas Station, Minnesota Seafood, and “Pink Store” on Minnesota Avenue Nuisance Properties & Calling on the OAG to take Immediate Action to Mediate.**

Commissioner Thompson-Wright moved to approve Resolution 23-009. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Orendoff. The motion passed unanimously with 6 in favor and 0 against (6-0-0).

- iv. **Resolution 23-010 (introduced by Commissioner Holcomb): Calling on the D.C. Council Committee on Housing to pass legislation that mandates housing programming to also include residents who make 80% - 150% of the AMI.**

Commissioner Thompson-Wright moved to approve Resolution 23-010. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Orendoff. The motion passed unanimously with 6 in favor and 0 against (6-0-0).

- v. **Resolution 23-011 (introduced by Commissioner Holcomb): Calling on the D.C. Council Committee on Housing to introduce emergency legislation retroactive to FY 22 that mandates developers who propose matters of right projects that receive city**



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funds from the Housing Production Trust Fund or DC HFA to have a mandatory community engagement component and that provides local ANC's great weight on funding approval.

Commissioner Thompson-Wright moved to approve Resolution 23-011. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Orendoff. The motion passed unanimously with 6 in favor and 0 against (6-0-0).

vi. **Resolution 23-012 (introduced by Commissioner Holcomb): Recognition of DCSAA Football Champion Friendship Collegiate Knights**

Commissioner Thompson-Wright moved to approve Resolution 23-012. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Orendoff. The motion passed unanimously with 6 in favor and 0 against (6-0-0).

b. Old/New Business

i. **Amended FY 23 Budget - Commissioner Thompson-Wright**

Commissioner Thompson-Wright moved to adjust the FY 23 Budget to accommodate back pay for the Commission's previous Chief of Staff, according to the Commission's move to the Marshall Heights Community Development Organization ANC 7F office space, cost of a mailer, and ANC 7F tote bags, quarter zip-ups, and masks.

The approved budget at the start of the year was \$26,500. The amended budget is in the amount of \$38,000. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hughes. The motion passed unanimously with 6 in favor and 0 against (6-0-0).

ii. **Special Call Meeting on February 28th at 6pm on matters of NHT & Standard Development redevelopment plans and BZA Case #7468B**

Commissioner Orendoff moved to approve the February 28, 2023, Special Call Meeting on NHT & Standard Development redevelopment plans and BZA Case #7468B. Community members will have the opportunity to submit questions for the developers via google forms. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Thompson-Wright. The motion passed unanimously with 6 in favor and 0 against (6-0-0).

6. Presentations/Special Guests

a. **Department of Aging & Community Living- Mark Bjorge**

Mark Bjorge is an outreach specialist for the Department of Aging and Community Living Division. The Department advocates, plans, implements, and monitors health, education, and social services programs for seniors, adults with disabilities, and caregivers. In partnership with more than 30 community-based organizations across the city, DACL offers over 40 free or low-cost programs to help all District residents live boldly at any age, stage, or ability. DACL serves residents aged 60 and older, residents aged 18 and older living with disabilities, caregivers

of these two groups, and adults at risk of abuse or exploitation. The agency can help with in-home fall prevention modifications, nutrition support, transportation benefits, EPD Waiver enrollment assistance, Medicare questions, home assistance, long-term care, legal assistance, connections to public benefits, and socialization activities and programs.

DACL hosts fitness classes, nutrition programs, daily meals, creative arts, foreign language classes, group trips, intergenerational programs, music, support, groups, educational seminars, and quilting and sewing classes. The event calendar for these programs can be found at <https://daclevents.splashthat.com/>.

Additionally, DACL has several transportation programs for seniors and residents with disabilities, including Senior MedExpress, ConnectorCard Program, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, and Transport DC. The agency also has adult protective services that receive and investigate allegations of abuse, neglect, self-neglect and financial exploitation of persons who may need protective services. The office is available for reports 24/7. To make a report, call the APS hotline at 202-541-3950. For further information, contact General Intake via email at ask.adrc@dc.gov or 202-724-5626.

b. Council of the District of Columbia- Councilmember Charles Allen

Councilmember Allen believes the District needs to improve on Vision Zero. The program's initial goal when it was created in 2015 was to eliminate traffic fatalities by 2024. However, after spending millions of dollars on the project, there are more fatalities today than in 2015. Half of the traffic deaths are in Wards 7 and 8 due to the District building roads that were made to get residents through quickly rather than safely. Councilmember Allen believes the District needs safe roads and crossings. Councilmember Allen passed the Vision Zero Enhancement Omnibus Act. However, the Mayor still needs to put the money in the Budget for DDOT to implement. Last year the council passed The Safe Streets for Students Amendment Act of 2022 and the Safe Street Amendment Act of 2022 to build safer streets.

Beyond Vision Zero, the Committee is working on Transit equity. Starting this summer, the Metro for D.C. legislation will make the buses fare-free across the District. The legislation will also give residents 100% per month for their transit costs. In December, the Chief Financial Officer certified that D.C. does have enough money in the coming Budget to fund everything included in the legislation, plus free fare that is now expanding to 24-hour service on 12 of the most popular lines that run through all 8-wards in the city. \$10 million will be set aside for service improvement and equity improvement.

Additionally, Councilmember Allen introduced legislation providing subsidies for purchasing electric bikes for lower-income people. Regarding environmental priorities, legislation has been introduced to offer subsidies to lower-income residents to replace appliances in their homes that produce Methane, which is linked to childhood asthma. The Committee is also expected to take up legislation to replace lead pipes throughout the city and lead paint in rental units. Overall, the Committee will work to find ways to provide jobs and job training for residents for these projects.

Regarding the TSI changes, Councilmember Allen expects DDOT to dissect the process. The process is expected to be based on requests, and he believes DDOT's goal is to prioritize safety areas.



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7. Agency Updates (5 minutes per speaker)

a. Mayor Bowser's Office - Keisha Morgan (Lakeisha.morgan@dc.gov)

Mayor Bowser announced that Linda Harllee Harper, Director of the Office of Gun Violence Prevention, has been appointed Executive Director of the Office of Neighborhood and Safety Engagement. The office of Gun Violence Prevention awards grants to residents or community-based organizations working within the community to prevent violence and support self-sustaining neighborhoods. The grants support art therapy, bicycle maintenance, sports programs for youth, career-building workshops, and more. Additionally, applications still need to be accepted for DPR's Rec for ALL Community Grants to support programs, activities, and events for young District residents through an investment of \$3 million in the FY23 Budget.

The Mayor has several upcoming events, including black homeownership workshops, building black political power, and other Black History Month events. For more information, contact Lakeisha Morgan at **202-251-9930**.

b. Councilmember Gray's Office - Sheila Bunn (sbunn@dccouncil.gov)

The council is amid performance oversight hearings. This is the time for the community to let the council know how they're doing. As Councilmember Gray formulates his budget priority for the Mayor, the Councilmember's office wants to hear what the community wants the Budget to include. Additionally, Councilmember Gray now chairs the Committee on Hospital and Health Equity, allowing him to look at ways to bring equity to healthcare aspects. Looking to ensure the new Cedar Hill Regional Medical Hospital stays on track for completion. The Hospital will serve residents in Wards 7 and 8. Furthermore, the council is looking into violence interruption programs and has published its 2022 progress report. For more information, contact Sheila Bunn at **202-724-8068**.

Ward 7 State Board of Education Rep - Eboni Rose Thompson

(Eboni-rose.thompson@dc.gov)

The Board of Education has a working session on Wednesday, February 22, 2023. Additionally, the board will be releasing its budget letter in March. Eboni Rose Thompson will also be releasing a Ward 7-specific budget letter and is accepting suggestions from the community to create a comprehensive list. The working session will include presentations on the social studies standard. The State Board must also update the health standards around Menstrual Health in schools and make period products free and accessible. At the end of the month, Covid requirements will no longer be in place, and Covid tests will no longer be free.

8. Meeting Adjourned

Commissioner Thompson-Wright adjourned the meeting at 8:13pm.