



**ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 7F**  
**Government of the District of Columbia**  
**"Crossroads East of the River" Where Communities Come Together**

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**General Commission Meeting Notes**  
**October 15, 2019**

**Call to Order**

Chairman Holcomb called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m. At 6:38 p.m. there was a quorum established to do Commission business.

**Commissioner Roll Call:**

Commissioners Present: Commissioner Carol Fletcher, Chairman Tyrell Holcomb, Commissioner Brittany Hughes, Commissioner Terrance Hunter

Commissioners Not Present: Commissioner Sheila Carson-Carr, Commissioner Exum

**Adoption of Agenda**

On a motion by Chairman Holcomb, seconded by Commissioner Hughes the Agenda was adopted with addition of Sean Moore (Minnesota Ave Project) by a vote of 4-0-2.

**Updates, MPD**

- 1 homicide
- 10 ADW, people know each other (3 closed out)
- 6 robberies
- 3 burglaries
- 10 theft from vehicles (take things out of vehicle)
- 24 theft
- Summer Crime Initiative
  - Now establish fall crime initiative (focus on area, put resources there to bring down crime)
- Ways to support MPD: Use tip line (it's anonymous)

**Community Concerns/Announcements**

- Community Member: Are you passing out ticket between Dix and Minnesota Ave? It's a race track and you have to run at the crosswalk.
  - Response: Yes, we pass out ticket. What are the worse times?
    - Community Member: 11 am in the morning and 7:00 in the afternoon
- Community Member: The real issue the jaywalking in that area.
- Community Member: There is an issue on Clay and Minnesota (by Chase) bank with cars speeding. DDOT said that there is nothing they can do.

**Community Concerns/ Announcements**

- Community Member: Eleanor Holmes Norton coming to Fort DuPont Civic Association Meeting on Nov. 5 @ 7:00 (former 6<sup>th</sup> district police building)
- Community Member: Community Manager Rebel, we have a pilot program with DDOT to have motor pads (they require license, 21 year of age to become a member, have insurance, helmets, have to drive in street not in the bike lane)
- Community Member: ROSA Permit- Why is area not qualified? Why can't get it in the area?
- Community Member: Request a substation be place on Minnesota ave in Ward 7
- Community Member: 3908 Benning Road substation (Need a cleanup) – it has been reported to DCRA, DPW
- Community Member: Leaving Condition Park 7 building
- Community Member: Transparency by ANC 7F with regards to financials, Meeting Minutes, Quarterly reports (have you been submitting), standing with DC Auditor
  - Chair Holcomb – As you all may be aware before 2018 the commission had not had the check book in 4 years, recovered in 2018, we are compliant and current, there is no matter pertaining to transparency that

you cannot ask, the goal is between now and end of the year for all those documents to be online, Chief of Staff tracks all the minutes, look at place where we were 2 years ago it's night and day, we recovered and put stuff in place to prevent losing the book, we vote on budget and can make an adjustment (based on consensus of community). Park 7 not the best deal (property change from 7D to 7F and stuck with what they gave). As it relates to transparency, I can tell you how the dollars are spent. We have had summer arts program, Easter event, event on Minnesota, community brunch, Nats park. As the committees get off the ground we welcome feedback.

- Community Member: What about Park 7?
  - Chair Holcomb: There was an article about the issues with this building. An example a resident had a leak in the ceiling. Need to really ensure that there is no prejudice against residents (bc low-income). As Chair would like retribution, commitment to keep building up, and removal of tax abatement.
- Community Member: Want to really consider a police sub-station on Minnesota.
  - Chair Holcomb: Process for community to provide input on Budget priorities

### **Chairman Phil Mendelson**

- Here to discuss budget (did not snatch money from Grocery stores)
- Issue is that there was never money set aside for grocery stores
- There needs to be more grocery stores and the ones here are in questionable condition
- Last year spoke with advocates, number of folks from DC Hunger may be easier to attract stores like Aldi's
- There are strategies (supportive of what we can do to get stores)

### **Community Concerns/Questions**

- Community Member: Concentration of affordable housing creates economic disparity creates issues with business coming to this area; Example: Walter Reid will have affordable housing
  - Response: Not in a good position to argue over Walter Reid because haven't look at facts recently, but when came to Council there was suppose to be affordable housing and know Mayor push projects with affordable housing. Concentration of low-income does make it difficult and brings other issues and we should have learned. Council talk about equitable distribution of housing.
- Community Member: Are they going to keep putting more affordable housing in 7F? Does Mayor know we at our max?
  - Response: Mayor wants to add 36,000 new units by 2025. The region is growing. There has been conversations around how distribute housing. There will be growth in the city and need to have more housing. Not just low-income. We are growing faster than we have houses. Will they stop affordable housing? No. Should they concentrate affordable? No. There are some places moving to mix-income. When I say affordable housing –there are different ranges. Colleagues give too much attention to extremely low-income. There should be a lot more workforce housing.
- Community Member: Yes, we need more discussion on workforce housing. What is happening on East Capitol with land?
  - Response: Not sure what's going on there. But recognize problem when large tract used for housing.
- Community Member: Income requirements Walter Reid
  - Response: Will have colleague check out income at Walter Reid.
- Community Member: Concerns that development always tied to things (i.e. long contracts, other developments)
  - Response: One thing come to mind Skyland (Walmart didn't come), don't want to criticize government but we need to be better negotiators
- Community Member: Stores don't have to be large, have we thought about teaming up with federal gov because farmers need stuff bought (maybe a food Coop or something)
  - Response: 160,000 live east of the river not going to get the volume needed to support residents, cooperatives important though
- Community Member: DDOT said they would put a stop at library 39 and Boys and Girls club (adamant about this project, we don't want and need it). This is a residential neighborhood.
  - Response: I got in trouble when I took money out budget for Streetcar. This project went from popular to unpopular (after H street building). Councilmember upset because money taken out of the budget.
- Community Member: Streetcar to help the people in River Terrace. But they did that because they went against haven't a metro stop. Others wanted connected transportation system that metro can fix.
  - Response: Need support ANC and civic groups. Make sure he sees it during budget season.
- Community Member: Told there were federal funds might be lost for the bridge repairs.
  - Response: Federal dollars, city gets transient dollars for projects, if city decide not to do project still have Federal dollars.
- Community Member: Want a petition on the Streetcar.
  - Response: Chair Holcomb we have a resolution. We will send.



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#### "Crossroads East of the River" Where Communities Come Together

- Community Member: Can you talk about small and minority owned businesses?
  - Response: DSLB avenue to support small business, created lower property tax for small businesses, we put in a credit in franchise return

#### Update Councilmember Gray's Office, Mark Ponder

- No updates.

#### Community Concerns/Questions

- Community Member: The fiscal year ended. Will there be an overview of the budget for 2020?
  - Response: Tyrell Holcomb, we voted on the budget at the last meeting and we can print a copy.
- Community Member: Comprehensive plan for DC, December 2020, they are trying to add housing to area where there is transportation, will you be at meetings, can you send us information and can we have a working session.
  - Response: Chairman Tyrell Holcomb, has been involved oppose amendments (one said people choose to leave), as far as meetings ANC will be involved, in plan want to ensure that there is a balance grocery stores and fast food restaurants, we are open to community leadership for a working session.
- Community Member: Meadow Green court is having a harvest festival, October 26 and need volunteers

#### Update Mayor's office, Shelan Baynes

- There are census positions available
- The diaper tax is implemented as of October 1, so no tax on diapers
- Initiative pass to increase hours police on call because uptick in violence
- Flip the script campaign (change the convo for men of color, show how men of color involved in families)
- Comprehensive Plan Draft is out (all of ideas, available at OP.dc.gov), all information sent to ANC portal

#### Community Questions/Concerns

- Community Member: For the police, are they just increasing the hours? It doesn't make sense because they are working more hours and getting tired.
- Response: We have to let Mayor know the community members don't like. Are there suggestions?
  - Community Response: Have more police. More money in social services and education.
    - Response: There were more programs added for social services. In terms of police increase, proposed by Mayor but not approved.
- Community Member: Speak on diaper tax.
  - Response: Diapers are tax exempt.
- Community Member: Speak about Taxi to Rail
  - Response: You can call a taxi and they can take you to rail, grocery store, recreation center. They will cover cost up to 10.00. It's a pilot program. DHVD has more information.
- Community Member: Upset about the Street Car, tell Mayor they don't want it.
  - Response: Based on budget and what heard about plans it will happen.

#### Eric Winkfield, Pepco, Public Affairs Manager

Ms. Donna Cooper and Monique Cunningham also attending meeting from Pepco

- Role at Pepco: Raise awareness on what's happening with company and bring back to Pepco community concerns
- Current Proposal in terms of Rate Adjustment currently at Public Service Commission
  - Different approach with how we set rates, we can't change without public approval
  - What we propose will not take away oversight or those that are involved in rate setting/advocacy (consumer affairs), it enhances their role
  - Project allows company to propose things and have conversation on front years
  - Multiyear plan – increase transparency, alignment, measure performance, reconciliation have to provide explanation (so increase accountability), provide predictability for customers
    - Used across 39 states (some type of multiyear plan), thought this plan best given the District plans, customers etc.
  - PSE determined whether rate just and reasonable and will stay in place

- Reconciliation – Pepco present to commission how perform, and commission question, based on how Pepco do may have to pay fines that go back to customer
- Pepco will be able to modernize grid – so be cleaner and more energy efficient
- Accountability- incorporating and distributing resources, reliability, customers, pay penalty for not meeting measures
- Reduces frequency of regulatory filing
- For customers’ bill, year 1 to year 3 (increase over 3 years) total cost 2019 85.44 avg. customer bill
  - Year 1- 91
  - Year 2-95
  - Year 3-99
- Low-income customers not receive income, homestead tax exemption (those customers get a discount 7.50)
- Money goes to update system and better serve you. E.g. Solar Panels, tree trimming, overhead lines etc.

#### Community Concerns/Questions

- Community Member: Pepco go down with clean energy with all the goals.
  - Response: The districts has renewable energy we have to meet. Can provide the exact standards (which have actually increased). Each year held to higher standard or pay alternative compliance fee.
- Community Member: Does that include Solar Panels?
  - Response: No it does not include. This would reduce your bill.
- Community Member: Getting calls about power and switching.
  - Response: They are a supplier from a third party. Reach out to public service commission. We don’t make recommendations.
- Community Member: Under impression everything will be underground.
  - Response: DC plug project, some parts underground.
- Community Member: 5G requests
  - Response: We have not responded but companies come to us to figure this out.
- Community Member: We were told all lines underground as part of DC Plug at the streetcar meeting.
  - Response: We will connect about communications to community.

#### Gerald Kasunic, Department of for-Hire Vehicles, DC Transportation Program

- Gerald not present and representative left meeting.
- Canceled for last meeting.

#### Sean Moore

- Bulk of project near Dix street done
- Still waiting to get the lights connected
- New railing going in by bio-retention facility to dissuade people from wanting to sit on it

#### Community Concerns

- Chair Holcomb: No community input on the railings, so people may sit.
- Community Response: Worried about people sitting lack of community input on railing
- Chair Holcomb: Concerns about contract and no community input on contract (told it wasn’t final)
- Community Response: Minnesota and Benning is less safe with the construction.

#### Reports

- Chair’s Report
  - Draft of the annual report at the next meeting.
- **Secretary’s Report**
  - Approval of Previous Minutes at the next meeting
 On a motion by Chair Holcomb, seconded by Hunter to table approval of September, October meeting until November meeting approved by vote of 4-0-2.
- **Treasurer’s Report**
- Update
  - 58, 546.88 – Checking



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- 22, 221.07 – Savings
- Balance as of Sept 30.
- Q4 Financial Report
  - On a Motion by Chair Holcomb to suspend rules of grant process to approve the expenses went to community use, seconded by Comm. Hunter approved by vote of 4-0-2.
  - On a motion by Chair Holcomb, seconded by Comm Fletcher to approve Q4 financial report approved by vote of 4-0-2.

#### Commission Business Old/New

- Holiday Events
  - Turkey giveaway & Dinner @ Saturday, November 23
  - Christmas – 2 events one adult and one for kids
  - Total of 4000 to cover costs of holiday event.
  - Request 250.00 for community event –
- Motion by Chair Holcomb, seconded by Comm. Hunter to approve \$4250 for community approved by vote of 4-0-2.
- Contract Updates, Graphic Designer
  - Motion by Chair Holcomb, seconded by Comm. Hughes to adjust contract for graphic designer to Lindsey Walton and extend contract to 2020 approved by vote of 4-0-2.
- Resolutions
  - None.

#### Meeting Adjourned

On a motion by Chair Holcomb, seconded Hunter the meeting was adjourned at 8:51pm.