

Government of the District of Columbia

"Crossroads East of the River" Where Communities Come Together

General Commission Meeting Minutes January 19, 2021 Time: 6:30 p.m.

via Zoom due to COVID-19

1) Call to Order & Roll call

Chairperson Holcomb called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm. A brief moment of silence was held to acknowledge the lives lost in the COVID-19 pandemic. Also present were commissioners Hunter, Weston, Hughes, Diggs, and Codling.

2) Consideration & Adoption of the Agenda

Chairman Holcomb moved to amend the agenda to add approval of the 2021 meeting schedule and to table the resolution for changing the streetcar stop to Minnesota Avenue/Benning Road.

Chairman Holcomb moved to approve this agenda, as amended. The motion passes unanimously with five in favor and zero against. (5-0-1)

3) Officer Elections

G. Simons- Executive Director of The Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions led the voting process for officer elections.

Chairperson Holcolmb motioned to elect a slate of officers. Motioned was seconded by Commissioner Hughes. Motion passes with five in favor and one against (5-1-0)

Nominees:

Chairperson: Tyrell Holcomb

Vice Chairperson: Brittney Hughes

Secretary: Whitney Weston Treasurer: Racquel Codling

4) **Updates**

a) Mayor Bowser's Office - Osha Daniels

The mayor is encouraging residents to enjoy the inauguration from the comfort of their homes. There have been modifications to the scheduling of the vaccinations. Seniors 65 and older and healthcare workers can get vaccinations on Thursday mornings at 9am for priority zip codes (20019 and 20020). These individuals can make appointments by calling 1-855-363-0333 or online <u>vaccinate.dc.gov</u> On Fridays at 9am additional appointments will be available for the entire district. Specialized zip codes with higher covid cases will be given priority. There is currently a weekly allotment of 6,500 vaccines for the district. For more information contact osha.daniels1@dc.gov



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b) MPD - Captain Conners

The new year has started with a few motor vehicle thefts, six arrests have been made for juveniles driving stolen vehicles. A safe transition of power is expected for the January 20th, 2021 inauguration, citizens are encouraged to report any suspicious activity. In regards to a February 2020 shooting in a residential building, MPD has assigned a detective to solve the case. MPD is encouraging residents to use the 7279099 tip-line to provide tips for active cases.

5) Presentations/Special Guest

a) Eboni-Rose Thompson - DCSBOE Ward 7 Representative

Eboni-Rose Thompson is the newly elected Board of Education representative for ward 7. The board meets publicly twice a month and residents can join for more information or share concerns. The board is focused on closing the learning gap created by the pandemic once schools are reopened.

b) Chairman Phil Mendelson

The council adopted the schedule for performance oversight hearings. There is an oversight hearing on education on Thursday, January 21, teachers and parents will have a chance to voice their concerns. Performance oversight hearings begin on February 8th and end March 19th, every committee will have several hearings for the public. The notice has instructions for how witnesses can sign up to testify. There will be revised revenue estimates at the end of February and the budget will be based on those updated revenues. There is money in the budget for extending the streetcar to the East.

c) Sirraya Grant - Minnesota Avenue Improvement Committee

There is a Minnesota Avenue improvement meeting in February. The planning committee consists of business owners, community leaders, and many others. Anyone interested in being a part of the planning committee can reach out to Sirraya Gant at sirraygant@gmail.com

d) Adam Weers - Cedar Realty

The NorthEast Heights Committee is seeking approval of an application for a track review for the project, as well as approval for an alley closing. The development includes retail properties, grocery stores, and residential properties. The Market will only have a few affordable units and there is currently no timeline for the new grocery store or closures of old grocery stores, including Safeway.

e) David Retland - Marshall Heights Community Development Organization, Inc.

Previously the site of the DC General Hospital, Marshall Heights was founded to address the neighborhood housing deteriorating infrastructure, it's Ward-7 based and puts Ward-7 first. The organization focuses on real estate, housing forces, business, health education,



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and wellness development and provides small business support for businesses and entrepreneurs.

6) Community Concerns/Announcements

- a) Enora Moss: The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) will begin construction on the Kenilworth Avenues service roads between Eastern Ave. and Nannie H Burroughs Ave. As part of the planned roadway improvements along the I-295/DC 295 corridor. The following roadwork will be ongoing daily beginning on or about Monday, January 25th, weather permitting, and will continue through the fall of 2021. Periodic lane closures will be required for equipment mobilization, utility upgrades, and pavement work, including guardrail installations associated with this location as part of multiple DDOT improvement projects on the corridor. For more information visit the website www.Improving295DC.com and follow on social media @Improving295DC or enora@tbaconnects.com.
- b) Devon Myers: Myers works for the East River Family Strengthening Collaborative as the center manager for Benning Terrace/ Benning Park Family Success Center. The center provides preventative services such as mental health counseling, resume building, and utility assistance. They also do monthly events such as giveaways and recreational activities for families. They're located in the Benning Terrace complex in 7503 SMD and are happy to partner with the 7F commission to bring services to as many families as possible. If you are interested in the services they offer or know anyone who would benefit from the center, contact Devon Myers at 202-803-3203 or email dmyers@erfsc.org

7) Reports

a) Chair's Report

The chair is concerned about the traumatic impacts of gun violence on the community and will continue to advocate on behalf of the issues that are most important in the community. This includes issues concerning funding that go towards systemic issues. The committee has laid the groundwork for a lawsuit against the halfway house being built.

b) Secretary's Report

Commissioner Hunter moved to approve the meeting minutes for December 15, 2020. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Codling. The motion carries with 6 in favor, 0 against.

c) Treasurer's Report

Checking: \$65,277.35 Saving:\$22,203.00 Expenses: \$1,155.17

Kayla Lennon (Personnel): \$775.00

Verizon Wireless (Communications): \$380.17

Service Charge 12/31/2020: \$15.34 (Credited back to Account)

Total Funds: \$87,480.35



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8) Commission Business Old/New

a) Bylaw Changes

Chairperson Holcomb moved to approve bylaw changes to add the legislative and policy committee to the Bylaws. Motion was seconded by commissioner Hunter. The motion passes unanimously with five in favor and zero against. (5-0-1)

b) Committee Assignments

Chairperson Holcomb moved to approve Committee assignments for 2021. The motion was seconded by commissioner Hunter. The motion passes unanimously with five in favor and zero against. (5-0-1)

c) Approve 2021 Meeting Schedule

Chairperson Holcomb moved to approve the 2021 meeting schedule. The motion was seconded by commissioner Hunter. The motion passes unanimously with five in favor and zero against. (5-0-1)

d) Letter of Support - Large Tract Review of the Proposed Northeast Heights Redevelopment (Cedar Realty)

Chairperson Holcomb moved to approve the letter of support for the redevelopment of Northeast Heights. The motion was seconded by commissioner Hunter. The motion passes unanimously with five in favor and zero against. (5-0-1)

e) Resolution 21-002 - Marshall Heights Community Development Organization (MHCDO) Inclusion in the Redevelopment of Hill East/Reservation 13 Chairperson Holcomb moved to approve MHCDO's inclusion in the redevelopment of Hill East. The motion was seconded by commissioner Hunter. The motion passes unanimously with five in favor and zero against. (5-0-1)

f) Resolution 21-003 - Marshall Heights Community Development Organization (MHCDO) Inclusion in the Redevelopment of East River Park Shopping Center and Senator Square

Chairperson Holcomb Moved to approve MHCDO's inclusion in the redevelopment of East River Park Shopping Center and Senator Square. The motion was seconded by commissioner Hunter. The motion passes unanimously with five in favor and zero against. (5-0-1)

9) Meeting Adjourned

• Chairperson Holcomb moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 pm seconded by Commission Hunter.