

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3F
May 18, 1998
Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 7:45 pm. by Chairman Malcom. Commissioners present were Strauss, Perry, Sorge and Collins.

Adoption of Agenda. The agenda was adopted by a vote of 5-0-0.

Announcements— On Wednesday June 3rd Council member Patterson and Chief Management Officer Barnett will hold a town meeting at 4201 Albemarle St. NW. The meeting will start at 7:30 pm.

Open Forum— Mayoral candidate Jeffrey Gildenhorn, a Forest Hills resident, recongized businessman, and former DC Boxing and Wrestling Commissioner, outlined his plans to become the next Mayor. Some of the concerns he addressed included: economic development; anger, frustration and overall disappointment with the curent leadership (city services, including education, police care and public works are in need of better organization and staffing); the need to bring retailers back to the city; and incentives for taxpayers.

Regular Business:

Telecommunications Towers in Rock Creek Park.

Mr. Robert Posilkin and John Epting, representing Bell Atlantic, appeared before the Commission to discuss the above issue that is now before the Rock Creek Park Planning Commission. Bell Atlantic Mobile has submitted an application to the National Park Service with respect to adding two towers and related facilities within Rock Creek Park for the purpose of providing cellular phone service. The towers will be 130 to 150 feet tall. One proposed site is the William Fitzgerald Tennis Center and the other is the maintance yard at Glover Road. It is Bell Atlantic's position that these towers serve as a safty element to Park users and that the towers blend in with the overall look of the Park. Henley Gabeau, President of the Road Runners Club of America spoke in support of the facilities, citing the safety issue for runners exercising in early or late hours and noting that 66 attacks have occured in the Park in the last ten years. Other concerns raised regarding the towers included the potential levels of radiation they will produce and their aesthetic value. The Commission voted 3-0 to send a letter to the National Park Service expressing it's supportt of the facilities.

PN Hoffman re: 4025 Connecticut Ave.

Mr. Monte Hoffman outlined his plans for a 30-unit, 8 floor (90 ft.) luxury condo to be constructed on the land that is now 4025 and 4027 Connecticut Ave. The building that is now at that site will be demolished. The new building is being built as a "Matter of Right" by zoning

regulations. Mr. Hoffman hopes for a September 1998 start with a 12-month construction phase. The building will house a 30 car garage and will have one parking space per unit. Parking spaces will be sold separately. The building will be mostly two-bedroom units with an estimated selling price of \$250,00. Several residents rose in opposition to the Hoffman building stating that it will abut the building at 4007 and block its sight lines, cause parking congestion and noise in the alley where the garage entrance is located, and create noise by work being done on Saturdays during the long duration of the project.

Lt. Eaves, 2nd. District MPD

Lt. Eaves reported that for the first three months of the year crime in the city was down 22% and in PSA 201 crime was down 45%. There is a crack-down on parked cars with out-of-state tags, and they are tracking over 200 cars in violation of residential parking laws. These cars have been ticketed and warned. There is also a crack down underway on moving violations on Connecticut Avenue during rush hours. A rash of burglaries on Connecticut Avenue between Nebraska and Albemarle Streets has resulted in the implementation of a door-to-door program to inform residents of measures to take to prevent a burglary. The purpose of the program is to patrol the area as often as possible. This program is not exclusive to single family homes but apartment buildings as well. Presently there are three car and three bike patrol efforts in the area. The patrol officers have keys and access codes to buildings where there is no 24 hour desk attendant. Commissioner Sorge stated that ANC 3F would like to donate money for the purpose of a new bike, but due to regulations within the donation process they are unable to donate directly. However, her initial research indicates that the money can be donated to a non-profit organization which operates within the ANC and they can subsequently buy the bike and make the donation. Lt. Eaves said that a bike for patrol/pursuit purposes would need to be a high end model. A resident commented she periodically sees more than one police car parked in empty parking lots and it seems they're "loafing." Lt. Eaves responded that officers are entitled to shift breaks, but breaks are rarely taken by car patrols. Many times during shift changes, however, face-to-face information might need to be exchanged. Furthermore, if any concerns of this type arise, call him at 282-2239, or 282-1162. At this point Chairman Malcom stopped the meeting and Commissioner Sorge made the following statement to Lt. Eaves:

"This Commission owes you an apology for making you wait until after 10:30 at night to make your presentation [about crime in Forest Hills]. Unfortunately we cannot take a vote on this issue [regarding the bike]. Commissioner Perry, P-E-R-R-Y, is out in the hallway and she refuses to come in and vote on this issue. Without a quorum we cannot have a vote. Our guidelines say we can only vote on this issue in May which means we can't even vote and we owe you a very very deep apology."

Chairman Malcom adjourned the meeting.