

Monday, 01/28/2019

**Bloomingdale Civic Association meeting**

St. George’s Episcopal Church, 160 U Street NW

Officers in attendance: Teri Janine Quinn, Sherry Howard, Felicia Davis, Jennifer McCann, Ernie Emrich, Robert Brannum, Pat Mitchell, Bertha Holliday, Jean-Christophe Deverines, Scott Roberts

Approximately 50 people attended.

**Public safety**

MPD 3D Sergeant Stephen Keirn from PSA 306 (north Bloomingdale) introduced himself. He reported on the one recent homicide near 236 W Street NW – an arrest is immediate. Some crime stats for PSA 306: robberies – 3; burglaries – 2; theft from autos - 24.

He had no info on the car accident near 1st & V St NW that occurred this past Saturday afternoon, 01/26/2019. He said that the commander is developing a matrix to address resource allocation in 3D.

Ms. Quinn asked that a representative from PSA 308 (south Bloomingdale) attend future BCA meetings.

**1600 North Capitol Street NW development project**

Ms. Quinn reviewed the history of the site’s Planned Unit Development (PUD) over the many years. Frustration has developed because of the lack of progress on the project. She noted that the BCA approved a 1-year PUD extension this past summer, which is expiring in June 2019. The applicant is presenting its building design to the HPRB perhaps in February 2019.

Ms. Quinn described the draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) from the applicant. She noted that amenities are usually paid out at the end of the project, but the current proposal is for 20% of the amenities amount to be paid now. Ms. Quinn said that she anticipates the applicant will request another PUD extension. Mr. Chip Glasgow of Holland & Knight said that the HPRB process has impacted the project schedule. He said that there likely will be a request for another PUD extension.

Mr. Brannum suggested modifications to the MOU via a BCA committee.

Dr. Holliday crafted a motion that an adhoc BCA subgroup be created that would negotiate a revised draft MOU over the next 15 days. Mr. Glasgow advised that further approvals are needed from BZA, HPRB, DDOT (for a curb cut), maybe something with DDOE. The motion was seconded. The motion passed 13 to 9.

Mr. Brannum made a motion that the BCA president appoint a special committee regarding Dr. Holliday’s motion. The motion was seconded. The motion passed. Joe Levesque, Robert Brannum, Pat Mitchell and Eric Woods all volunteered to serve on the special BCA committee.

Mr. Glasgow distributed packets of project renderings to the BCA board members.

Bill Bonstra of Bonstra Haresign walked through a brief Powerpoint presentation. He said the HPO’s Steve Calcott has indicated in the past that he likes the project – and has recently commented that he still likes this project. It was noted that the HPO staff report on the project has not been released.

There would be commercial space along the street-level -- a convenience store was mentioned. Mr. There would be a rear courtyard with a walkway access to the alley. There would be one level of parking accessible from Florida Avenue NW. Parking would be mostly for residents with a few spaces for retail. Many questions were asked.

Mr. Brannum made a motion that the proposed 1600 North Capitol Street NW project is not incompatible with the historic district. The motion was seconded. The vote results were 10 in support to 12 in opposition. The motion did not pass.

**Update on the content & outcomes of the 2nd Bloomingdale Village Square (BVS) Overdeck community forum**

Dr. Holliday, Thaddeus Thaler, Paul Cerruti and Zach Sherif provided an update on the overdecking project. There have been two community forums that were well attended. The participating ZGF Architects team said that they had never experienced such robust community participation. A history storyboard will be added for the third community forum. There will be outreach to the Truxton Circle/Bates/Hanover areas south of Bloomingdale. Volunteers were solicited for the project.

**Retooling of BCA committees**

Ms. Quinn said that the BCA board will be discussing retooled BCA committees at its upcoming annual BCA board retreat. She advised that the BCA committee will be discussed at the February 2019 BCA meeting.

**Community representatives**

Dominique Chestnut – the Ward 5 person from the Mayor’s Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS) -- talked about SNAP benefits, free DC Circulator buses service for the month of February 2019, DC budget forums around the city, etc.

**Other**

Ms. Quinn said that DDOT has been invited to attend the next BCA meeting to discuss traffic calming.

The meeting ended at 08:50 pm.

**Motion summary**

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| **Motion #** | **Motion** | **Results of motion** |
| 1 | A motion and seconded to create an adhoc BCA subgroup that would negotiate a revised draft MOU over the next 15 days on the 1600 North Capitol Street NW development project. | Motion passed |
| 2 | A motion was made and seconded that the BCA president appoint a special committee regarding Dr. Holliday’s motion (see motion #1 above.) | Motion passed |
| 3 | A motion was made and seconded to find the 1600 North Capitol Street NW project design not incompatible with the Bloomingdale historic district. | Motion failed |