

Monday, 03/18/2019

**Bloomingdale Civic Association meeting**

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

BCA board members in attendance: Teri Janine Quinn, Ernie Emrich, Sherry Howard, Felicia Davis, Robert Brannum, Pat Mitchell, Bertha Holliday, Jennifer McCann, Scott Roberts

Approximate number of people in attendance: 60

**Public safety**

MPD Third District Sergeant S.B. Kern, who oversees PSA 305, 306 and 308, provided a crime update. He reported that there has been an increase:

* in robberies during the overnight shift around R St NW & Seaton Pl NW
* in front porch package thefts (however, with four recent arrests)
* in stolen autos.

A neighbor asked about the abundance of the car-sharing vehicles parked on the streets. Mr. Brannum noted that car-sharing programs are a DPW program and not a DDOT program.

**Emergency preparedness update**

Mr. Brannum reported that HSEMA would be holding a workshop for nonprofit & churches on Monday, 04/29/2019. He indicated that Mt. Bethel Baptist Church participated last year’s workshop.

**Acknowledging National Women’s History Month**

Mr. Brannum acknowledged Ms. Quinn as a phenomenal woman. He distributed award plaques to the female BCA board members.

**Community representatives**

It was noted that no one from the Mayor’s Office was present because the Mayor was holding her State of the Union event tonight.

Brian McClure, Policy Director and Legislative Affairs from Ward 5 CM McDuffie’s Office, said that the budget oversight hearings would begin next week. The CM has submitted a letter requesting approximately $40,000 to start the design of the North Capitol Street decking over project.

ANC5E10 Commissioner Dianne Barnes advised that Vision McMillan Partners has asked for PUD extension until 2020 for the McMillan development project.

**DC Water Northeast Boundary Tunnel**

Hadiah Jordan of DC Water reviewed the Northeast Boundary Tunnel project. The next NEBT Forum will be held on Thursday, 4/11/2019. She solicited people to join the forum. Powerpoint slides were presented. The median strips will be removed on the unit and 100 blocks of Rhode Island Avenue NW. The first six trees on the unit block median strip and all of the trees on the 100 block median strip will be removed. DDOT requires two traffic lanes in both directions. The trees will be replaced when the median strips are restored.

3rd St NW between Florida and Rhode Island Avenue NW will be closed from April 2019 to Jan 2020. There were audience questions about damage to buildings, water in the underground Tiber Creek, traffic control and the alternative parking area (APA) at the Bryant Street NW lot at 2nd & Bryant St NW.

DC Water will be directing a left turn southeast bound onto R Street NW from Florida Avenue NW, since the left turn onto 3rd St NW will be removed. It was noted that speed humps on 2nd St NW and white striping along 2nd St NW are being considered. There will be at least one crosswalk east-west and north-side along Rhode Island Avenue NW.

DC Urban Forestry arborist Jabari Brew indicated that 30 new trees will be planted in Bloomingdale. Tree pruning is scheduled for 2nd St NW and 1st St NW.

A meeting attendee said that the city’s Tree Canopy Protection Amendment Act of 2016 may govern what happens to the mature trees intended to be removed. Any tree with a circumference of 100 inches or more is considered a heritage tree and cannot be removed unless they are replanted under this Act.

**150 S Street NW development project**

Kadida Development presented its most recent renderings of the proposed by-right eight new construction rowhouses on four lots, which includes eight rear parking spaces and two parking space easements for two adjoining houses. The developer indicated that he has met with HPO’s Brendan Meyer. HPO’s biggest concern is about fenestration. The HPRB hearing is scheduled for Thursday, 03/28/2019. A motion was made to not approve the current design of 150 S Street NW development project, since it is not compatible within the Bloomingdale Historic District, specifically due to the corner projecting window, brick color, lack of ornamentation at the top, prevalence of white and base stone not being a dark color. The motion was seconded. A friendly amendment was made to just accept the comments made by the community. The friendly amendment was not accepted. The motion failed 10 to 15. Dr. Holliday indicated that she would report the BCA vote results at tomorrow night’s ANC5E meeting.

Some meeting attendees suggested that the site should honor in some way the original church that was razed from the site – St. Paul’s Methodist Episcopal Church South. The use of the old firecall box adjacent to the site was mentioned as a potential location to honor the site’s history.

Ms. Quinn mentioned the issue of public dumping on empty lots including the 150 S St NW lot. She implored property owners to maintain their lots.

**Acknowledging the service of outgoing BCA board members**

Ms. Quinn thanked former BCA board member Serita Sanders for her six years of service. She handed Ms. Sanders a plaque that acknowledged her service.

Meeting adjourned at 09:10 pm.

**Motion summary**

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| **Motion #** | **Motion** | **Results of motion** |
| 1 | A motion was made and seconded to not approve the current design of 150 S Street NW development project, since it is not compatible within the Bloomingdale Historic District, specifically due to the corner projecting window, brick color, lack of ornamentation at the top, prevalence of white and base stone not being a dark color. The motion failed 10 to 15. | Motion failed |