

Monday, 04/15/2019

**Bloomingdale Civic Association meeting**

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

BCA board members present: Teri Janine Quinn, Pat Mitchell, Jean-Christophe Deverines, Felicia Davis, Jennifer McCann, Ernie Emrich, Robert Brannum, Bertha Holliday, Scott Roberts

Approximate number of people in attendance: 50

Ms. Quinn began the meeting at 7:05 pm.

**Public safety**

Captain Kim of the Third District provided a crime update. A recent trend: guys on scooters committing robberies. There has been an uptick on Theft From Autos. There were questions about out-of-state cars parked along 1st Street NW.

**BCA Retreat / BCA Committee Guidelines & Operating Procedures**

Ms. Quinn provided a summary of the recent BCA retreat. She indicated that there were some key outcomes: activating the BCA committees, membership and fundraising. She said that BCA members should have received an Email from the BCA with the documents to be discussed at tonight’s BCA meeting.

She read aloud portions of the proposed BCA committee guidelines and operating procedures. One point of discussion was whether the BCA president appoints the BCA committee chairs. The general understanding is that the BCA president does appoint the BCA committee chairs, but not committee members.

She solicited feedback. Here is some feedback from meeting attendees:

* The Email from the BCA was just this past Thursday or Friday, so there was not enough time to adequately review the documents
* How does a BCA committee chair get removed? The approach is to be positive rather than punitive.
* Should BCA committee chairs be BCA members? That is specified in the operating procedures.
* Could the vote on the proposed BCA committee guidelines and operating procedures be delayed a month?

A motion was made and seconded to have the vote on the BCA committee guidelines and operating procedures at the May 2019 BCA meeting. The motion passed 15 to 0.

A motion was made and seconded to have BCA members submit their comments in writing prior to the May 2019 BCA meeting. The motion passed 23 to 0.

Then a BCA board member read brief descriptions of each committee and solicited volunteers.

Ms. Davis read the description for the BCA House Tour Committee. The next BCA House Tour Committee meeting is this Wednesday, 04/17/2019, at the Northwest Learning Center.

Ms. Quinn read the description for the BCA Historic Preservation Committee.

Ms. Mitchell read the description for the BCA Membership Committee.

Ms. Quinn read the description of the BCA Fundraising Committee.

Mr. Brannum read the description of the BCA Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Committee. He noted that there is a public safety forum held on May 13, 2019, at Washington National Cathedral. There are federal grants available to religious institutions and non-profits for security.

Ms. Quinn read the description for the BCA Scholarship Committee.

Mr. Deverines read the description for the BCA Beautification Committee.

Dr. Holliday read the description of the BCA Bloomingdale Village Square Committee.

**1600 North Capitol Street NW development project**

Ms. Quinn briefly reviewed the 12-year-old project, including the multiple Planned Unit Development (PUD) renewals. The most recent Joe Mamo site’s one-year PUD extension expires in June 2019. The developers are now requesting another PUD extension in order to accommodate the historic preservation process.

One outstanding issue is the granting of the community benefits. Approximately $6,000 is allocated to the BCA. The current plan is to pay 20% of that amount in exchange for unconditional support for any city approvals. The BCA indicated that it would not be interested in supporting such a proposal.

An adhoc BCA group developed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The HPRB identified five building design changes that the developer needed to address in order to obtain HRPB approval. Ms. Quinn advised that the draft MOU requires better accountability through quarterly reporting.

BCA’s intent through this MOU is to not allow any PUD extensions beyond three years and to receive 100% of the community’s amenities package payment to all organizations within ANC5E community identified as recipients at the time this MOU is accepted by all parties. Specifically, BCA agrees to support and strongly urge ANC5E to support the Developer’s 2019 application to the DC Zoning Commission for a two-year extension of the PUD, consistent with a project plan that allows BCA to monitor the Developer’s progress with specific milestones and conditions. If the Developer meets all the requirements as outlined in the plan, BCA may not oppose no more than one additional request for extension of one year.

Dr. Holliday distributed a half-page flyer indicating that the support of the BCA should be contingent on the developer’s agreement to add a second level of garage parking for public use. Mr. Brannum stated that the community cannot renegotiate the terms of the entire project. Ms. Quinn stated there is a hearing on Monday, 05/13/2019. The BCA’s leverage is the PUD extension.

Ms. Quinn: if the BCA does not vote for the MOU, the developer can still request the PUD extension. If the developer does not get its PUD extension, then the project ends. The developer would need to start over with a brand-new PUD. The developer can build on the site by-right without a PUD as well. Moreover, the developer can elect to sell the site.

Ms. Quinn described that the text in modern-day amenities package is required to be granular and specific. The text of the 12-year-old Joe Mamo PUD would not meet the current requirements.

A motion was made and seconded to support the proposed MOU from the BCA adhoc group and to move forward.

Motion discussion: The MOU includes the extension agreement & PUD amendment so that it is limited to the five HPRB building design issues. The developer has indicated that the BCA can reallocate funds. It would be beneficial to present the amenities uses using the modern-day amenities language – in other words, being much more specific. The MOU says the BCA agrees to the sufficiency. A friendly amendment was made and accepted -- to allow the BCA adhoc group to work on the MOU for a few more days.

The motion passed 18 to 0.

**Community Representatives and Representatives**

Ward 5 MOCR Dominique Chestnut provided some highlights on the Mayor’s proposed budget.

Kelly Cislo, Constituency Services in Ward 5 CM McDuffie’s office, reviewed the budget hearings and invited residents to testify.

Dr. Holliday reported on two grants that are being pursued for the Bloomingdale Village Square project.

**Community Concerns**

The DC Historic Preservation 2019 Volunteerism and Community Involvement Award is being given to the Bloomingdale Historic Designation Coalition (BHDC). The results of the BHDC was the designation of the Bloomingdale Historic District.

A neighbor reported on the disrespectful dumping of car-sharing cars in the neighborhood. She asked that BCA write letters to the appropriate DC government agencies.

The meeting ended at 09:21 pm.

**Motion summary**

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| **Motion #** | **Motion** | **Results of motion** |
| 1 | A motion was made and seconded to have the vote on the BCA committee guidelines and operating procedures at the May 2019 BCA meeting. The motion passed 15 to 0.  | Motion passed |
| 2 | A motion was made and seconded to have BCA members submit their comments in writing prior to the May 2019 BCA meeting. The motion passed 23 to 0. | Motion passed |
| 3 | A motion was made and seconded to support the proposed MOU from the BCA adhoc group and to move forward. | Motion passed |