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Monday, 02/27/2023

**Bloomingdale Civic Association meeting**

Virtual meeting via Zoom

BCA board members present: Teri Janine Quinn, Eric Woods, Jennifer McCann, Sherry Howard, Joe Levesque, Amy Oakes, Scott Roberts

28 people attended.

Ms. Quinn opened up the meeting with the announcement of the Howard University men’s swim team winning the Northeast Conference championship.

**Public safety**

Metropolitan Police Department Third District (3D) Captain Chris Moore provided a quick review of recent neighborhood crime. He advised about the recent rash of Kia and Hyundai car thefts. MPD is now offering free wheel locks.

Some crimes mentioned:

* unarmed scooter jacking at 1st & W St NW
* robbery at 151 S St NW
* robbery at 138 Seaton Pl NW
* car theft arrest at 144 Thomas St NW

An attendee asked about MPD officer shortage.

ANC5E04 Commissioner Huma Imtiaz promoted Ward 2 Councilmember Brooke Pinto’s public roundtable on gun violence prevention: <https://www.brookepintodc.com/events/gvp-roundtable-day-1>

Ms. Quinn mentioned mental health professionals as a resource. She provided this link to the DC Department of Behavioral Health Access Line: <https://dbh.dc.gov/service/access-helpline>

**BCA Treasurer’s Report**

Ms. Howard shared the December 2022 and January 2023 BCA Treasurer’s Report. She also shared the BCA Scholarship Report from 2016 to current.

**BCA Fundraising Committee**

Ms. Quinn passionately spoke about the new BCA Fundraising Committee. She solicited volunteers to serve on the committee.

**BCA Scholarship Committee**

Ms. Howard introduced the new BCA Scholarship Committee Chair Jackie Duclos. Arnold Wynn shared some details about what is planned for 2023.

BCA Scholarship Awards application process - key dates:

* Friday April 28, 2023: Application deadline/submission process closes at 11:59 pm
* Friday May 12, 2023: Scholarship awardees notified
* Monday May 15, 2023: Awards announced at the May BCA meeting
* Monday June 26, 2023: Scholarship Awards Presentation at the June 2023 BCA meeting (Awardees are strongly encouraged to attend the meeting).

Ms. Quinn advised that an anonymous attendee at the meeting donated $200 to the BCA Scholarship Fund.

**St. George’s Episcopal Church**

Ms. Howard spoke about a BCA donation to St. George’s Episcopal Church. A motion was made and seconded to donate $500 to the church. There was a voice vote of support.

Priest-in-Charge Marilyn Jenkins thanked the BCA for its recent donation, which was used to fabricate two new metal church signs that are posted on U St NW and along 2nd St NW.

She mentioned that the rowhouse next door to the church at 158 U St NW has been combined with the church lot at 160 U St NW.

She advised that the church along with another church are housing a refugee family from Venezuela. This family will be living on the 2nd floor of the church’s rowhouse at 158 U St NW. The church is going through the permitting process to add a shower.

She said that the church is considering operating a daycare at the rowhouse. She noted that the church kitchen is licensed, which may provide income-producing opportunities.

She also invited the community to attend the church’s worship services.

**DC Council 2023 oversight hearings participation**

Dr. Holliday said that the BCA could advocate for more money for the DC Office of Planning Historic Preservation Office (HPO) historic homeowner grant program. She said that additional HPO staff are needed to administer the grant program. She suggested that the BCA ask would be for more money and additional staff. She questioned whether the program was sufficiently objective. Mr. Levesque volunteered to work with Dr. Holliday. No vote was taken, but there was a voice vote of support for the BCA to provide written testimony as part of the 2023 DC Council performance oversight hearing for the DC Office of Planning.

**BCA community policing survey**

Mr. Woods spoke about the BCA public safety survey. The Survey Monkey was not ready this evening but should be ready to share with the community soon. The survey findings will then be shared. “We want your idea on how you and your neighbors can deter or reducing crime on your block.” Ms. Quinn reinforced that the survey needs a diversity of responses.

**Uncaged Mimosas liquor license renewal with dancing entertainment endorsement**

Ms. Quinn initiated an animated discussion of the Uncaged Mimosas liquor license renewal with dancing entertainment endorsement. ANC5E Chair Karla Lewis clarified that the dancing entertainment endorsement is new. The restaurant chef Damian Brown said that they did not want to have dancing, but that he does want the entertainment endorsement. He said that the restaurant attorney included dancing in the endorsement, but that the restaurant does not want dancing. Mr. Brown said that the restaurant windows would not be open when music was being played. He said that he spent $10,000 on soundproofing. It was noted that the adjoining residential building at 302-304 Florida Ave NW is under construction. There are no residents living next door yet. It was noted that there is no restaurant cover charge.

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Ms. Quinn stated the BCA position will support the license so long as the dancing endorsement prior to protest has been removed.

ANC5E02 Commissioner Karla Lewis suggested withdrawing the current renewal request.

The Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration (ABRA) hearing is scheduled for Monday, 03/27/2023. The next BCA meeting is slated for Monday, 03/20/2023, where the discussion can continue.

**Government representatives**

Ward 5 Councilmember Zachary Parker shared a hefty set of community information. He specifically mentioned the potential funding for more MPD officers. Ms. Quinn commented on the proposal to remove MPD accountability goals.

ANC5E05 Commissioner Kevin Rapp reported that the Hillview Market owner has withdrawn his HPO application. Commissioner Rapp mentioned planning a safety walk. He has met with DC Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton about possibly opening up the federal side of the McMillan Reservoir site west of 1st St NW.

ANC5E04 Commissioner Imtiaz mentioned her Sunday, March 12, 2023, neighborhood clean-up.

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The meeting ended at 09:35 pm.

**Motion summary**

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| **Motion #** | **Motion** | **Results of motion** |
| 1 | A motion was made and seconded to donate $500 to St. George’s Episcopal Church. There was a voice vote of support. | Motion passes on a voice vote. |
| 2 | No vote was taken, but there was a voice vote of support for the BCA to provide written testimony to the 2023 DC Council budget oversight hearing for the DC Office of Planning -- regarding the HPO historic homeowner grant program. | There was no motion – just a vote of support. |