

Monday, 01/27/2020

**Bloomingdale Civic Association meeting**

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

The meeting commenced at 7:02 pm.

BCA board members present: Teri Janine Quinn, Jennifer McCann, Sherry Howard, Bertha Holliday, Robert Brannum, Ernie Emrich, Scott Roberts

Approximate number of attendees: 30

**Public Safety**

Third District (3D) Sergeant Kiern provided a roundup on PSA 306 & 308 recent crimes. He mentioned the recent attempted Amax Cleaners robbery.

**North Capitol Street Needs Assessment**

Shelly Vinyard of Eckington introduced herself. She was gathering support to urge DDOT to implement short-term fixes identified in the North Capitol Street Needs Assessment. She noted that only 12 of the 60 recommendations have been implemented. Ms. Vinyard read aloud the letter that she wanted the BCA to sign on to. The letter has been signed by a number of area organizations.

The letter asks DDOT to address long-term fixes, include a bike box on the NE & SW corners of North Capitol & R Street. Two parking spaces would be sacrificed as a result. Ms. Quinn said that BCA members may wish to only weigh in on suggestions that are Bloomingdale-focused. Some of the letter’s spreadsheet text could not be read, so Ms. Quinn suggested postponing further discussion under clearer text could be made available.

A motion was made and seconded to table this issue until the BCA can read the entire spreadsheet. The motion passed 8 to 0. Ms. Vinyard agreed to return next month.

**Government representatives – Ward 5 State Board of Education representative**

Zachary Parker spoke about funding for educational resources for at-risk students. He read aloud proposed legislation, passed by the DC Council in 2018, titled “Birth-to-Three For All DC Act of 2018.” He asked for support from the BCA to help put pressure on the DC Council for full funding.

A motion was made and seconded to sign the resolution. The motion passed 10 to 0.

**BCA financial report**

Ms. Howard read aloud the BCA 2019 income and expenditures report.

She mentioned that BCA typically donates $500 to St. George’s Episcopal Church.

**BCA Scholarship Committee**

Ms. Howard said that there is about $9000 in the BCA Scholarship fund. She solicited volunteers to serve on the BCA Scholarship Committee. Three people volunteered. She noted that approximately 10 to 15 students apply for the BCA scholarship.

**ANC5E resolution of the DC Comprehensive Plan amendments**

Dr. Holliday said that ANC5E will be announcing a special meeting on Tuesday, 02/11/2020, to discuss the commission’s amendments to the DC Comprehensive Plan. She briefly described the new definitions of density for residential and commercial properties. Commercial density is now being measured by FAR rather than the number of floors.

Dr. Holliday suggested that all of Bloomingdale’s commercial-zoned lots be classified as medium density. She mentioned the DC Office of Planning Small Area Plan for MidCityEast, which includes Bloomingdale.

**Traffic calming update**

Ms. Quinn remarked on the newly installed speed humps on 2nd Street NW, one north and one south of Rhode Island Avenue NW. Flashers may be added along Florida Avenue NW in the construction area.

She said that DDOT has installed flexiposts at 1st & R St NW, 1st & Randolph NW, 1st & U St NW, 2nd & S St NW and 2nd & Thomas St NW. The DDOT commitment was to install flexiposts up and down 1st St NW between R St NW and Bryant St NW. Ms. Quinn approached Ward 3 Councilmember Mary Cheh, who has DC Council oversight of DDOT. Ms. Quinn said that she testified before the Committee Oversight hearing on 1st Street NW, indicating that it is outrageous to be asking DDOT about traffic calming that was originally requested in 2013. She will be meeting with the DDOT director tomorrow.

The recent car crash at 1st & R St NW was reviewed.

Ms. Quinn said her written testimony will be reviewed by the BCA board and will subsequently be submitted to DC Council oversight committee.

**FY 2021 budget discussion**

Four items from BCA ~

* Special historic lighting for Bloomingdale’s commercial area around 1st and Rhode Island Avenue NW – to put more light on the street
* Support for businesses impacted by the DC Water project, including Florida Avenue NW from 2nd to 4th St NW
* North Capitol Street deckover project seed money
* Specific allocation for traffic calming in Bloomingdale

A fifth item was added: property tax relief citywide for homeowners

A motion was made and seconded to send a letter/resolution to Ward 5 Councilmember McDuffie, requesting support funding for these five items. The motion passed 13 to 0.

**Community representatives – DC MOCR, ANC5E**

Nokomus Hunter of the DC Mayor’s Office, being trained by Dominique Chestnut as a DC MOCR, introduced himself. He mentioned the DDOT open house, summer youth employment program, etc.

ANC5E07 Commissioner Dr. Holliday reviewed this past Saturday’s North Capitol Promenade forum held at St. Martin’s Church. She listed off five short-term strategies:

* Recruit volunteers for advocacy campaign (DC officials and departments)
* Recruit volunteers for community support and engagement campaign
* Develop campaign materials and train volunteers
* Initiate campaigns within 1 month
* Schedule meetings with critical DC officials, e.g., Mayor, City Administrator, DDOT, Office of Planning, DC Council chair

ANC5E08 Commissioner Brannum announced the Saturday, 02/08/2020, DDOT open house at the Trinidad Recreation Center.

The Meeting ended at 9:00 pm.

**Motion summary**

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| **Motion #** | **Motion** | **Results of motion** |
| 1 | A motion was made and seconded to table the issue of signing on the North Capitol Street Needs Assessment letter until the BCA can read the entire spreadsheet. The motion passed 8 to 0.  | Motion passed |
| 2 | A motion was made and seconded to sign the “Birth-to-Three For All DC Act of 2018.” The motion passed 10 to 0.  | Motion passed |
| 3 | A motion was made & seconded to send a letter/resolution to Ward 5 Councilmember McDuffie, requesting support funding for these five items: * Special historic lighting for Bloomingdale’s commercial area around 1st and Rhode Island Avenue NW – to put more light on the street
* Support for businesses impacted by the DC Water project, including Florida Avenue NW from 2nd to 4th St NW
* Deckover project seed money
* Specific allocation for traffic calming in Bloomingdale
* Property tax relief citywide for homeowners

 The motion passed 13 to 0. | Motion passed |