

**Woodley Park Community Association  
Executive Committee Meeting  
February 4, 2015**

**Board Members**

Peter Brusoe, Bill Kummings, Stephanie Zobay, Sarah Taber, Rob Meisnere, Dan Dembkowski, Gasper Magallanes, Warren Gorlick, Bill Menczer,

**Community Members:**

John Goodman, Lee Brian Reba, Roger White, Megan Brown, Officer Bob Fennell

**Not Present:**

Barbara Ioanes, Yoni Gedan

**Approval of Agenda**

Agenda was approved.

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes were not available for January's meeting. Gasper Magallanes volunteered to keep minutes for the February Meeting.

**Update From Treasurer's Report**

Warren submitted the Treasurer's report. Warren said everything was in order, contributions were coming in, with lots of checks that were written in December but not received until January. Warren also circulated a copy of the budget reflecting the revisions adopted at the last meeting.

John asked if we had got access to to Armen's files yet. Peter said he would follow up with Nour.

**Membership Services Report**

Dan gave an update on membership, characterizing it as light but still trickling in. The estimate was there were approximately 350-400 membership households. There are about 40+ member households that have yet to renew for this upcoming year. Dan will begin a more direct solicitation campaign with personalized letters to those households.

Peter remarked that we had received the 1<sup>st</sup> contribution/membership sign up from someone in the new apartment building on Woodley Road. Peter also gave an update that we had acquired two extra keys for the mailbox, with one staying with Peter, and one likely going to Barbara.

**Neighborhood Watch Update**

Dan suggested that we put a notice in the Acorn about not having packages delivered and left on the doorstep or having items of value visible in the car. Officer Bob Fennell mentioned just taking a report on a stolen package from USPS.

Officer Bob Fennell gave background on the fire at the former Murphy's Bar on a Friday night in January. The outcome was mostly smoke damage and cosmetic damage on the outside and inside.

Officer Bob Fennell also shared that a burglary from Summer 2013 was finally going to trial. This was the incident when the alleged burglar posed as a Comcast Technician.

### **Zoo Update**

Peter gave an update and referenced the email he sent to the Executive Committee, which gave an update on latest safety planning discussions for high volume days at the D.C. Zoo. Peter recently met with Dennis Kelly and Councilmember Cheh and respective staff to discuss. St. Louis, Kansas City, and Atlanta all have similar open access entrances to the D.C. Zoo, which were used for inspiration. The plan was to implement some form of magnometers, but it was unclear whether they would be stationary or hand-held. There would also be the reduction of the number of entrances as well.

Bill Menczer asked whether it would be Zoo police or Smithsonian police implementing the new security approach. Peter clarified it would likely be Zoo police supplied by Smithsonian. It was unclear what entrance was going to be closed or to what degree Park police had been involved as well in the planning or in proposed execution. There is going to be some follow up with schools, as there has been working with the Urban League. There was some concern about the plan laid out and what information had been more publically shared in news media.

ANC Commissioner Lee Brian commented that he was glad the Zoo was proceeding with checkpoints, and the fact that the Zoo is willing to take on such an enormous expense shows that they are stepping up.

### **Mayor Bowser's Office**

Ward 3 Liaison is Mike Matthews; he had a conflict for the February meeting, so he was unable to attend.

### **Mary Cheh's Office**

Megan Brown was present. No update to report, but she reminded everyone to pass along any concerns.

### **ANC Commissioner Update**

Lee Brian mentioned the new commissioner David Valdez. He also mentioned delays of Christmas Tree disposal east of Connecticut being worked through. Peter mentioned that Mayor Bowser would be speaking at UDC on Thursday, 2/19, along with Kaya Henderson from DCPS.

Peter mentioned that Mayor Bowser is also speaking at a Ward 3 Democrats event.

### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

### **Cleveland Park Library**

Roger White updated the board members on developments with the Cleveland Park Library. Funding for the library rehabilitation is now \$18.6M, with the increased funding source unclear. The RFP went out for a contractor with 9 submissions, which were promising. Next phase is to get community input on submissions, via meetings and townhalls. Roger flagged that the design had not been determined, which

will be selected in part based on input. Rough timeline is that the library would be closed January 2016 and be closed for up to 2 years. Roger is concerned about not only library services but community services like early childhood education being disrupted and asked WPCA to take a formal position. Warren asked if association should take a formal position. General consensus reached that we should issue a statement. Peter moved that the WPCA urge DC Public Library System to prioritize maintaining key services such as circulation, childhood education, and computer access during the construction and renovation process. Motion was seconded by Bill Menczer and passed 9-0-0.

### **Update on Mural**

The mural committee met last week and issued a memo via email to the Executive Committee. Various estimates were secured for the mural, but there was a broad level of skepticism among the Executive Committee around the estimates. The committee also learned that WPCA could not receive funding for the mural. There was also some disagreement on how to proceed on scoping the project or approaching impacted vendors. General consensus was reached that there might no need to continue pushing forward on the mural project. Bill Menczer moved that no more effort and no money be allocated towards this project given the memo shared and discussion amongst the Executive Committee. Motion passed, 6-2-1, with Rob and Bill Kummings voting no and Dan abstaining.

### **Update on WMATA Bus Issue**

No update on the moved bust stop, however there was discussion of the bike racks being moved by the Metro entrance. However, there is still access for riders. There is a recurring issue with ice near the elevator, but when flagged, it appears that it's being addressed.

### **Armen Tree Fund Final Collection**

\$300 is needed. Make the check/donation out to the Tregaron Conservancy. Warren said post date any donations March 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Clean up Day**

Original date was set for April 18<sup>th</sup>. However, there is an issue with potentially disposing oil and oil based paints, with the bulk haulers and the waste receivers not taking certain types of waste on certain days. There was some general confusion on whether those date restrictions were actually in effect or not, and some thought to potentially shift the cleanup day to either May 2<sup>nd</sup> or early June.

### **Winter Activity**

The manager of the Marriot reached out and apologized for not being able to host the Winter Party on the association's behalf and cited a staff miscommunication.

### **Acorn Articles**

Peter circulated a list of potential topics. Topics included Armen's tree, the Cleveland Park Library, a potential feature on David Valdez, an update on the new restaurants coming into the neighborhood, and a feature on the art gallery opening at SIW.

Goal is to have it out by April, so articles would be due sometime in early March. Peter will follow up on articles and assignments.

### **Spring Meeting**

The meeting is slated for the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of May. Peter will inquire into the Mayor's availability, and then we'll explore other potential speakers.

### **Audit Report**

Gasper and Bill Kummings reported that the audit had not been completed, but it would be done by the March meeting.

### **Day of Service with St. Thomas the Apostle**

Peter passed along the request for donations from St. Thomas the Apostle for its Day of Service. Peter moved to contribute \$150. Motion passed, 6-0-2, with Peter and Warren abstaining.

### **Adjournment**

Bill Menczer moved to end the meeting. Warren seconded the motion. Motion passed, 8-0-0.