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Minutes of the August 17, 2010 meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1-D

These minutes accepted at the September 21, 2010 meeting.

Call to order

[7:20 pm] Chair Edwards called the meeting to order. Present were ANC1D commissioners Edwards, Bosserman, Scott, Tunda, and McKay, constituting a quorum. A team from Multicultural Community Service provided simultaneous Spanish-English interpretation.

Public discussion

[7:21 pm] The meeting continued with the public discussion period.

Secretary's report

[7:35 pm] Jack asked if there were any corrections to the July 20 meeting minutes. None being offered, the minutes were declared accepted.

Treasurer's report

[7:35 pm] Jack reported that the Q3FY10 financial report was delivered to the Auditor on July 22. Jack requested approval of a check to Tony Grillo for \$100 for postering. *Approved, without objection.*

Chair's report

[7:36 pm] Gregg reported on some of his activities for the month. Preparing for Fiesta DC 2010 in Mount Pleasant was a major concern.

Conditional Support for Fiesta DC 2010

Resolved, ANC 1D advises Fiesta DC (FDC) and the Emergency Management Agency and others listed in Appendix B (EMA&c) that 1D generally supports the issuance of permits to FDC for its proposed event on September 26th 2010, conditioned on the resolution of several topics (Appendix A) of important concern to this neighborhood.

Why: At its informal meeting of 3 August 2010, with an attendance of over 50 people, the experience of many years with FDC was discussed in detail. In addition, after all of the

preceding FDC events, 1D has sponsored or participated in retrospectives and reviews of those events involving several hundred participants.

While the road has been rocky, last year leading FDC to seek another neighborhood as a venue, and while there has been a vocal minority of Mt Pleasant residents or businesses suggesting that the troubles are not worth the benefit, 1D has consistently heard a majority of support for continuing to develop this relationship.

Thus, 1D invites FDC to work more closely with Mt Pleasant, engage more of the talent and resources here in creative synergy, and improve clarity of communication and quality of collaboration. There is a huge potential for the future of this and similar events. 1D tenders the concerns in Appendix A as opportunities for confidence building with FDC in cooperation with DC agencies and Mt Pleasant groups. This will not be easy, but the likely benefits should greatly outweigh the discomforts necessary in such ambitious enterprise.

This "Why" section and the Appendices are all equal parts of the same resolution.

Passed by 5 to 0 vote.

Appendix A: Topics of concern

1. Respect for traffic problems.

1D advises FDC and FMA&c to work with the list of concerns compiled by Sam Broeksmit and presented to FDC on 3 August 2010. These concerns are hereby incorporated within this resolution as Appendix C.

2. Respect for residents.

1D advises FDC and FMA&c that

- a) residential streets not be closed to residents and their visitors;
- b) on residential streets no parking spots be diverted from residents to non-residents;
- c) residential street space not be diverted for other functions such as trash, porta-johns, storage.

3. Respect for merchants.

1D advises FDC and FMA&c to continue and slightly extend the practices worked out in previous years by FDC to respect the potential negative impact of the events on Mt Pleasant St merchants, namely:

- a) At least twenty normal booths be allocated for use by merchants when the event is using public space or streets in front of any part of their store;
- b) Merchants be allowed to apply for a free space within two weeks of the merchant getting complete details of the offer - if none apply then no free spaces need allocation;
- c) The free space be within twenty feet of an extension of the property line of the store;
- d) The terms of use be the same for non-local users of the space;
- e) For extended uses of the space the 30% discount for local merchants be applied to the FDC fee above the normal cost of the free space;
- f) Acceptance of a free space by a merchants means that all other claims for damage to the merchant by the normal disruption caused by the event are considered to have been compensated.

4. Clean up

1D advises FDC and FMA&c to assure that all litter and oil spills be cleaned up before 8am the morning after the event. This may mean a "Dawn Patrol" that uses daylight to return Mt Pleasant Street to a condition cleaner and less cluttered than before the event.

5. Problem resolution

1D advises FDC and FMA&c to set up a hotline to handle emergencies and resolve complaints before, during and after the event.

- a) The hotline number be posted prominently in publicity to local residents and merchants;
- b) The hotline number be posted prominently in public signage during the event, with a clearly marked HQ;
- c) The services of a third-party mediator be used to clarify and mitigate problems arising before and during the event;
- d) Binding arbitration service be publicized and subsidized by FDC to resolve any complaint left after one week after Monday the 27th of September 2010.

Appendix B: Organizations addressed

Fiesta DC

Homeland Security & Emergency Management Agency, including Tayna Mitchell & Gloria Jackson

Department of Consumer & Regulator Affairs, Nick Majett and Lavern Stewart

Metropolitan Police Department, Patrick Burke, Stuart Emerman

Department of Health, Joshiah Akintoye, Opa Clegg

Department of Transportation, Aaron Rhones, Lou Williams, Vanessa Winfield

Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Agency, Fred Moosally, Johnnie Jackson

Department of Public Works, Wanda Ellis

Department of Fire & Emergency Medical Service; David Holinger

Department of Parks and Recreation; Randy Poortis

National Park Service, Rick Merryman, Leonard Lee

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority; Art Lawson, Samantha Rapoza

Office of Tax and Revenue; Patricia Richey

Appendix C: Recommendations

- Create and publish the plan in advance. Accept community input. Revise as appropriate
- Provide notice of bus re-routings and closed bus stops in advance at all impacted bus stops

- Develop clear instructions to residents for how to enter the neighborhood and their street (if closed). Share these directions with all officers and other traffic management personnel
- Protect and close the alleys, not just the streets. They have been used as cut-throughs and go-arounds in past years. Treat the closure of them as importantly as the closure of streets
- Ensure that no “dead ends” are created (such as keeping 17th Street open from Kenyon to Irving (where the traffic is blocked and all cars that travel there have to make a U-Turn
- Create logical detours that can handle the volume of expected traffic. Primarily for West to East traffic entering Mt Pleasant on both Park/Tilden Road and Klinge/Porter.
- Create a northern route
- Create a southern route
- Mark the detour routes so that drivers don’t get lost and can easily get back to Irving St east of 16th (and other logical destinations that can be planned for)
- On detour routes and other streets expected to handle extra volume, ensure that there is no parking close to the corners so that cars and trucks can make the turns
- Consider creating a truck route (and not allowing them through the north of the neighborhood)
- Ensure that an MPD supervisor is available to respond to “day of” concerns and that their plan can flex as needed
- MPD claims that they received feedback in the past. Get copies of it and make sure those issues are planned
- The Mayor’s Special Events Task Force prepared a post-event report last year. Get a copy of it and incorporate it into this years plan
- Ensure early and frequent notification of no parking zones, especially those where cars will be towed
- Close 17th from Kenyon to Irving
- Close 18th from Kenyon to Irving
- Heavily man the intersection of Kenyon, Irving and Adams Mill (use specialized traffic operations personnel, not general officers or volunteers).
- Allow the left turn from Kenyon to Adams Mill under traffic control guidance
- Ensure that small streets in the north of the neighborhood don’t become grid-locked or scarred with many drive-by scrapings as cars going in each direction try to pass
- Newton Street
- Monroe Street
- Brown Street
- Oakwood Terrace
- Oak Street
- Provide traffic control professionals at Irving and 16th. This is the heaviest pedestrian gateway and is likely be handling detoured buses which will have to make an awkward right turn from northbound 16th to eastbound Irving. It was gridlocked at times last year. Since

Irving is closed, consider making it a flashing red and put it under full control of traffic operations

- Establish a clear way for Hobart Street residents to come and go (and also ensure that Hobart is closed to non-residents (it will be a dead end))
- Ensure that Metrobuses and the Circulator have a well planned detour and that they do not utilize residential streets and that they stay to minor arterials or larger
- COMMUNICATE, COMMUNICATE, COMMUNICATE Fiesta DC and all agencies (especially Metro, MPD, and Ddot) need to prepare plans in advance and share them for community input

Concerns from 2009:

- West to East Traffic must be carefully channeled
- The most critical corner is Irving/Kenyon/Adams Mill. Last year there were no officers assigned to this intersection (officers were added in the late morning) This is where cars get really lost and confused
- There were no detour signs helping drivers continue east past Mt Pleasant
- In the north part of the neighborhood, diverted traffic was not properly channeled, gridlock occurred, narrow streets were overwhelmed and many cars were scraped. Many people parked in illegal spots, further complicating the flow
- 16th Street and Irving last year became gridlocked
- Buses were re-routed north on 16th and had to turn east on Irving
- No officers were assigned to this corner which had much traffic and was the main pedestrian gateway
- City agencies did not coordinate and communicate well
- Metro did not know the details and buses tried to use Mt Pleasant Street when it was closed. Bus drivers said they only knew “something was up” based on reading the Fiesta DC signs while driving through the neighborhood during the week
- The public was not informed of bus stop closures. There were no signs telling passengers where to board
- Plans were not shared. MPD did not share their “manning” plan so the neighborhood could not provide advice on where best to locate officers. Some officers were overwhelmed with work, some were stationed in areas there were not needed and took long naps
- Street closures were not well thought out
- 17th was not closed from Kenyon to Irving (every car that went down this block had to make a U-turn)
- 18th was not closed from Kenyon to Irving
- More barriers are needed in addition to more cones
- Alleys were not closed and children were not protected
- All alleys within 2 blocks of Mt Pleasant street need to be closed and to have multiple cones placed at each entrance

- “We ran out of cones” -Call Sam Broeksmit; he has found a gratis supplier.

Adjournment

[8:05 pm] Jack moved adjournment. By unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.