

ANC6A Public Safety Committee
November 19, 2009 Meeting Minutes
Sherwood Recreation Center
640 10th Street NE

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Committee members present: Commissioner Kelvin Robinson (Co-chair), Rebecca Sibia (Co-chair), Todd Hames, Dan Wolff

Community members present: John Cotten

I. Old Business:

- a. Commissioner Robinson moved the acceptance of November minutes and agenda. There were no objections.
- b. Commissioner Robinson and Rebecca Sibia reported on the outcomes of the November ANC meeting, specifically the ANC's support for our work with the Mayor's Office on H Street activities, and the adoption of the Committee's Juvenile Crime Prevention Strategies.
- c. The Committee reviewed recent crime statistics, and noted an alarming increase in violent crime in our area. It was agreed that the Committee would make note of this in the January ANC meeting, and provide Commissioners with SMD reports.

II. Planning Discussion: Juvenile Crime Prevention

- a. Because the ANC moved to adopt the Committee's Juvenile Crime Prevention Strategies in the December ANC meeting, the Committee walked through the report, its findings, and next steps related to each action item.
 1. Action Item: Create a Community Landscape Map: Landscape mapping is a process that identifies or inventory existing youth services and organizations, and can be particularly useful in assisting families and youth identify community resources for productive after-school time activity.
 - i. Rebecca Sibia will begin research related to available activities in our area, with a specific emphasis on summer activities. She will begin by reaching out to our recreation center managers, and identifying churches, neighborhood organizations, and other community service providers who offer after-school and summertime activities for youth. Todd Hames will assist in identifying community members who organize activities separate and apart from the recreation centers and widely known organizations.
 - ii. The Committee will seek to have a landscape map created by its February meeting for further discussion related to its dissemination.
- b. Action Item: Raise Public Awareness: On hold until the completion of the landscape map.

- c. Action Item: Incentivize youth providers to offer “missing” services in our area: On hold until the completion of the landscape map.
1. Action Item: Create a Community Action Council: The Council should consist of leaders from various youth services sectors (education, religious, recreation, community, etc) and should meet on a regular basis to foster better linkages between youth activities in our neighborhood.
 - i. John Cotten urged the Committee to consider a cross-recreational campaign that would foster “league”-type play for certain sports offered by recreation centers, and by creating an inter-recreational center activity (like lacrosse) that would be offered only through one center but advertised by all in the neighborhood. This would allow for children from various neighborhoods in our area to get to know each other in a friendly and productive environment, and begin to breakdown neighborhood boundaries that can create growing hostility between youth.
 - ii. He suggested that recreation center managers and community members who lead leagues in the area create a Community Action Council that would meet bi-monthly, possibly at Sherwood, to plan for and discuss inter-center programs like those contemplated.
 - iii. Mr. Cotten offered to take the lead on planning the first Council meeting.
 2. Action Item: Create a Summer Neighborhood Campaign: A Summer Neighborhood Campaign should create opportunities for neighbors to get to know each other, opportunities to review environmental contributors to crime, and offer positive activities to promote crime reduction. Specifically, arranged in “block party” type fashion, neighbors, police officers and community representatives could get to know each other, take part in neighbor building exercises, go on community walks, etc.
 - i. Dan Wolff raised the discussion of the importance of neighbors knowing each other in our community, particularly as more new residents are joining our neighborhood. He suggested that when neighbors know each other, they feel more of an ownership in the community, and look out for each other more often, creating a “community watch” type environment.
 - ii. The Committee discussed embarking on a neighborhood awareness campaign throughout the summer. The concept is to plan a series of Neighborhood “block party” type events in select high crime areas, with local donors providing food or funding to support these activities.
 - iii. Dan Wolff committed to engage in the initial planning and sponsorship seeking for this initiative should the ANC endorse the idea.

MOTION: Commissioner Robinson moved, and Rebecca Sibilica seconded, a motion to request that the ANC allow the Committee to collect donations and plan a

neighborhood awareness campaign and related activities on behalf of the Commission. There were no objections.

III. H Street Safety Initiatives:

- a. Action Item: Commissioner Robinson indicated that he has been in contact with the Mayors office and that many of the committee's recommendations have been accepted and are being acted on by the Administration. He further indicated that representatives Mayor's office were scheduled to attend, along with Anwar Salem from H Street but all had last minute conflicts. He stated he would follow-up and continue working toward implementation of our recommendations, as well as to invite them to participate in our next meeting.

IV. Follow-up planning with DC Homeland Security on ANC Preparedness Training

- a. Action Item: Commissioner Robinson indicated that he will follow-up with DC Homeland Security Agency to once again secure a date for the ANC training.

MOTION: Commissioner Robinson moves that the ANC reappoint/appoint the following community members to the Public Safety Committee for FY 2010:

Rebecca Sibia, Co-Chair, Todd Hames, Daniel Wolff and John Cotten

Next meeting: Thursday, January 21, 2009, 7:00 p.m. at Sherwood Recreation Center