



District of Columbia Government
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A
Box 75115
Washington, DC 20013



March 17, 2004

Mr. Neil O. Albert, Director
Department of Parks and Recreation
Government of the District of Columbia
3149 16th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20010

Re: ANC 6A and Sherwood Recreation Center Update

Mr. Albert:

On February 27, 2004 our Commission sent your office a letter to codify the office arrangement we had with your staff at the Sherwood Recreation Center (Attachment). From that day, this is a record of the communication between our Commission and your department:

- (1) March 1, 2004, we received an electronic mail from you indicating that Mr. Neil Stanley would contact us and resolve the issue "speedily."
- (2) March 9, 2004, we sent another electronic mail to your office requesting the status on our proposed dual use agreement. Mr. Stanley responded stating that he was meeting with the Sherwood staff that day and would contact our Commission directly. Mr. Stanley failed to respond.
- (3) March 11, 2004, we again requested an update. Mr. Stanley replied stating that Mr. Neil Rodgers spoke with the Sherwood community the previous evening and that Mr. Rodgers would follow up before close of business that day. Mr. Rodgers failed to respond. As a last resort, we called Sherwood to inquire as to the status of our agreement. Your staff notified us that management made a decision not to allow our Commission to use any space at the center.

Setting aside the lack of proactive communication from your department, this decision comes as a shock to our Commission. Recall, that we have already purchased the furniture and had it delivered to the center based on the agreement in principle with your staff at the center. Moreover, we have stated that we are willing to pay for office equipment and phone lines that your staff is welcome to use in our absence. Finally, we are willing to be flexible if any event or activity requires the use of the office during our reserved hours. We view this arrangement as a win-win for our community.

To be clear, we only seek to share the office for a total of six hours a week – Tuesday and Thursday from 6:30pm to 8:30pm and Saturday from 12:00pm to 2:00pm. Our main goal is to have a central repository for our files and the ability to post information we receive from the District officials that impacts our community. As we have not received any official correspondence from your office as promised, we urge you to set aside the decision of your staff and allow us to share an office at the center as outlined in our February 27, 2004 proposal.

On behalf of the Commission,

Joseph Fengler, Chair
fengler6a02@yahoo.com,
(202) 423-8868

cc: Councilmember Cantania

Attachment

For more information about our Commission – please visit our website at www.anc6a.org



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February 27, 2004

Mr. Neil O. Albert, Director
Department of Parks and Recreation
Government of the District of Columbia
3149 16th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20010

Re: ANC 6A and Sherwood Recreation Center Space Arrangement

Mr. Albert:

At our December ANC meeting, our Commission voted unanimously to approve the conceptual use of Sherwood Recreation Center as the location for our office. Please accept this letter as our formal request to use office space at this center. This request was based on earlier discussions with the management of this facility regarding the use of the small office adjacent to the front desk.

Our requirement for space is primarily after traditional work hours. Accordingly, we seek priority use of this space for two or three days during the work week from 6:30pm to 8:30pm and Saturdays from 12:00pm to 2:00pm. We are willing to purchase and share the furniture for this space to include a desk, office chair, visitor chairs and filing cabinets. However, the filing cabinets main purpose will be to securely store our official records. In addition, we would like to install a fax machine and are prepared to pay for the installation of a dedicated line, and the associated monthly phone costs, if a phone line can not be provided.

We understand the center has limited space and appreciate the opportunity to share resources with the center staff. In close, our use requirements are small – five to six hours a week. The opportunity to be located in the center is one in which we welcome. The use of specific days and times provide constancy in the operations not only for our Commission, but the center staff. We also realize that these shared agreements require flexibility and will always accommodate any center requirements that run contrary to our established hours. We look forward to working with you and your staff at the center to make ours the best in the city.

On behalf of the Commission,

Joseph Fengler, Chair
fengler6a02@yahoo.com,
(202) 423-8868

cc: Mr. Frank Crawford, D.C. Department of Parks and Recreation
Gottlieb Simon, Executive Director; Office of the Advisory Neighborhood Commissions