

Minutes of the September Meeting of the Cleveland Park Citizens Association

Meeting Date: Saturday, September 13, 2003
Location: Cleveland Park Library
3310 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, DC

Cleveland Park Citizens Association (CPCA) President George Idelson called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

I. Approval of June 7, 2003 Minutes

The minutes were distributed to those in attendance and were unanimously approved.

II. Schedule Review

Mr. Idelson highlighted the meeting schedule changes, including the addition of September, as well as numerous evening meetings, and cited www.clevelandparkisus.org as the new website where minutes of CPCA meetings, schedules and other information will be posted.

III. Treasurer's Report

Ana Aldama submitted the treasurer's report for the period of September 2002 to September, 2003. She declared our finances to be in good order. Ms. Aldama indicated that the association had budgeted for a membership drive and website development. A copy is included with these minutes.

IV. Updates and Announcements

Bruce Beckner, speaking for the Cleveland Park Neighbors, reported that the NCRC drive to double its physical plant by creating a campus with a 150 seat conference facility would go into its 5th hearing before the BZA September 16. Mr. Beckner noted that proposed expansion requires an area variance and perhaps a use variance.

Pat Armbruster announced the 50th anniversary celebration of the CP Library to take place on Saturday, November 1. Guest speaker, Mark Russell, local authors, an art competition and the writing of a community cookbook will highlight the event which will raise money for library improvements.

V. Ratification of Cathedral Bond Resolution

Mr. Idelson introduced, for ratification, a resolution passed by the Executive Committee on June 17, 2003 (EC-R1061703) placing conditions on approval of the Revenue Bond Application by the Protestant Episcopal Cathedral Foundation intended to refinance the National Cathedral School gymnasium. A copy is included with these minutes. Nancy Macwood summarized the history of the relations between the community and the Cathedral and noted conditions the ANC3c had placed on approval. Kate Cullen, speaking for Cathedral Foundation, emphasized that the Cathedral had taken many steps to improve relations with the community and thought the bond applications was deserved. After comments from the audience, First Vice President, Peter Espenschied read the resolution and offered a motion to ratify. Following further discussion, it passed with one nay.

VI. Valet Parking

Alice Kelly, Policy Analyst with Assoc. Dir. Public Space Management Administration of DDOT described the current state of regulation regarding valet parking. She pointed out that her agency was well aware of a pressing need for clarification of the rules for the use of

public space for valet parking. She noted that the City Council is also looking for solutions, and will address the problem next month. She encouraged members to forward their concerns to their Council member. A wide ranging discussion ensued. Mr. Idelson noted that the Cleveland Park Commercial Overlay was designed to restrict the random growth of restaurants within the small Connecticut Avenue shopping area, and that unrestricted valet parking would defeat the purposes of the Overlay by further impacting parking and traffic conditions in the neighborhood.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12 noon.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl Tennille and George Idelson

V-M1-091303 Motion to Ratify Motion of EC Re Cathedral Bond Approval

EC-R1-061703

Whereas, community leaders within the National Cathedral neighborhood -- saddened, but informed, by a long history of bad relations with the Protestant Episcopal Cathedral Foundation (the "Foundation") and the National Cathedral School For Girls -- are desirous of cementing a more productive relationship for the future;

Whereas the Foundation is seeking community support for low-interest, tax-free municipal bonds;

Whereas such bonds are not an entitlement, but a privilege which may be bestowed by the city;

Whereas said community leaders have proposed that support for such bonds would be contingent on the Foundation's entry into an enforceable, negotiated agreement to undertake certain major improvements of benefit to the community as well as the Cathedral; and

Whereas such improvements should include, in part, underground parking for tour buses, adherence to the Olmsted limit of 14 percent lot occupancy on the Close, and a prohibition on construction of redundant school facilities on the Close.

Now therefore be it resolved that the Cleveland Park Citizens Association calls upon ANC3C and the Council of the District of Columbia to deny bond approval unless and until such a negotiated agreement is reached.