

Cleveland Park Citizens Association
Membership Meeting
September 16, 2015

The Meeting was called to order at 6:35pm with approximately 18 people there. Board members in attendance were Ruth Caplan, Phil Eagleburger, Ann Hamilton, John Korbel, Karen Lightfoot, Rick Nash, Gina Polidoro, Susie Taylor, and Jennifer Ward.

Mike Matthews, Ward 3 Coordinator in the Mayor's office, talked about the Mayor's 6-month report, noting her pledge to end homelessness. With the closing of DC General, homeless services will be decentralized throughout the city. The target, under the Deputy Mayor for HHS, is to end homelessness for veterans by the end of this year, and to stop chronic and recurring homeless by 2020.

Matthews reported that the second phase of alley repairs (repairing eight alleys in each of DC's eight Wards) was launched last Friday. The alleys behind both sides of Connecticut Avenue in CP, including improving the drainage on the west side, was accomplished in the first phase.

There was a brief discussion of crime, including the need to clarify trends (up or down?). MPD knows numbers.

Connecticut Avenue Coalition Committee. Susie Taylor reported on progress to control water runoff by the Metro station on the east side of Connecticut Avenue which will allow removal of sandbags around Metro grating. Solutions involve both public and private participation. Federal Realty has installed a small retaining curb in the Park 'n' Shop parking lot to direct water to their drain instead of to the Metro grate. Major problems persist in the alley behind; there is money in DDOT's FY 2017 budget to deal with that and infrastructure problems.

Library. Phil Eagleburger reported on the library renovation. DCPL will hold a community meeting on Tuesday, October 6 at 6:00 pm. The designated architect will present a draft list of services, a diagram of relationships among services within the space, and a summary of lessons learned from previous projects. Few decisions seem to have been made since the last community meeting on June 23. Pending issues still include: the entire program, i.e., renovation vs. replacement (though the latter has been heavily suggested); including a "net zero" component so the building produces more energy than it uses; the design and materials; status and location of the interim library; and the general schedule. Keep informed and learn more at <http://dclibrary.org/newclevelandpark>.

Work Plan. President Gina Polidoro presented the Board's approved 2016-17 Work Plan and Budget, which will also be presented on CPCA's website. She hopes that a message board will be on the CPCA website by November. Gina also discussed outreach and other aspects of the Work Plan. She said that a Farmers' Market in the Macklin building parking lot at Newark and Connecticut is being discussed. The Macklin landlord will attend the next meeting of the

Connecticut Avenue Coalition Committee to explore this further. In response to a question, Susie Taylor pointed out that CPCA had provided seed money to Cleveland Park Village, served as liaison with agencies, and now serves as an advisor.

Budget. Gina reported that the proposed 2015-16 Budget includes a modest dues increase to enable CPCA to pay for help with website maintenance and day-to-day chores that Board volunteers can't keep up with. There has been no dues increase for about 20 years. This prompted considerable discussion, some questioning why not use the funds that are held in reserve. It was pointed out that increased revenue and assistance would allow for more outreach and neighborhood activities. The motion to increase dues to \$25 for individual members and \$30 for households was duly made, seconded, and passed with one negative vote.

Gina invited suggestions for activities in 2015-16. Suggestions included crime, library, Greening, and a Survey, including what sustains the commercial strip. In answer to what is CPCA's mission, Gina read aloud the statement in the Bylaws. There was discussion about quality of life, and its relation to property values. Can CPCA look at assessed value, perhaps broken down between single-family homes and condos? A member said he had spoken to an unidentified African-American who said he felt unwelcome. Gina said CPCA could not take on the fabric of race relations in the U.S.

Prepared with notes from Ann Hamilton, and respectfully submitted,

Margaret Lenzner, Recording Secretary