

<b>1D01: Jon Stewart</b> Vice Chairperson <a href="mailto:jonstewart.anc1d01@gmail.com">jonstewart.anc1d01@gmail.com</a>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Mount Pleasant Advisory Neighborhood Commission</b></p>  <p style="text-align: center;">1380 Monroe St NW, #117 Washington DC 20010</p>	<b>1D04: Yasmin Romero-Latin</b> Chairperson <a href="mailto:yasminkikiANC1D04@yahoo.com">yasminkikiANC1D04@yahoo.com</a>
<b>1D02: Paul Karrer</b> <a href="mailto:paulanc1d@gmail.com">paulanc1d@gmail.com</a>		<b>1D05: Stuart Karaffa</b> Treasurer <a href="mailto:stuart.k.anc@gmail.com">stuart.k.anc@gmail.com</a>
<b>1D03: Jack McKay</b> Secretary <a href="mailto:jack@dcjack.org">jack@dcjack.org</a>		Website: <a href="http://anc1d.org">anc1d.org</a> e-mail: <a href="mailto:anc1d@googlegroups.com">anc1d@googlegroups.com</a>

## Minutes of the December 19, 2017 meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1D

*These minutes accepted at the January 23, 2018 meeting.*

### Meeting call to order

Shortly after 7 pm, Vice Chair Jon Stewart called the meeting to order. Present were four Commissioners, Jon, Paul Karrer, Stuart Karaffa, and Jack McKay, constituting a quorum. Hearsay Interpreting was available to provide simultaneous interpretation into Spanish.

### Agenda agreement

The commission agreed on the agenda for the evening.

### Reggie May, DPW

Mr. Reggie May of the Department of Public Works addressed the audience. Commissioner Yasmin Romero-Latin arrived during this period.

### Public discussion

The meeting continued with the mandatory Public Discussion period.

### Committee reports

Brief committee reports were presented by Jon, Stewart, and Paul.

### Secretary's report

No corrections were noted for the draft minutes of the November meeting, which were declared accepted.

Jack moved that the Commission authorize him to spend up to \$350 for the purchase of a new ANC1D laptop computer, the current machine being aged and functioning poorly. *Approved, 4 to 0 vote.*

### Treasurer's report

Treasurer Stuart Karaffa reviewed the current, routine expenditures.

## Concerning PR22-0188 – Wells Fargo Bank

Stuart offered the following resolution:

Resolved, that ANC 1D advises the Council of the District of Columbia Committee on Finance and Revenue to recommend that the full Council consider and pass the resolution entitled *Sense of the Council Urging Reassessment of Relationship with Wells Fargo Resolution of 2017*.

ANC 1D further advises the following:

- That the District of Columbia Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO) provide ANC 1D with record of public comment periods for any District financial action with Wells Fargo and with assessments of Community Development Plans as required by § 26–431.04 of the District of Columbia Code.
- That the District of Columbia Department of Insurance, Securities and Banking (DISB) conduct a study of commercial banks with the capacity to serve the District of Columbia government’s banking needs and to detail the banks’ investment portfolios, including the banks’ investments in the District and their provision of banking services in all 8 wards and to recommend, in consultation with the OCFO’s office, how DC government banking needs could be met by socially responsible commercial bank(s);
- That DISB make public its progress on feasibility study (funded with \$200,000 from the FY 2018 budget) of a District of Columbia public bank.

**Why:** Despite the District of Columbia government’s recent emphasis on sustainability<sup>1</sup> and equitable growth<sup>2</sup> in citywide policies, the city is also a customer of Wells Fargo Bank—a bank which, in recent years, has committed pervasive account fraud<sup>3</sup>, engaged in lending discrimination against minorities<sup>4</sup> and alleged discrimination against immigrants<sup>5</sup>, and invested in the private prison<sup>6</sup> and non-renewable energy industries<sup>7</sup>.

Because of Wells Fargo’s discriminatory and illegal activities, multiple cities and organizations across the United States have officially moved to divest from Wells Fargo & Company. The District of Columbia government has been a customer of Wells Fargo even as the bank engaged in the fraudulent, discriminatory, and environmentally damaging activities listed above. Currently, the city’s relationship with Wells Fargo consists of Wells Fargo managing the District’s \$2 billion general portfolio and the city paying Wells Fargo \$12 million as part of at least one financial services contract.

Of note for Mount Pleasant is that (1) Wells Fargo has engaged in discriminatory lending and hiring practices against people of color, (2) that the bank has invested in the private prison industry, which is notorious for the treatment of inmates and undocumented immigrants in prisons and other detainment centers; and (3) that the bank is currently under investigation for illegally denying student loans to young immigrants because of their citizenship status. According to 2016 Census estimates, foreign-born residents make up 27% of the population in Mount Pleasant, but only 14% of the population citywide. Thus, as commissioners representing Mount Pleasant, we have a unique and pressing responsibility to focus on citywide issues that have implications for the immigrant community.

---

1“*A Vision for a Sustainable D.C.*” <http://www.sustainabledc.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/sustainable-dc-vision.pdf>.

2“*About DMPED*”. Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development. <https://dmped.dc.gov/page/about-dmped>.

3“*Consumer Financial Protection Bureau Fines Wells Fargo \$100 Million for Widespread Illegal Practice of Secretly Opening Unauthorized Accounts.*” Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. September 8, 2016. <http://consumerfinance.gov>.

4“*Justice Department Reaches Settlement with Wells Fargo Resulting in More Than \$175 Million in Relief for Homeowners to Resolve Fair Lending Claims.*” United States Department of Justice. July 12, 2017. <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-reaches-settlement-wells-fargo-resulting-more-175-million-relief>.

5 “*Lawsuit accuses Wells Fargo of denying student loans to young immigrants.*” Los Angeles Times. January 30, 2017. <http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-wells-fargo-daca-20170130-story.html>.

6[https://www.inthepublicinterest.org/wp-content/uploads/ITPI\\_BanksPrivatePrisonCompanies\\_Nov2016.pdf](https://www.inthepublicinterest.org/wp-content/uploads/ITPI_BanksPrivatePrisonCompanies_Nov2016.pdf)

7Keller, Laura J. “*Wells Fargo Says It’s Obligated to See Dakota Pipeline Built.*” Bloomberg. February 8, 2017.

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-02-08/wells-fargo-customers-remain-reluctant-to-pursue-deals-cfo-says>

The District's own laws prevent its relationship with Wells Fargo from continuing. According to the District of Columbia code § 26-431.06.f, "to apply for a deposit services contract with the District government, a financial institution must receive at least a 'satisfactory' rating on its most recent Community Reinvestment Act exam." Wells Fargo received a grade of 'needs to improve' on its CRA exam as reviewed by the United States Office of the Comptroller of the Currency due to "an extensive and pervasive pattern and practice of discriminatory and illegal credit practices across multiple lines of business within the bank, resulting in significant harm to large numbers of consumers<sup>8</sup>."

Additionally, the District of Columbia's Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO) has not shown evidence that it correctly enforced § 26-431.04 of the District of Columbia Code, which requires Community Development Plans from banks be posted for public comments as part of the OCFO's assessment for any financial action. If the most recent contract(s) with Wells Fargo were awarded outside the guidelines in the District of Columbia Code, then these contracts should be ended and renegotiated with a bank that meets these requirements.

The government of the District of Columbia should not support financial institutions that discriminate against immigrants and people of color, commit countless acts of fraud, and invest in environmentally destructive projects. Indeed, the fact that the city engages in a partnership with Wells Fargo Bank violates the stated vision and laws and of the city itself. Instead, the District of Columbia government should partner with business entities and financial institutions—such as credit unions and/or a public bank—that are committed to engaging in responsible, equitable, and environmentally sustainable business practices and that are accountable to customers and citizens alike.

*Passed, 5 to 0 vote.*

## **Endorsement of HPRB Approval for 1715 Kenyon St NW**

Jon introduced the following resolution:

Resolved, that ANC 1D advises the Historic Preservation Review Board to approve the proposed plans for 1715 Kenyon St NW, HPA 18-111, giving due consideration for issues discussed in the HPO staff report, and to specify the appropriate historically compatible type of windows to be used for the dormers.

Why: The HPO staff report discusses a number of issues which are consistent with past application (notably 1711 Kenyon St NW) and they do not seem controversial. The HPO staff report does not mention the type of windows to be used in the dormers, as it did with 1711 Kenyon St NW, and Historic Mount Pleasant notes that divided light casements would be preferable. Considering the present condition of the structure and demand for housing in the neighborhood, ANC 1D is eager to see 1715 Kenyon St NW rehabilitated in a timely fashion.

*Passed, 5 to 0 vote.*

---

<sup>8</sup>"Community Reinvestment Act Performance Evaluation". Washington, D.C.: Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, 2012. <https://www08.wellsfargomedia.com/assets/pdf/about/community-reinvestment/2016-wells-fargo-bank.pdf>.

## **Clarify trailer parking law to be applicable only to large, commercial trailers**

Jack introduced the following resolution:

Resolved, that ANC1D advises the Council of the District to revise DCMR 18, 2405.5 to be applicable only to large, commercial trailers, exempting small, personal-use trailers.

Why: DCMR 18, 2405.5 imposes a very heavy penalty, currently one thousand dollars, for parking trucks and trailers on residential streets. The regulation is explicit in limiting application to trucks "longer than twenty-two feet or wider than eight feet", thus exempting pickup trucks and the like owned by residents for their personal use. The reference to trailers, however, includes no such specification, and so is applicable to any trailer, of whatever dimensions. A resident renting a small trailer for personal use would be subject to this draconian fine, as if the resident were a commercial entity, and not just an individual needing a small trailer for personal use.

This has in fact happened in Mount Pleasant, where a visiting family with a trailer no larger than a car, including its hitch, had this thousand-dollar fine inflicted on them by the Metropolitan Police. Fortunately an examiner dismissed the parking ticket, perceiving that this was not warranted by the circumstances. But it should not be necessary for a resident, or a resident's visitor, to take the ticket downtown to have it rescinded. The law should be explicit: only large commercial trailers should be subject to this heavy fine. If small, personal-use trailers are to be restricted, regulations appropriate for such trailers should be devised, with fines appropriate for individuals, rather than the extremely heavy fine evidently required to deter commercial entities.

*Passed, 5 to 0 vote.*

## **Deny Further Permits for a Rolloff Debris Container at 1643 Newton St NW**

Jon offered the following resolution:

Resolved, that ANC 1D advises the District Department of Transportation to deny renewal of permit number PA10456687 or any new applications for a rolloff debris container at 1643 Newton St NW during calendar 2018.

Why: This block of Newton Street has been plagued by large rolloff debris containers placed in front of 1643 Newton Street for the last two years. The current permit was issued for a duration of over five months, long enough to permit any conceivable townhouse renovation, and that does not take into consideration the many months a dumpster sat outside this property before the current permit. The dumpsters placed at this address under this and prior permits have severely inconvenienced neighbors and, given the narrowness of the street, the width of the containers, and the proximity to the intersection with Brown St, endangered car passengers and pedestrians alike. While DDOT's new fee regime for rolloff debris containers is much appreciated and should discourage their abuse generally, this specific instance warrants unconditional denial of further permits.

*Passed, 5 to 0 vote.*

## **Clear the leaves in the Klinge Road bike track**

Jack introduced the following resolution:

Resolved, that ANC1D advises the Department of Public Works to make keeping the Klinge Road bike track free of leaves a high priority.

Why: while autumn leaves elsewhere are generally only a nuisance, the piles of leaves collecting in the Klinge Road bike track, between Adams Mill Road and Rock Creek Park, are a significant safety hazard to

bicyclists attempting to access the Rock Creek Park bike path. The bike track has lately been rendered impassable to bicyclists by the leaves, forcing them out into the traffic lane, where automobiles tend to move at speed, due to the limited-access nature of this portion of Klinge Road.

*Passed, 5 to 0 vote.*

## **Adjournment**

At about 8:25 pm, the meeting was adjourned.