

ECKINGTON CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEETING

CARING FOR THE COMMUNITY WE LIVE IN

MEETING MINUTES - MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2017

ATTENDANCE: ABOUT 20 ATTENDEES

HOLIDAY PARTY HELD AFTER MEETING

KATRINA WELCOME

Everyone introduces themselves

ANC COMMISSIONER UPDATES

Sylvia Pinkney – ANC commissioner

- New bikeshare at Harry Thomas & Lincoln Rd
- Foulger Pratt – cannot vote separately on CBA and zoning variance. Did not agree w/ CBA; voted no on all. Decided to have separate meeting to vote on CBA.
 - Problem with CBA – when you have one for specific community, we have community come in to build in exchange for us supporting project. Benefits should stay in community. One of the benefits was going to Ward 4. Lots of projects going into Ward 4, so our money should stay in at least Ward 5, if not in Eckington. Requested project in Ward 4 that ECA find someone in Ward 5 that can do the same thing, and if they can't, there are city agencies that do the same thing – DHCD, Manna.
 - Second issue – have 4 schools in Eckington and rec center. If we can give \$400k+ to park, should be able to give something to the schools. Meeting is in same place, on December 11th.
 - Shelley Vinyard – Personally, I was surprised. Yes, saying that the money was going to Ward 4 is not accurate – Latino Economic Development Center had put forward proposal specific to fund a half-staff person here in Eckington to educate neighbors about tenants ;rights ad how to navigate affordable housing process. I know ECA & Hannah Powell are working to see if Manna or others could fill same need, but LEDC has a lot of experience doing that, plan to spend time in Eckington.
 - Sylvia: That is how ANC functions – we keep \$ within our community.
 - Shelley: Is there a legal requirement?
 - Sylvia: In the PUD, it states what a community benefit is, and why it is exchanged for our support for developer, and it says to enhance community. Cannot say it's a legal requirement, but can say we have gov agencies that do the same thing for free.
 - Shelley: The ECA starts the CBA process, and in the survey we sent out to the community, one of the biggest needs named was affordable housing – both housing and help navitaging. I think that

indicates that the city isn't meeting needs of the community. I want to make sure that whatever the outcome of next week's meeting, the CBA keeps having larger affordable housing units and that there's a grant that helps to educate and engage residents on how to navigate the process.

- Sylvia: Affordable housing – when big developments come in and promise 8-10% affordable housing, for most people that housing is not affordable. We don't have Eckington residents moving into these new buildings – it's not affordable housing. It doesn't always work out for us. When it comes to affordable housing, there is very little in Eckington. If someone is going to help place people in affordable housing, it wouldn't be in Eckington.
- Clarification – there was a group in ward 4 that was going to provide services in ward 5, and because they're in ward 4, the organization decided not to hire that group.
 - Katrina – ECA voted for this, ANC voted against it.
 - Hannah Putman – echo Shelley's concern that existing services from city are inadequate.

COUNCILMEMBER MCDUFFIE'S OFFICE

- Christmas Party is December 13th, 6-9pm

HAKIM FROM MAYOR BOWSER'S OFFICE

- Annual FitDC5k run, Jan 1st, starting at 9am at Anacostia Park.
- Also announces \$500k affordable housing initiative

28 Q ST NE – MICHAEL BLAKE – REPRESENTING SCOTT & JESSICA

- Katrina – after presentation, we will vote on whether to support project
- Michael – working w/ them to try to get more outdoor space at house. Proposing to enlarge 2 rear decks and add a roofdeck above. The house has the same decks; just enlarging them. Not functional at the moment – not enough room for furniture. Adding roofdeck to maximize space and too give access to space.
- Special exceptions – related to lot occupancy. House is currently at 63 percent, will go up to 70 percent. Expansion relates to decks and roofdeck. Also due to new zoning regs, one of the exceptions need to allow roof deck. Not sure if exception is required for roofdeck – but cannot meet setbacks (rearyard and sideyards for penthouses (which now include roofdecks). Tried to do interior stairs inside house, but are not able to do it, so need to do exterior stair. Sideyard – if we did 1-1 setback, wouldn't allow much space on either side.
- Won't be visible from front of house, or from side b/c in middle of block, only visible from alley.
- People w/in 200' radius have already gotten notice.
- Questions?
- Have you talked with the neighbors on either side?
 - Yes – have signatures of neighbors, they are in support.
 - Directly behind – haven't talked to them yet.
- Sylvia – how will your rooftop deck differ from one on Q st – about 3 doors.
 - Not familiar enough to speak to it. Our deck would be wood decking, with a steel structure, basically to replace what's there now.
- Roofdeck will not be visible from front of house – it's toward the back of the house.
- Shelley – how long will the construction take for the project?
 - Try to leave that to contractor, but would guess about 3-5 weeks total.

- Shelley – Is house occupied?
 - Yes – basement unit and upper unit both occupied.
- Motion to support zoning variance: 13
- Opposed: 1
- Abstain: 1

ELECTION:

- President: Katrina Velasquez
- Vice President: Austan Mogharabi
- Treasurer: Lana Gowin
- Corresponding Secretary: Hannah Putman