

LeDroit Park Civic Association

Meeting Minutes for the Meeting on Tuesday, June 28, 2011

at the Florida Avenue Baptist Church, 623 Florida Avenue NW

Call to order at 7:09 pm

1. **Reading and approval of the previous meeting's minutes.** Mr. Richard Myers moved to approve the minutes with the correction of replacing 'Richard' with 'David' on item 3(j). The motion passed unanimously.
2. **Public safety presentation by Chief Kenneth Ellerbe, DC FEMS.**
 - a. The local firefighter leadership introduced itself.
 - b. Chief Ellerbe explained that 10 ambulances are on order and 7 more are budgeted for.
 - c. Chief Ellerbe promised to quickly resolve the matter of un-air conditioned ambulances by the end of the year.
 - d. A resident asked if firefighters still use axes.
 - e. Chief Ellerbe announced his desire to train more residents in CPR.
3. **911 presentation by Mr. Travis Dupre, Office of Unified Communication.**
 - a. Mr. Dupre said that his office receives 4 million 911 calls annually.
 - b. Mr. Dupre assured residents that 911 calls are recorded and saved for three years.
 - c. Mr. Dupre reminded residents to call 911 to report illegal fireworks.
 - d. Ms. Jana Baldwin relayed her disappointment with police response time.
 - e. Ms. Danielle Ricks asked if she should continue to call 911 when she sees something suspicious. The answer was yes, she should call 911.
4. **Public safety presentation by Lt. Alberto Jova, MPD.**
 - a. Lt. Jova reported that LeDroit Park suffered 17 crimes.
 - b. Lt. Jova noted that property crime is up.
 - c. Lt. Jova announced that MPD had increased its presence in the neighborhood.
 - d. Lt. Jova said that crime in the neighborhood was at its lowest point in the four years that he had been patrolling and overseeing LeDroit Park.
 - e. A resident asked Lt. Jova a question regarding uncouth behavior in the park.
 - f. Lt. Jova reminded residents to call 911 whenever something was amiss in the park.
5. **Presentation by Mr. Patrick Mara, State Board of Education member from Ward 1.**
 - a. Mr. Mara explained the scope of the State Board of Education versus the scope of DCPS and the city's public charter schools.
 - b. Mr. Mara said his board was holding hearing on state-level standards.
6. **Discussion regarding the Park at LeDroit by Mr. Marc Morgan, President.**
 - a. A resident announced the existence of the parents' listserv and said that she noticed too many teenagers littering in the park.
 - b. Another resident said the play area needs another trashcan.
 - c. Mr. Morgan said that the Dept. of Parks & Recreation would install more trashcans.
 - d. Mr. Morgan said the association will form an adopt-a-park committee.
 - e. Mr. Richard Myers reminded everyone that the park belongs to all residents.
 - f. A resident suggested that a basketball court might improve the park.
 - g. Another resident said that too many dog owners were neglecting to curb their dogs and neglecting to leash them in the park.
 - h. Mr. Keenan Dunson reminded everyone that dogs are not permitted in the Common Good City Farm.
7. **Mr. Juan Camilo Barragan of the mayor's office** announced a PSA walk-through on July 22 starting at 5:30 pm at 633 T Street NW.
8. **Announcement from Weatherize DC.**

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9. **Mrs. Maybelle Bennett of Howard University announced that the Omega Phi Psi centenary would be on July 28-30.**
10. **Presentation on the proposed Howard University Campus Plan by Mrs. Maybelle Bennett.**
 - a. Mrs. Bennett said the university would close Slowe and Carver Halls as student dorms.
 - b. Mrs. Bennett announced the university's desire to change the zoning for projects 7, 8, 2, and 11 from C-M-2 and C-M-3 to CR.
 - c. Mrs. Bennett reminded residents that Bryant Street NW between 4th and 6th Streets NW is a private street.
 - d. Mrs. Bennett explained the university's desire to expand the campus boundary to include the block bounded by Florida Avenue NW, Sherman Avenue NW, and Barry Place NW.
 - e. Mrs. Bennett explained that the university has 17 acres of surface parking right now.
 - f. Mrs. Bennett said that the developer of Howard Town Center wants to phase the project and that the developer is still looking to finalizing the financing.
 - g. Mrs. Bennett said that Slowe Hall would likely be repurposed for residential uses, though not as a student dormitory.
11. **Meeting adjourned at 8:47 pm.**

This memorandum represents our understanding of the events which transpired and the actions which were taken. If they do not conform to a recipient's understand, prompt written notice must be communicated to the writer. If no corrections or objections are made, this memorandum will be relied upon as a factual interpretation of this meeting.

Submitted on Tuesday, September 27, 2011, by Mr. Eric Fidler, the secretary of the LeDroit Park Civic Association.