



MAY 26 KCA MEETING TO FEATURE DC OFFICE OF PLANNING DIRECTOR HARRIET TREGONING & DCHPO'S DAVID MALONEY

Because of two very large projects wending their way through the DC approval process, the so-called "Church Hotel" and the plans to build condominiums at the old Italian Embassy, and recent experiences with other projects in historic districts, coupled with a somewhat low profile on the part of the Office of Planning in Adams Morgan, I have asked OP Director Harriet Tregoning and DC State Historic Preservation Officer David Maloney of the DC Historic Preservation Office to join us for an evening of discussion on planning, growth, density and historic preservation in Adams Morgan. I've invited both Brian Friedman, the developer of the Church-Hotel project and Patrick Cooke from Trout Design, of the Italian Embassy condo project, to be with us for the discussion, and to share a bit on their projects with the audience. This is not a presentation on either project, but part of the mix of recent developments in Adams Morgan. No votes on either project are planned. Annual election of officers will take place at the May 26 meeting.

-Denis James

KCA SUMMER DINNER PARTY AT PERRYS, JUNE 16 – HAPPY HOUR AT 6, DINNER AT 7

Each June, KCA members and friends get together to celebrate the coming of summer and the end of another "meeting year". For many years now, we've been delighted to hold this event at Perrys, 1811 Columbia Road, and this year the tradition continues.

The menu isn't fully developed yet, as the event is still a month away, and Perrys' chef is all about fresh and locally available materials. But the price for a 3 course

dinner is still just \$25, not including tax or tip. Cash bar.

So please let me have your reservations just as soon as possible – this will be the last paper (mailed) newsletter until September. I will be sending out further information on the dinner, including the menu, by e-mail.

-Denis James, denisjames@verizon.net 202 232-8829

BILTMORE TRIANGLE GARDEN REMEMBERS ARTIST PATRICIA TOBACCO FORRESTER

Like clockwork each May, the Biltmore Triangle Garden is awash with color. Our prized irises are the star attraction. Visitors come from all over the region to see the array of colors and whether their favorite made an appearance this year.



Iris, Biltmore Triangle Garden – Photo by Marianne Josem

On your spring visit to the garden in past years, you may have seen a blond-haired woman seated in a folding chair, flanked by her paints and water jug, staring intently at one of her beloved deep purple irises as she incorporated it into a giant watercolor painting.



Patricia Forrester painting in Biltmore Triangle Garden
Photo by Marianne Josem

This was Patricia Tobacco Forrester, a neighbor, friend, supporter of the garden and noted watercolorist. Patricia died March 16th. (See Washington Post obit: http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/obituaries/patricia-tobacco-forrester-70artist/2011/03/23/ABDhnLLB_story.html). We mourn and miss her as we celebrate her in our current Garden Brochure.

Patricia's vibrant and intricate paintings of nature brought her worldwide acclaim.



Bibi's Torch, 1997 - by Patricia T. Forrester

Her paintings were exhibited in museums world-wide, with some among the permanent collections at the Corcoran Gallery of Art; the Smithsonian American Art

Museum; the Brooklyn Museum in New York; the Art Institute of Chicago, and the British Museum in London. She moved to DC in the early 1980s and frequently painted landscapes around the city. The Biltmore Triangle Garden was one of her favorites.

The garden flourishes because of the faithful financial support of friends and neighbors such as Patricia. We are grateful for the past support that our neighbors have given. If you enjoy the garden and find it a spot of nature and beauty in our neighborhood, please make an annual donation to support our gardening costs.

You can find our 2011 Garden Brochure in a red basket on the garden's bench, or online at: <http://www.kaloramacitizens.org/news> Please make your donation check payable to: Kalorama Citizens Association, designated to the Biltmore Triangle Garden. Mail to: KCA, PO Box 21311, Washington, DC 20009. All donations are tax-deductible and go directly to the garden for plants and supplies. A return envelope is enclosed here for your convenience.

-Marianne Josem, Garden Coordinator

VOLUNTEERS COMMEMORATE CEMETERIES AT WALTER PIERCE PARK

Neighbors, descendants, Quakers and other members of the concerned community gathered at Walter Pierce Park on Saturday, May 7, to read aloud the names of the 8,428 people buried in the African American and Quaker cemeteries there during the 19th Century.



Rock Creek Park Ranger Rian Gaskins, Robert Ellsworth, Eddie Becker, Barbara Bates, descendant Gary Shorter, and Ann Hargrove read the names of those buried in the cemeteries in Walter Pierce Park – photo by Mary Belcher

As the nation marks the 150th anniversary of the start of the Civil War, "Here in Walter Pierce Park, we have more than 8,000 reasons for that War," said Mary Belcher, community liaison to the Walter Pierce Park Archaeology Project. "Most of the men and women buried here were born into slavery. Most of them came to Washington during the War and immediately after, to live the rest of their lives here in freedom."

Howard University Anthropology Professor Mark Mack led a tour of the site, where he and student archaeologists have worked since 2006. They have identified the exposed remains of at least nine individuals, as well as numerous cemetery-related artifacts.

Among those who gathered at Walter Pierce Park on a picture-perfect day to commemorate the cemeteries were David Etheridge, co-clerk of Friends Meeting of Washington; Rock Creek Park Rangers Ricardo Perez and Rian Gaskins; and local historians Patricia Tyson and Barbara Bates. Gary and Gretchen Shorter and their son Kimani honored their ancestors who helped found the Free Young Men's Benevolent Association in Washington in 1838 and later the Mt. Pleasant Plains Cemetery at Walter Pierce Park in 1870.



Amelia Edmonson, whose children attempted to escape slavery on board the schooner Pearl in 1848, was among those honored. She and 25 other Edmonson family members were buried in the Mt. Pleasant Plains Cemetery at Walter Pierce Park between 1870-90.

With everyone reading from separate lists, the names were spoken aloud in about an hour. A brief biographical

note was read every several names. Special mention was given to the more than 30 Civil War soldiers and sailors who have been identified so far as having been buried in the cemeteries.

View last year's inaugural "Saying Their Names" event at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gEG-7Esz9EY>

KCA MEETING MINUTES MAY 3, 2011

President **Denis James** called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm, and recognized Secretary **Ted Guthrie** for his hard work over the course of the past year as KCA has held numerous candidate events, which involved voluminous minute-taking. The minutes for KCA's February and March meetings were approved.

Community announcements

Mary Belcher announced that the "Saying Their Names" event, in which the names of those known to be buried in Walter Pierce Park are read, has been rescheduled to Saturday May 7, from 11 am-1 pm. There will be a tour of the site with Professor Mark Mack of Howard University and then the reading, which takes about an hour.

Kristin Barden, ED of AMPBID said that new pocket guides have been distributed to area hotels, with a full-page map of Adams Morgan businesses. She also announced that the summer concert series on the plaza by BB&T Bank, will begin June 4 and run through July 9, from 5-7 pm.

Olivier Kamanda, commissioner for ANC 1C-03, announced that the community survey on issues for ANC 1C-03 is available. He also announced creation of a Neighborhood Watch program to provide information on prevention of crimes, reporting, and sharing information. The next ANC-1C business meeting will be 7 pm, June 1 at Mary's Center, 2355 Ontario Road. [For more information about the survey or the Neighborhood Watch program, contact Olivier at: kamanda@gmail.com]

Denis announced that the May 26 KCA meeting would feature **Harriet Tregoning**, Director of the DC Office of Planning, and **David Maloney**, State Historic Preservation Officer, discussing development, density, and historic preservation in general, and particular projects in our neighborhood.

ABC matters:

Transfer of liquor license from Cafe Exhale to Bistro 18, 2420 18th Street, NW.

Denis asked for a motion to protest the transfer to enable KCA to enter a new or amended voluntary agreement with the owners of Bistro 18, the terms of the agreement with the former owners of the license being inapplicable to the new enterprise.

Motion by **Matt McCarthy**, seconded by **Joyce**

Douglas: That KCA protest the transfer of the license for the purpose of entering into a voluntary agreement with the owners of Bistro 18, the grounds for the protest being the disturbance of the peace, order and quiet of the surrounding neighborhood. The motion passed 14-0.
Proposed amendment to ABC Code: Under Mayor Gray's budget proposal, A & B licenses, currently limited to 10 pm closure, would be allowed to stay open until midnight to sell alcohol.

This raises the concern that those who party in the streets, drink in parked cars and alleys, etc., will be encouraged.

Motion by **Bob Ellsworth**, seconded by Matt McCarthy: Whereas, DC Mayor Vincent Gray's 2012 budget proposal contains language to extend existing hours of operation of off-premise retailers Class A and Class B from the current 10:00 pm to 12:00 midnight, throughout their existing days of operation, and

Whereas, the proposal is intended to help close DC's expected budget shortfall, and

Whereas, Adams Morgan has 70 on-premise retailers, Class CR and CT within its boundaries, and; Whereas, there already exist within Adams Morgan problems of public drunkenness, public urination, panhandling, and littering, and; Whereas, there is an historic problem of visitors to Adams Morgan's nightlife bringing alcohol with them to the neighborhood, consuming it in their cars, on the street, in public alleys and parks, and; Whereas, allowing operation of off-premise retailers between 10 pm and 12 midnight would exacerbate this already existing problem,

Now then, the members of the Kalorama Citizens Association present and constituting a quorum request that Mayor Gray rescind this proposal and that failing that, the DC Council reject the proposal. **Motion passed 12-0.**

Another amendment to ABC Code from Mayor Gray's budget proposal would increase the sales tax rate for alcohol sold by off-premises retailers from 9% to 10%.

The proposal would make it a level playing field with liquor sold at other licensed premises.

During discussion, **Andrew Hopkins**, CM Graham's Communications Director, noted that the Sunday sales proposal is not yet a legislative proposal. It would allow sales in on-premise "C" establishments between 8am-10am Sunday morning, and for A licenses (off-premise) to operate on Sundays. Taxes raised by these two proposals would be used to fund the Reimbursable Detail Officer program.

Motion by Bob Ellsworth, seconded by Matt McCarthy: Whereas Mayor Gray's budget proposal contains language to increase the sales tax on alcohol sold in off-premise stores, and

Whereas, the sales tax on alcohol at ON-PREMISE establishments is already 10%, and making the tax the same for both on and off-premise sales contributes to creating a level playing field among merchants, and

Whereas, this is a reasonable measure to increase tax revenues on a controlled substance to help close the expected budget shortfall,

Now then the members of the KCA present and constituting a quorum agree that the Mayor's proposal to increase the sales tax on off-premise alcohol sales should be approved by the DC Council. **Motion passed, 10-1.**

Denis then introduced the special guest speaker, Commander Jacob Kishter of the 3rd District MPD, who took a number of questions from the audience.

Q: Denis James: How much of a component of the Friday/Saturday policing are the Reimbursable Duty Officers? The perception is that officers are only on 18th. Denis noted that especially late at night, after bars close, there is substantial noise and disturbance on the side streets of the neighborhood. What is the status of implementation of the new noise ordinance?

Commander Kishter: Notes that he appreciates the RDO officers, just from their numbers. He has used other resources to replace those lost from the suspension of the RDO program (due to lack of govt subsidy). The Crime Suppression Team (not in uniforms) is used particularly after hours. Violent crime is down in the area in the past year. Uniforms are there mostly for crowd control, but they do get sent out into the residential areas. He pulls resources from U St or other areas if those areas are quiet.

The noise ordinance is new and officers are receiving training in its application. Basically, the ordinance states that if you're in your house and you can hear noise, an officer can make an arrest (if the violator has no ID) or issue a 61-D summons/fine. The ordinance applies from 10 pm-7 am. A citizen's complaint is not necessary. There is no loitering law in DC. He didn't know how much the noise fine was, but said that he'd get back to us with the amount. Enforcement of the noise ordinance will depend on the situation - if someone is asked to quiet down and won't, they are likely to be cited.

Joyce Douglas said people sit on her front steps on 18th and eat pizza, talk, fight, and damaged the paint on her car parked in front.

Q: Matt McCarthy: District police officers are notorious for not caring about quality of life issues. Officers don't want to deal with loiterers, horn honkers, boom boxers, public urination or litterers. What can we do?

Commander Kishter: Encourages calling 911, both to get them data on these problems and, potentially, give them better arguments for increasing staffing.

Concern was expressed about windows on 18th vibrating from boom boxes. Question was raised whether motorcycle noise would be a noise ordinance violation.

Concern was expressed about outdoor parties on Kalorama Road, between 20th and Connecticut. The Commander was aware of the particular residence creating the problem and suggested that such incidents be called

in. The resident who raised the concern said that she would do so.

Q: Are there separate statistics on arrests made by RDO's?

Commander Kishter: No, the statistics are all together. When govt funding is available, the entity hiring the RDO's pays half and the subsidy the other half, through the Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration. The RDO's are not under BID control or supervision.

Kristin Barden commented that the Coordinator, **Greg Frank**, (who coordinates between the BID and MPD) checks on the numbers of officers on the street, brings that information back to the BID, and helps the BID understand where the problems are.

Q: Cesar, Resident of Belmont Road said a worse problem is police harassment. He cited an instance when **Officer Kurtz** confronted him and the 18 year old he mentors, stopping and asking the 18 year old what he was drinking, (a lemonade) took it out of his hand and sniffed it, then poured it out. He also said that **Lt. Kutniewski** treated him disrespectfully.

Various members expressed concerns about excessive discretion by officers on street. The discussion turned to ways that officers could better learn resident's concerns. Commander Kishter noted that officers are always happy to do ride/walkalongs. Contact Lt. Kutniewski at:

john.kutniewski@dc.gov

Q: Jim Nixon: Most weekends, there are few arrests in the neighborhood other than assaulting an officer, yet there are many citations issued on Georgia or 14th and W. Why can't we get law enforcement in Adams Morgan? Why are neighborhoods treated differently? We need actual statistics. What we see are groups of officers on 18th Street, standing around.

Commander Kishter: Most of policing issues on 18th are resolved without arrests, which would take officers off the streets. In contrast, most of those on Georgia or 14th & W involve drug activity or Howard University students. A certain amount gets tolerated on 18th until closing.

Q: By what means can we measure success? Problem is one of management. We don't see officers on the side streets, or making arrests.

Lisa Duperier noted the similarity with problems faced in Georgetown, and as to 61Ds: If people actually start getting them on their records, behavior would change.

Q: There used to be a number of uniformed Secret Service detail providing a deterrent: any way to get them back?

Commander Kishter: Budget cuts and national security issues have changed the landscape.

Hannah Burris expressed the concern that our eyes should not be taken off serious violent crimes as we attempt to improve quality of life problems.

On the question of starting a **Neighborhood watch**, Commissioner Kamanda said that setting up a network of many small areas where groups of residents share information to enhance security would benefit the community as a whole. Neighborhood-wide statistics and crime pattern info could be shared to let residents know what to look out for.

Denis asked whether this would work with an area like Adams Morgan, with many large secured buildings? Commander Kishter said he thinks it can be done in neighborhoods like this.

Joyce pointed out that on her block no one knows anyone.

Jim Nixon asked if locals attending roll call would be able to address the officers directly. Commander Kishter said it would be an excellent idea.

Q: Rob Wong: How many members were in the Neighborhood Watch?

Olivier said that it's just getting started. The goal is to build from those who express interest. This is a community driven effort, not a part of ANC.

Bob Ellsworth suggests concern about neighbors informing on neighbors. Olivier noted that it's not a government operation.

Arianne Bennet suggested a registry with phone numbers associated with each address for emergency contact purposes.

The meeting adjourned at 9:08 pm.

-Ted Guthrie, Secretary

PLEASE CONTINUE TO RENEW DUES AND SUPPORT KCA PROJECTS

Many members used the return envelope we enclosed in our January, 2011 edition of this newsletter to pay dues or contribute. As you may remember, last year we determined to make January the "renewal month" for KCA, as many were uncertain exactly when to pay dues.

This month, as we won't be publishing another paper newsletter until September, we've enclosed another return envelope to assist you in either paying dues, or donating to Biltmore Triangle Garden or Pierce Park Archaeology.

You can also give us any changes in e-mail contact or additional e-dresses for households of more than one. All this information is available under the flap of the return envelope.

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CONTRIBUTIONS AND DUES PAYMENTS

KCA is updating our e-mail list to provide neighborhood news updates and for electronic delivery of our newsletter. Folks often switch e-mail addresses. If a 2 person household, please provide both e-mail addresses.

Please supply your current e-mail address here → _____

Second e-mail address for 2 person household: _____

Wish to receive KCA newsletter electronically? Yes No

Pay dues or contribute to a KCA project!

Pay 2011 dues

Biltmore Triangle Garden

Walter Pierce Park Archaeology Project

Donation for Marie Reed Learning Center Students
For Holiday Season – A KCA tradition

Amount enclosed: _____

Please return this form with your check to KCA, PO Box 21311, Washington DC 20009. Use the handy return envelope enclosed in this newsletter.

KCA is a 501(c)(3) organization. All dues and contributions are fully tax deductible to the extent provided by law.

View this newsletter on our website in beautiful living color: <http://www.kaloramacitizens.org/newsletters>



**Kalorama Station
PO Box 21311
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THE NEXT TWO KCA MEETINGS:

At Good Will Baptist Church

1862 Kalorama Road, NW

Thursday, May 26, 7:00 pm

Guests: Harriet Tregoning, Director, DC Office of Planning
David Maloney, DC State Historic Preservation Officer

At Perrys Restaurant

1811 Columbia Road, NW

Thursday, June 16, 6:00 pm

Annual Summer Party Happy Hour (6) & Dinner (7)