



COUNCILMEMBER KWAME BROWN TO BE OUR GUEST SPEAKER ON MAY 24TH

Due to various scheduling conflicts the May meeting of the KCA has been rescheduled to Thursday the 24th. We are pleased to announce that At-Large City Councilmember Kwame Brown will be our guest speaker. Councilmember Brown is chair of the Committee on Economic Development and serves on the following Council committees: Finance and Revenue, Workforce and Government Operations, Public Services and Consumer Affairs, and Public Works and the Environment.

We will also conduct our annual election of officers. Nominations will be taken from the floor.

As usual, the meeting will begin at 7 p.m. at Goodwill Baptist Church, 1862 Kalorama Road. Go up the main steps and bear right to the rear side entrance.

All are welcome. – Denis James

PIERCE PARK CLEAN-UP GIVES ARCHEOLOGICAL TEAM A BOOST; MORE THAN 100 WALKERS VISIT SITE

The Boston University Alumni Club and other volunteers descended on Walter Pierce Park on May 5 to help weed, mulch and clear brush, giving the Howard University archeological team a boost in its non-invasive survey of the Colored Union Benevolent Association Cemetery.

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C Vice Chair and Friends of Walter Pierce Park President Mindy Moretti led the mulching and clean-up effort on the topside, while the Boston Alumni Club's Heather Benson coordinated volunteers on the heavily overgrown north slope of the park. This morning-long effort was part of the annual DC Cares Servathon, which sponsors volunteer projects throughout the city. Benson and her fellow Boston Alums chose the Walter Pierce site because of the urban community it serves and the park's rich history.

The Howard University archeological team, under the leadership of Professor Mark Mack, is about to complete its survey on the steep north slope of the park, possibly by the end of May. This area has posed enormous challenges

because of its terrain and the dense overgrowth that has sprung up in the past several weeks.

Much of the archeological team's time has been spent clearing growth before surveying. With the exception of trash pick-up following volunteer clean-ups, there has been no city support for this work, and none is in the offing. The Servathon volunteers chopped weeds and gathered brush on much of the hillside, giving the archeological team at least some relief.

In early June, the archeological survey will move to the National Zoo grounds, north of the fence that divides it from Walter Pierce Park. The brush and overgrowth within the Zoo also poses a problem. I have asked Zoo officials whether their ground crews or our community volunteers, or both, could stage a pre-survey clean-up. Stay tuned for their response, if you might be able to help.

We continue gathering friends and raising public awareness about the Walter Pierce Project. On 21 April Eddie Becker and I led a walking tour from Kalorama Park to Walter Pierce Park, focusing on slavery and freedom in Adams Morgan during the Civil War era. This walk was sponsored by the Adams Morgan Partnership (AMPBID) our neighborhood business improvement district, and Cultural Tourism D.C.

More than 100 people joined the walk. We focused on a time when most of Adams Morgan was a cattle farm owned by slaveholder John Little, whose manor house sat in today's Kalorama Park. We were treated to a drill in Walter Pierce Park by the Marie Reed Civil War Cadets, made up of fifth- and sixth-graders learning about D.C.'s U.S. Colored Troops, First Regiment, created in 1863. KCA member and neighbor Sheila Lopez helped stage this memorable re-enactment in the park, working with Cadet leaders Ben Hawley and Dexter Akinsheye. Professor Mark Mack spoke to the group about the survey in Pierce Park as his students worked nearby. The final leg of the tour was a trip up to Holt House on National Zoo grounds, giving people a view of a house that has witnessed history since the city's founding. – Mary Belcher,

maryjbelcher@comcast.net

REPORT ON COMMUNITY MEETING AT JELLEFF BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

The Jelleff Board of Directors on 10 May held a special community meeting in the gym at the club. The

meeting responded to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington's (BGCWG, the parent organization) decision to seek requests for proposals (RFPs) to redevelop the club site at 3265 S Street, NW. More than 150 community members turned out for the meeting, at which Jelleff's many users and partner organizations were recognized. These include Stoddert Soccer League, Georgetown Big Brothers, D.C. Shotokan Karate Club, WYLAX Lacrosse League and the City Collegiate Public Charter School, which is housed at Jelleff.

There was an outpouring of support to keep Jelleff open and not sell the property for development, most notably from Ward Two Councilmember Jack Evans, Ward Three Councilmember Mary Cheh, and Deputy Mayor for Economic Development Neil Albert, all of whom addressed the crowd and strongly supported the club remaining open. Councilmember Evans even mentioned the possibility of using eminent domain to ensure the continued use of the property as a place for youth recreation. Will Gunn, president and chief executive officer of BGCWG, explained how the organization's plans to redevelop the Jelleff site would lead to serving youth who are not served by BGCWG. However, Gunn shed no light about what would happen to the thousands of kids Jelleff serves every year. The club has a budget surplus, an outdoor pool, an indoor gym and soccer/baseball field, which serve kids from all over the city.

I will keep you informed on further developments as they arise, because Jelleff has served many kids and families from our area. To show your support for Jelleff, sign our on-line petition at:

petitiononline.com/jelleff/petition.html

– Denis James

MINUTES OF APRIL 19TH MEETING

Denis James called the meeting to order at 7:17 p.m. The minutes of the 15 March meeting were approved.

The Kalorama Park clean-up: Saturday, May 12. It will consist largely of mulching, pruning, weeding, and clearing. Visit <http://www.kaloramapark.org> for more information on volunteering and activities at Kalorama Park.

Adams Morgan Main Street:: Lisa Duperier thanked neighbors for participating in the First Tuesday restaurant and retail discounts. Upcoming Main Street events include: the Bow-Wow-Pow-Wow April 29th at Marie Reed, a pet education day with the Washington Animal Rescue League and others such as PAL (People-Animals-Love) participating; and the Summer Sampler fund-raiser on 6 June at the Hilton. There will be a nice menu, live music and a silent auction for \$35 per ticket.

New Ward 1 Services Coordinator: Denis James introduced Bridget Davis. Services Coordinators focus on multi-agency issues and routine matters such as pothole repair and burned-out streetlights. Service Coordinators attend Core Team multi-agency meetings weekly with such agencies as DDOT, DPW, MPD, ABRA, etc. Bridget's

contact info is: cell: 340-8248, email:

bridget.davis@dc.gov

New Restaurant – Yazuzu: Joe Haddad was recognized to speak about his new restaurant, at 18th and Wyoming. It has healthy Middle Eastern food, and does catering, parties, and delivery. The hours are Tues-Sun 3 p.m-1 a.m; Fri-Sat until 4 a.m.

Use Issues in Kalorama Park: Emily Mechner, ANC Commissioner for SMD 1C-02, discussed the conflicting uses at Kalorama Park. She is trying to find ways for people and dogs to co-exist. The first step will be a meeting on Saturday, 21 April, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Proposals include having a specific place for dogs inside the park (two different locations have been proposed); amend the animal control laws to enable dogs to be off-leash at certain hours (probably evening); and reserve one lawn for human-only use. A list-serve has been set up to discuss these issues:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AllforKaloramaPark/>

ANC 1C will provide an on-line survey for the community to register ideas on this issue. ANC 1C Chairman Bryan Weaver, in whose SMD (1C-03) the park falls, said he supported Emily's work on this issue, as people are passionate on both sides. Emily noted that other factions include those who were most interested in the landscape; the elderly; and dog owners who do not want dogs to be off the leash. Emily said she was arranging for a moderator for the 21 April meeting.

Pierce Park Clean-Up and More: Mary Belcher, community liaison to the Pierce Park archeology project, thanked those who participated in the clean-up there on 31 March. They hauled out more trash than other comparable groups. This helped make visible the outlines of the old African-American cemetery. She said another clean-up will be on Saturday, 5 May, sponsored by the Friends of Walter Pierce Park and the Boston University alumni group. Mary said that cold weather slowed the archeological project by Professor Mark Mack of Howard University and his students but the project is back on track.

Mary also mentioned that she and Eddie Becker would conduct a walking tour for Cultural Tourism on 21 April. The tour would cover Walter Pierce Park, Kalorama Park and Holt House (exterior only), and would feature a discussion with an archeologist.

Lanier Heights Historic District Project: Larry Karr gave a progress report on the Lanier Heights Historic Survey. Photos of the structures are best taken before the leaves come out. The next phase will involve surveying and filling out a master form for every structure. This information goes to a consulting firm (yet to be selected) to be shaped into a report on the survey. If all goes well, the final report will be done by August 2008.

KCA Elections: Denis announced that KCA elections for officers would be held at the May meeting. Nominations will be taken from the floor at that time.

PSA 303 Report from MPD Lt. Mike Gottert : Lt. Gottert noted that the big issue, as always, is theft from autos of such items as laptops, iPods, and GPS systems. MPD previously thought most victims were tourists, but

they have noticed lately that most of the cars in question have DC tags. There has also been an increase in theft at restaurants and bars. Possibly, people go outside to smoke and come back in to find their belongings stolen. Lt. Gottert noted that there would be approximately one youth event per week from June through August, sponsored by MPD.

Report from Sgt. Carlos Mejia, MPD Latino Liaison Unit:

Latino Liaison officers do community outreach, frequently on foot. The SunTrust Bank building office is open from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. The unit is planning several youth events, including one at Bell Multicultural High School. In response to a question from Councilmember Jim Graham, Sgt. Mejia said he deploys 11 officers in Adams Morgan, Columbia Heights, and Shaw. The officers sometimes make in-school visits.

Report from MPD Third District Commander Larry McCoy:

Commander McCoy said that former Chief Ramsey formed the Latino Liaison Unit in 2003. Chief Lanier worked with the unit in 4D prior to becoming chief. The department has hired more Latino officers outside of the Latino Liaison Unit. The Third District has a long established Gay/Lesbian Task Force. He mentioned the tragic death of Officer Wayne Pitt, who died from injuries sustained while on traffic control detail. Commander McCoy took questions about the concentration of cruisers at 18th Street and Columbia Road, what police can or can't do about a burnt-out car located on private property and what police can or can't do about illegal valet parking of cars that block alleys.

Commander McCoy said the department has around 3,900 officers, down from 5,000 about 20 years ago. MPD's stronger education requirements have contributed to the decline. DC also loses officers all the time, in part because they are well-trained and are thus sought-after by other departments. He noted that the Third District has the most service calls and the most manpower.

Special Guest: MPD Chief Cathy Lanier: Chief Lanier noted that police departments use different technology than in the past. With new technology, crimes are indicated by dots on a map and a strategy called "cops on dots" is used to try to get ahead of crime and plan future anti-crime strategies. The technology enables district commanders to quickly report to the chief their crime analyses and their anti-crime strategies. To develop crime-fighting strategies, the police are also looking at economic development, such as new condos, new restaurants, etc. to form partnerships, or predict where crime may occur. When all these things are taken into account, this constitutes a different way of looking at crime.

Lanier said that new technology means less time will be required to take accident reports. GPS will be used to bring up the location and only the vehicle license number will have to be typed in. The technology is not yet available in DC.

MPD has recently hired 100 new officers and will make as many as possible available to 3D. In response to a question about gang activity, she said that if there is gang activity, Commander McCoy will address that in his strategy report to her. In response to a question about the

time officers must spend in court, Lanier said a start in addressing it will be made by working with judges and changing the papering process. Only small steps have been made in this area. The future will bring an automated arrest and reporting process assisted by officers with high speed computers. She may also try to have papering done in the districts rather than at a central location.

In response to a question about new recruits, Lanier said she was looking for cognitive ability, communications skills and the ability to solve problems. The department is evaluating new exams and has hired a marketing firm to go to universities and military bases. In addition to more officers, MPD needs new technology. She is also concerned with the officers' morale and is working on strategies to prevent them from leaving.

Lt. Gottert explained the Adopt-a-Block program, in which every officer has a block and will meet the people on that block. Officers and blocks are listed on the ANC Web site: <http://www.anc1c.org>

In response to questions, Lanier talked about police salaries, fitness, and training. The hiring process is very long. After first indicating their interest, officers take two years to hit the street. This includes the Police Academy and training with another officer.

There was interest in having a process by which an officer could break up a fight without having to go through various arrest, paper work, and court procedures. However, expedited procedures (not taking people in for every infraction) are apparently only available in the traffic area and for certain instances of public drunkenness.

Responding to a comment about how it is now easier to reach detectives, Lanier noted that a Blackberry-like device will be distributed to all detectives in the future. It was suggested that the need is for more technology, not more officers.

Lanier addressed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) regarding MPD use of force. She said that many changes have been made and DC has one of the country's best use-of-force policies. However, the MOU cannot be ended soon because there must be compliance with several measures over an extended period of time.

Regarding a question about promotions, Lanier noted that Inspector Pat Burke has been promoted to Commander of the Special Operations Division. He will be leaving 3D. He said he hated to leave Commander McCoy, who has been a great mentor.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m. . –Linda Ingram, Secretary.

The KCA newsletter is published in print and electronically
10 times a year.

© 2007 Kalorama Citizens Association
All Rights Reserved
www.KaloramaCitizens.org

85 Yard Sales!

In Adams Morgan



Adams Morgan basements and attics will open at over 85 locations to reveal their treasures (and other stuff) from 10 to 3 on Saturday May 19. The sales will take place on Biltmore and neighboring parts of Allen Place, Columbia Road, Mintwood Place, Cliffborne, 19th, 20th and Calvert streets and include 22 locations on Lanier Place.

To view or print the map with the latest sale locations, go to:

www.kaloramacitizens.org/calendar.

CONTRIBUTIONS AND DUES PAYMENTS

Annual dues are now due. Contributions can be made by credit card or Paypal at www.KaloramaCitizens.Org/Join. Or use this convenient form and send your check to KCA, PO Box 21311, Washington DC 20009. KCA is a 501(c)(3) organization and all dues and contributions are fully tax deductible to the extent provided by law

- I wish to support the Walter Pierce Park Archeology Project. Enclosed is my \$_____ contribution to help match the National Trust for Historic Preservation and Humanities Council of Washington DC Grants!
- My newsletter label says “**Please remit your \$25 dues.**” Here they are for 2007.
- I’ve corrected the mailing label below and/or added a missing apartment or unit number.



Kalorama Station
PO Box 21311
Washington DC 20009

Return Service Requested

**PLEASE NOTE THE
CHANGED KCA MEETING DATE**

THURSDAY MAY 24TH, 7:00

**GUEST SPEAKER COUNCIL
MEMBER KWAME BROWN**

**GOOD WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
1862 KALORAMA ROAD NW**