



The Edgewood Civic Association
[Serving Edgewood and Eckington Communities since 1953]
P.O. BOX 92168
Washington, DC 20090-2178
Website: theedgewoodcivicassociationdc.org

**General Monthly Meeting Minutes
June 22, 2009 - 7:00 - 9:00PM
Edgewood Recreational Center**

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Roll Call of Officers - Absent: Fred Allen, 1st Vice President

1. MPD - Public Safety Report - Captain Patrizzo, reporting in the absence of Commander Greene

Summary - Crime is down in most categories with exception to:

- Robbery: 1 - custody; 3 - pending cases, and 5 - closed cases.
- Homicide - no information to report
- Shootings with shotguns - ongoing investigation A 9ml Baretta (stolen in 2003) was taken off the street

Citizen Concerns

- Vacant property at Lincoln Road & V. Streets, NE is plagued with increased number of squatters, hanging out on the front of property with drugs and gambling activity
- It is noted that juveniles with repeat offenses are frequently released, in some cases, offenders return to commit more crimes.

Response: The listserv - Yahoo Group > MPD/5D@yahoo.com is a judicial watch, that could be a useful tool for citizens to track arrests and judicial processes. Citizens can also watch for leniency and spot cases that they feel need further action within the system; then report it back to the system for follow-up

[Q&A]

Q. On June 8th, 2009, approximately @1:30 PM, a shooting occurred near three schools, a suspect was seen fleeing the scene - Did schools get notified?

A. It is a good suggestion to notify schools and will be put into consideration.

Q. Is there a status report for a request to Assistant Grooms to station a crime camera at 7th & Franklin Streets?

- A. Captain Patrizzo will bring to Commander Greene's attention. Alice Thompson adds that Commander Greene said a camera will be installed when one is available.
- Q. What is being done about prostitution at Rhode Island Avenue & Lincoln Road?
- A. There have been a half dozen arrest directly related to citizen watch and complaints.
- Q. When a caller to 311 wants to remain anonymous and does not want officers to show up at his/her residence, what should be done?
- A. Let the dispatcher know that you do not want to be interviewed.

Glossary of Term(s):

Police Service Area (PSA) Meetings These meetings are designed to report safety updates; to answer citizen questions, and to address concerns and complaints. Meetings are scheduled for the 3rd Wednesday of each month, held at the Harry Thomas Community Center at 7:00PM.

All Hands on Deck (AHAD) - Major staff of MPD officers are deployed to work the streets. Streets are closed and safety checks are conducted. The increased police presence is a major contributor to the drop in crime statistics.

2. Presentation by Ximena Hartsock, Interim Director Parks and Recreation

Ms. Hartsock provided highlights of the Edgewood Recreational Center Development and Improvements :

- o Lights - \$375K
- o Plans for a new field and leveling with irrigation
- o An additional \$5M investment is projected to include: turf, paving, installation of new fencing, picnic facility, new exterior steps, new ADA railing, new exterior and interior doors, new lights, painting, bath and kitchen renewal with appliances, computers complete with stations and furnishing. This project is to begin right after summer, and will prove to be child friendly with a morning center.

Handout of Plans (limited copies available) - A community briefing will be coordinated with Mike Clark of the Edgewood Civic Association.

Ms. Hartsock further stated there are plans for a deep cleaning of recreational centers city-wide. Additionally, signage will be posted to state the hours of operation and point (s) of entry.

[Q&] Citizens/Ms. Hartsock

Q. Are there plans for expansion of the Edgewood Recreational Center?

A. There are no immediate plans

Citizen feedback - Concern that there is not enough space for center's demography, they would like to see funds allocated immediately for expansion. Michael Henderson

comments that these demands are not new, and need to be moved forward as a priority.

Ms. Hartsock submitted that she would take these concerns back to Mayor Fenty.

Q. Are there plans for additional programs?

A. For a long time this has been a common challenge throughout the city; the entire system needs to be renewed, to include partnerships for funding.

Q Will the Childcare center at 601 Edgewood be closed? Citizens are complaining that they have received short notice of such and are concerned about displacement of their children.

A. This is a strong center and **is not funded by DPR**, Hartsock is confident that it will remain opened.

Commissioner Silas Grant addressed: 1) the Edgewood center has employed (6) Directors in the past several years, a common practice; hours of operation are odd, this needs to be investigated. He submits ... to build stronger, more solid recreational centers we need to partner with other, more solvent recreational centers, such as Turkey Thicket. Hartsock agrees these are important points that she will address to the Mayor, particularly regarding Turkey Thicket. Grant encouraged citizens to become more proactive – visit recreational centers and volunteer (**be sure to Sign In!**) Hartsock indicated that her assistants tonight are taking notes of all concerns for presentation to the Mayor.

Action Item – Mike Clark proposed that the Edgewood Civic Association and ANC Commissioner Grant jointly support the citizen’s appeal to the Mayor regarding moving forward with plans to develop the Edgewood Recreational center **before 2013; with emphasis on expansion.** Information will be posted on the Edgewood Civic Association’s website and reported at monthly meetings to keep citizens informed.

3. Community Concerns

➤ Citizens want to know if there are plans for the former National Wholesale Liquidator store. Ian Harris, Principal of Vanguard Realty has cited several issues related to lease restrictions:

❖ There can be no other grocery store, or like competitor

❖ No set down restaurants

Mr. Harris is in collaboration with Rhode Island Great Street Partnership Initiative, plans are underway for development. He will provide updates when available. Edgewood Civic will post them on its website and reported at ECA meetings in real time.

➤ Michael Henderson appealed to the Edgewood Civic Association (ECA) to consider changing its general meeting date from the fourth Monday of each month; Henderson also ask for a review of the ECA’s name of its on-line web address, which he created when he managed the website for ECA, he believes it causes confusion in the distinguishing the edgewoodcivicassociationdc.org from his newly designed Edgewooddc.org site. The Executive Board denied consent to change the meeting date based upon current bylaws supporting it; or

its website name due to the fact that the name was established for the association when Henderson managed it.

Alice Thompson inquired if ECA meets on the 4th Monday throughout the year. Mike Clark responded it is our meeting schedule; however, ECA suspends meetings for a summer break, from July until September.

4. St. Martin's Project Parking Issues

Todd Chapman, representative will address the parking issue at ECA's September meeting; also, the issue related to rumble strips on Todd Place. Alice Thompson requested an email to follow-up on this issue.

5. Installation of Edgewood Community Signage - Executive ECA members recommend submitting a proposal for a grant application to install the welcome signs to:

- **To give distinction**
- **help identity the Edgewood community for citizens aware of boundaries and visitors**

The application process is open to the public by DDOT every 2-3 years. ECA members and citizen input is welcome.

6. Open registration for membership was conducted and donations solicited.

Announcement(s)

🚧 Edgewood Recreational Center/Community Clean-up

1st Saturday of each month at 10AM - 12PM

Staging: 3rd & Evarts Streets, NE to 3rd & Rhode Island Avenue, NE (distance will be extended if there are enough volunteers)

Contact: Sallie Hobaugh (POC to be provided), or Silas Grant on 202-498-4196

[There will be fun and fellowship between neighbors)

Commissioner Grant suggests more vigilance in the posting of fliers and signs

🚧 ANC Commissioner Meeting - Third Tuesday monthly @7PM

Adjourned:

Next Meeting Date: September 28, 2009 - 7:00- 9:00PM

McKinley Tech HS

151 T. Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002