



November 2005 Meeting

WNA Neighborhood Newsletter

Vol. 10, Issue 9

🌿 President's Message 🌿

By Lynn Johnson

[No ruminating this month. This is the time of year for festivities, so let's hear it for the---]

2005 WNA Holiday Party & Tree Decorating Event

WNA will hold our FIFTH annual Christmas Tree Decorating Event and our EIGHTH annual neighborhood Holiday Party on Saturday, Dec. 17th this year. If past is prologue, I need say no more. Get to know your neighbors, take part in a great tradition, and indulge yourself in some of the best homemade food that you can remember from your childhood. Our neighbors know how to cook!

The Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony will take place in the WNA Playground at 7:00 p.m. You are invited to hang your personal ornament on this tree as a symbol of your connection to your community. If last year is any example, it will be one of the most beautiful trees in the City. The ornaments from last year were saved and will be installed again (by you) at the ceremony. Each year only gets better. There

may be some singing of holiday songs by our local children--and by you--so start practicing.

The Holiday Party will be held at Tania Shand's house at 1901 Vermont Ave. NW and will start at 8:00 p.m. Now this is where we get down. No rules—just don't drop your food and drink on the floor since we may need this hostess in future years. No sermons, oratory, or political statements. This is strictly a night for fun and getting to know your neighbors.

For those of you that have not yet contributed your 12 hours of volunteer time to our community, we need 3 people to put the holiday tree in cement on Saturday/Sunday, Dec. 10/11. For the tree lighting and party, we need volunteers to string the lights, provide entertainment, play hostess, maitre die, cook, table setters and dishwashers. Please contact me if you can help. We look forward to seeing you there and putting you to work.

Lisa Fauntroy will be overseeing the food and festivities. For the party, homemade items are what she is looking for, depending on your level of skill and time. Some suggestions for

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Secretary: Vacant

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you are: ham, turkey, desserts, salads, casserole, green beans, sodas, beer, wine, and cookies and hot apple cider for the tree decorating event. Please contact Lisa ASAP as to what you are able to bring. She can be reached at (work) 240/662-3538, (home) 202/667.4463, or e-mail at Lisa_Williams@discovery.com.

If you need to bring your youngsters (age 10 or younger), we will have a babysitter, so let the host know and they will be taken to the children's room for entertainment and food.

*Call it a clan, call it a network, call it a tribe,
call it a family: Whatever you call it, whoever you are, you need one.*

Jane Howard

~ Local Emergency Plan ~

We have a WNA committee working on a local emergency plan for our community. This passed around a copy of a draft WNA emergency plan for us to review. The idea behind this survey is that residents voluntarily provide information about themselves, their households, and skills they possess which would be useful during an emergency. Phil Spalding, our ANC commissioner, stated that any information collected by such a survey was especially valuable as other DC emergency agencies do not possess or cannot collect information of this sort.

The committee asked us to provide feedback as to this draft questionnaire. A copy of this questionnaire is attached to this Newsletter. The committee would like input on the type of information that should be requested. The more information available to them, the more they can do. They would like input from you on such questions as: What defines an emergency? When does our plan kick in (snow emergency, storm, fire in adjacent house)? Do we want to add license plate and out-of-own

contact info? Do we need to define levels to opt out of providing info (e.g., medical condition)? A phone tree would be most helpful, but how about the value of door-to-door contact?

Please respond with any comments to the attached draft to Chuck Baxter at (home) 232-7791 or email at cbaxter67@aol.com.



~ Protest of Two Liquor Licenses ~

Concern was raised at the WNA meeting about the heavy concentration of liquor licenses that have been granted—and continue to be granted—in the 1900 block of 9th Street. Currently there are over 16 liquor licenses issued for this one block strip. This is one of the highest concentrations of liquor licenses in the entire city.

There are now pending two more liquor license requests—1920 and 1926 9th Street. Todd Anderson made mention of a report prepared by two 9½ Street residents which showed a correlation of incidence of crime with the number of liquor licenses. He mentioned the process to protest a liquor license, which is to first write a letter of protest and then to attend an initial ABRA hearing (Wed. mornings) and then attend follow-up meetings as required. Phil stated that submitting the letter and showing up entitles you to have standing in the case. Todd volunteered to represent WNA on this topic, which was accepted by the group. He expressed concern that he may need to miss some meetings and asked that others be willing to step in.

A verbal vote was conducted regarding whether WNA wants to formally protest the

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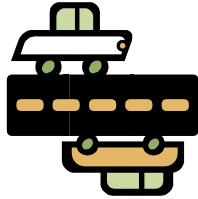
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granting of these two additional liquor licenses and nearly all present voted to support the protest, with one abstention. Todd encouraged people to e-mail Jim Graham personally on this topic.



🌿 Curb Cut on 1829 Vermont 🌿

The owners of 1829 Vermont Ave. have made a request to the City to permit them to do a curb cut on 10th Street so that they can park their car in their rear yard. Lynn mentioned a city regulation that forbids parking in your front yard, but generally permits parking in the rear of your house. There is another regulation that states that fences constructed in the front of a house can be 3 ½ ft. high and in the back 7 feet high. These regulations affect this request since the “rear” yards of that part of Vermont Ave., are also the “front” yards of 10th Street. Tania stated that the minimum space for parking needs to be 9 x 9 ft.

The owners of the property described how they were working with the Historical Preservation Review Board to get approval. There was concern expressed about losing a public parking spot on the street due to a curb cut. While there would be one less car parked on the street—because the owners would park their car in their yard—it would be a net gain of zero due to the loss of one public parking spot from the curb cut.

The owners have not determined what type of fence and gate they would install to help hide the car from view, but passed around some possible fence designs, with no specific commitment to any particular one.

An informal voice was taken to see how many would not support a curb cut. Few expressed any objection to a curb cut and most said they would possibly support it but needed to know more about:

1. The proposed design in terms of the visibility of the car from the street; and
2. Whether additional similar proposals from other neighbors on Vermont Ave. would now come in.

With respect to the latter concern, the owners did indicate that some of their neighbors could not park in their yard due to the yard size as well as public obstructions to their yard (fire hydrant, street lamps, etc.). The owners were encouraged to come back and present more definite design plans and information about the type of fence and gate they intend to install. Concern was also expressed that we must be specific as to what WNA is approving so that it is not taken to set a precedent as to future decisions for other curb cuts on 10th Street.



🌿 Police Involvement 🌿

As you old-timers know, we used to have the police come to our meetings to let us know what was happening in our particular area. Despite our requests to them this month, they did not show up for our meeting. This may be due, in part, to a new lieutenant for our PSA 305 area who has no memory of our our history.

For general knowledge of what is happening in all of PSA 305, you can attend the PSA 305 meeting on the first Tuesday of each month

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at the Housing Finance Building at 7:00 p.m.,
at 815 Florida Ave., NW.



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🌿 Triangle Park Improvement 🌿

The WNA Triangle Park Committee has been working on the development plans for the landscape of the two triangle parks at the corner of 10th, T and Vermont. A grant request was submitted to TKF Foundation this month to the tune of \$30,000 for the renovation of these mini-parks. Keep tuned to these Newsletters as to whether we are successful.

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🌿 Treasurer's Report 🌿

Financial Statement for Nov. 2005

Balance as of Nov. 1, 2005		\$6,623.41	
Receipts:			
Dues		15.00	
Disbursements:			
Water Feature	130.20		
Repair	20.93		
Hose Reel	<u>8.28</u>	-159.41	
TKF Grant			
Expense			
Balance as of Dec. 1, 2005		\$6,479.00	

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🌿 2005 WNA Membership Dues 🌿

If you haven't paid your 2005 WNA dues, please do so now so we can record you as a member for this year. The list below shows the

paid-up members. Make out your check, payable to "WNA" in the amount of \$15 per household (\$5 per senior citizen household). Dues are tax deductible as a charitable contribution so it's a win-win for all of us. You may also mail or drop your check in Chuck's mailbox: 914 Westminister Street.

2005 WNA Current Paid Members

- Anderson, Todd
- Ballestero, Marcos & Sandra
- Baxter, Chuck
- Bell, Simon
- Blackwell, Emmanuel
- Bond, Keith
- Brower, Jacqueline
- Clarke, Rosalyn
- Crumm, Leonard & Lofton, Moses
- Dailey, Kevin
- Dittrich, Charles
- Donelan, Clare
- Douglas, Elberta
- Dunavant, Reid
- Edwards, Charles & Doris
- Fautroy, Lisa
- Fautroy, Mike
- Frimpomaah, Sophia
- Gause, Tarik & Sachiko
- Geller, Michael & Philip Fornaci
- Green, Harold & Annie
- Grimes, Lori A.
- Hames, Lamont O.
- Hardy, Paul & Patty Anderson
- Hightower, Betty
- Jett, Carole
- Johnson, Loretta
- Johnson, Lynn
- Jordan, M. William & Sharon
- Joyner, Otis
- Laws, Bill
- Luongo, Stephanie & Ben Crawford
- Mack, Tim & Patsy & David
- Marchand, Anne
- McGhee, Amoy
- Meyer, Kerry
- Meyer, Misa
- Ntim, Brenda

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Oakley, Suleika
Ousley, Susan, Marquan, Andre, Sarah & Bruhier,
Stillman
Pascua, Nichole
Pearson, Jay & John Castellani
Perko, Margie
Plant, Timothy J
Poncy, Jane & Chip
Puentes, Juan de la Vega & Ruben Ramos
Rawlings, James Mott
Rubin, Nilmini and Joel
Ruest, Matthew, Koratich, Chad
Seaver, Geoff & Lucia
Shand, Tania
Shannon, Tim & Paige Van Wirt
Smith, George
Tompkins, Jeffrey W.
Weber, Michael & Pollert, Sak
Wendt, Betsy

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Next WNA Meeting

WNA will hold our next regular monthly meeting on Jan 24 (remember, the 4th Tuesday of every month) at 7:00 p.m. at 922 Westminster St., NW (basement). Remember that the WNA officer position is currently open. If you can fill this position, let pres. Lynn Johnson know.



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