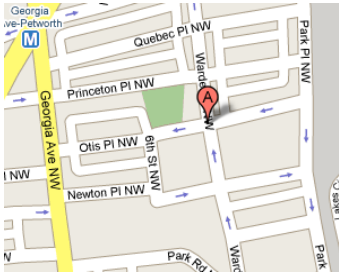


Park View United Neighborhood Coalition (UNC)

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February 2015 Community Newsletter

UNC Monthly Meeting



The United Neighborhood Coalition meets the first Wednesday of every month in the Park View Rec Center. Meetings are free and open to the public.

Wednesday, February 4th

Park View UNC Meeting, 7-8pm

Park View Recreation Center, 693 Otis Pl NW

Agenda

- Introduction
- Officer Reports
- Friends Committee Report
- Speaker: MySchoolDC.org

Have an item for the agenda? Contact the Secretary at 202-450-3871, or email parkviewuncdc@gmail.com

MySchoolDC School Lottery

A representative from myschooldc.org will speak at the next meeting of

the UNC to explain the school lottery process and answer any questions from neighbors. This is the second year of the DC common school lottery, which now includes all schools that are part of the District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) system and most public charter schools. Parents enter the lottery if they wish to enroll in the early childhood programs for children aged 3 and 4, or if they wish to send their children outside their local in-bounds DCPS school for grades K-12.

A parent who went through the lottery process last spring will be there to share his experiences, and a representative from Bruce-Monroe



Elementary at Park View, Park View's neighborhood elementary, will also attend to offer parents information about Park View's in-boundary elementary option.

Minutes of the January Meeting

The meeting commenced at 7:06pm. Six members and two guests were in attendance.

Officers' announcements:

The President and Vice President had no announcements.

The Secretary Announced that the yellow UNC newsletter would no longer be delivered as an insert in the monthly ANC newsletter, and that all 2014 memberships expired on December 31st and invited members to renew in 2015.

Speaker: Metropolitan Police Department (MPD)

Lt. David Augustine, the officer responsible for Police Service Area (PSA) 409 attended the meeting, as well as Commander Wilfredo Manlapaz, the officer responsible for all of 4D.

Lt. Augustine was assigned to PSA 409 in July 2013, and has also worked in the First and Sixth Districts. PSA 409 covers the area between Park Place and Rock Creek Church Road.

Several shootings were reported recently on community email listservs, but Lt. Augustine reported that overall crime is actually down compared with the prior year. There has been a 12 percent drop in crime overall, an 8 percent drop in property crime, and a 33 percent drop in violent crime.

MPD cannot always share information about ongoing investigations with the community. However, Lt. Augustine reported that special crime units have been investigating the recent shootings, light towers have been placed, and patrol areas have been divided into smaller areas

so that more officers can be assigned. He reported that the area seems to have settled down following several arrests.

A community member requested that MPD invite residents of Wards 1 and 5 to any crime meetings convened in Ward 4 to discuss violent crime in the area. The officers agreed, and also invited community members to attend the next police meeting on February 18th at 7pm at the substation at 750 Park Road.

There was a question regarding how and when to use the MPD text-message text message tipline, 50-411.

The officers reported that the tipline is not meant to be used for reporting crimes in progress. Instead, it is meant for tips that might be used to solve serious unsolved crimes (for example if you know who might have caused a homicide, robbery, etc).

Crimes in progress should be reported by calling 911, no matter how small the crime. It is also essential that callers provide a phone number for a call back (the police cannot legally make a stop or search a suspect based solely on an anonymous tip).

Other information for the police not related to a crime in progress or a particular unsolved crime (for example, a house in your area appears to be a hotspot for drug activity) can be reported to Lt. Augustine (202-576-8221, david.augustine@dc.gov) or by calling the local police substation (202-576-7447).

A community member thanked the officers for the consistently professional and courteous behavior of police in this area, and recalled how police arrived quickly to help a homeless man suffering from apparent hypothermia.

Guest Speaker: Brianne Nadeau

Councilmember Brianne Nadeau spoke at the meeting. She had been sworn in the previous Friday and this was her third day in office.

A community member asked Brianne to assist in moving forward two projects promised by government agencies: a streetscape plan from the Department of Transportation, and a phase two modernization from DC Public Schools. Both projects have been proposed but both have stalled. Brianne promised to discuss these at upcoming meetings with DDOT and the Mayor's Office. She said that Bruce Monroe Elementary at Park View was currently the only Ward One School not included in the 5-year capital budget. Brianne announced she hoped to continue to do "coffee talks" with community members one weekend and one weekday per month.

The councilmember has been appointed to three committees:

1. Housing and Community Development
2. Health and Human Services
3. Business and Consumer Regulatory Affairs

Brianne can now be reached at

bnadeau@dccouncil.us

A community member asked if anything could be done about rats in the neighborhood. Various meeting attendees offered advice, including calling 311 to request an inspection of your alley. Department of Public Works will issue warning and fines for improper trash disposal, and Department of Public Health will come and put bait in the alley.

The meeting adjourned 8:05pm.

The UNC is a civic association located in the Park View neighborhood of Washington DC. Membership is free to those who live or own property within the UNC boundary. Join online at www.parkviewunc.org.