

MARCH

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3-C
Government of the District of Columbia

Cathedral Heights

Cleveland Park

McLean Gardens

Woodley Park

MINUTES

March 24, 1980

- A. The meeting was called to order at 8:06 PM, Gary Kopff presiding.
- B. Roll call indicated that all Commissioners were present except Thomas Asher. Mendelson arrived at 8:35 PM. Area residents Dr. Jerold M. Frankel, W.A. Simmons and student Harrison Williams were attending. (attachment)
- C. Verification of notice was established.
- D. Adoption of February 25, 1980 minutes, without correction, was moved and seconded.

A motion carried at this time to deviate from agendas mandated in ANC-3C ByLaws (Article VIII, Section 21) in favor of Chairman Kopff's agenda (attachment).

E. Vice Chairman's Report/Issues

1. March 8 informal meeting: Goldblatt reported that the decision of the Commissioners present at this meeting was to have the 1980 ANC-3C be active within the community as well as reactive to community concerns. The focus is to be primarily at ANC-3C, with a natural follow-through on issues of citywide concern to inter-ANC action. He outlined three fora for ANC action/reaction:
 - a. according to interests of individual single member district Commissioners
 - b. monthly meetings
 - c. committee action
2. Anne Blaine Harrison Institute: Goldblatt reported he'd sent a letter of appreciation to Bob Stumberg for his presentation at the February meeting and forwarded to Mr. Stumberg a document regarding "great weight" of ANC's picked up by Phil Mendelson.

F. Treasurer's Report/Issues

1. Monthly: David Grinnell reported receipt of \$3921.88 quarterly payment from the D.C. Government. March expenditures totalled \$418.94, leaving a balance of \$5570.62 (attachment).
2. FY79 Report: Grinnell presented an account of ANC-3C income and major expenditures for fiscal 1979 (attachment).
3. FY80 Budget: An estimated \$5000.00 will be available for ANC-3C projects until Oct. 1, 1980. Commissioners wish to budget these funds now to obviate hasty disbursements in the fall.

Single Member District Commissioners, 1980-1981

01-Christopher Klose
02-Ruth Haugen
03-Thomas Asher
04-Joe Jeff Goldblat
05-Phil Mendelson

ANC-3C Office
2737 Devonshire Place, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20008
232-2232

06-Kaj Strand
07-Gary Kopff
08-Wilma Martin
09-Patricia Wamsley
10-David Grinnell

Motion carried to approve tentative budget. Ruth Haugen, in response to request for suggestions for appropriate disbursements from Commissioners, asked that favorable consideration be given to an approximately \$250-300 contribution to the Woodley Park Community Association to be applied toward copying costs incurred in research of the Sheraton Park Case.

Some discussion followed concerning the appropriateness of spending ANC-3C funds for SMD^{his} newsletters. Heated discussion ensued revolving around use of each Commissioner's \$25/month allowance for such newsletters and where, if needed, additional funds for expenses incurred in the preparation and distribution of such newsletters should come from. Goldblatt moved that a \$100 ceiling be voted for SMD newsletters, to be debited against Communications Committee's \$5000 proposed budget. Motion carried (Wamsley opposed, Mendelson abstained) with provision that the SMD Commissioner distributing such a newsletter identify his relationship with ANC-3C and coordinate technically with the Communications Committee Chairman (attachment).

G. Secretary's Report/Issues

1. Commissioner Ruth Haugen was nominated to replace Wilma Martin as Commission Secretary. Voted unanimously.
2. It was reported that 1980 ANC-3C expenditure for secretarial services had been \$195 to date.
3. It was established that ANC-3C's required Annual Report, to be the responsibility of the Communications Committee, was to consist simply of a compilation of the year's minutes and Treasurer's Reports. A request was made again of Phil Mendelson to submit the October and November 1979 minutes.

H. Standing Committee Reports

1. Budget/Taxes:

- a. Strand moved that ANC-3C establish a new standing committee on the D.C. Budget and taxes. Motion carried unanimously, with Strand as Chairman. Ruth Haugen suggested that he work closely on these issues with the League of Women Voters, who have a well established involvement therewith. Strand reported that there would be a public forum to discuss the FY80 D.C. Budget sponsored by the D.C. Women's Political Caucus on March 29, 1980 at the District Building.
- b. Kaj Strand submitted reports of the following meetings he'd attended since the last meeting (attachment).
 1. Mayor Barry's address to ANC Commissioners on FY80 D.C. Budget, March 8, 1980.
 2. Burleith Citizens' Association meeting on Property Tax Assessment, March 10, 1980.
 3. D.C. Government Conference at Georgetown Law Center on Income Tax Conformity, March 15, 1980.
- c. Motion carried (Grinnell, Kopff, Strand opposed) for ANC-3C to endorse Joel Garner's March 15 letter to Mayor Barry urging discontinuance of use of operating budget funds for the D.C. Convention Center. Strand was asked to prepare for the April

meeting a more detailed explanation of this issue and, if necessary, a more informed resolution. (attachment)

2. Communications Committee

- a. The Commission voted to delay printing of official ANC-3C stationery for about 3 weeks until SMD-08 vacancy is filled.
- b. Chris Klose distributed mock-up copies of the Spring newsletter and suggested that the readership poll originally planned for inclusion in Spring newsletter be printed and distributed separately. He reported that the Spring issue's feature story would concern the Sheraton Park case and introduced WPCA's Bill Carroll to outline the situation for the Commission and ask for its support: (attachment)

The Sheraton Task Force, composed of the Cleveland Park Citizens' Association, the Woodley Park Community Association, the St. Thomas Apostle Parish Council and 5 ANC-3C Commissioners, has identified a need for 1200 additional parking spaces within the Sheraton facility. Sheraton presently has 691 on-property spaces (instead of the 900 required by a 1964 BZA ruling). BZA ordered both parties to negotiate; Citizens' group compromised down to 950 spaces; Sheraton proposed the possibility of nearly 100 additional underground spaces and reinstated its variance application to decrease the standard 9' X 19' (with 14' access) size of some existing spaces to provide for valet "stack parking," thus bringing its number of spaces to 904. WPCA has filed legal objections to that variance application and Lindsley Williams will testify on their behalf April 2, 1980 that such "stack parking" would be inappropriate for fixed hours functions and thus unacceptable to area residents. The Commission, upon receiving this report from the Chairman, Task Force on the Rebuilding of the Sheraton Park Hotel, on the application of the Washington Sheraton Corporation for a variance from Section 7206 of the D.C. Zoning Regulations (BZA Application 13087), approved testimony of Lindsley Williams opposing application 13087 on the basis that stack parking is unsuitable for convention-type activities (attachment). Mr. Carroll pointed that the Sheraton Park issue demonstrates clearly to citizens:

- a. city's inattention to BZA ruling standards (e.g. building height)
- b. what citizens can accomplish on their own behalf if they're on diligent watch

3. Transportation, Permits and Zoning Committee

- a. 79-1: Residential areas will remain protected from hotel building and expansion. Mixed zones (e.e Wisconsin and Connecticut Aves.), although requiring BZA approval, will have hotels being established as a matter of right.
- b. David Grinnell asked for an April meeting update of the status of the proposed access to the Naval Observatory at Calvert St. and Observatory Circle NW.
- c. Phil Mendelson attended ANC-3F meeting March 10 on traffic problem caused by business and traffic proliferation at Wisconsin Ave. and Van Ness St. NW. Cpt. Spurlock will

investigate area residents' complaints and report back to them at a later date.

- d. Mendelson also reported on an upcoming hearing regarding NBC's variance application to construct new buildings and use existing buildings it owns at 4001 Nebraska Ave. NW (residential) for commercial purposes. Motion carried for ANC-3C to draft a letter, for presentation at that hearing, encouraging the BZA to examine the impact of NBC's proposal on that residential area.
- e. Kopff reported he'd been unsuccessful in having police tow abandoned autos from parking lot in rear of Uptown Theater. It was suggested that he phone Mrs. Shackleton's office (686-5227) for assistance.

4. Crime Prevention

- a. Joe Goldblatt received only one written response, from McLean Gardens, to his letter recruiting local organizations for his area safety coalition.
- b. He reported he'd found an area ad agency willing to do design service free of charge for the safety pamphlet he's planning for May or June. He hopes to start related workshops in September.

5. Education

- a. Strand reported attending Eaton-Hearst Parents' Meeting March 12, 1980. Cpt. Spurlock discussed crimes involving school children (291 since Jan. 1, 1980); the new Block Parent Program was presented (attachment).

6. Housing

- a. Mendelson reported that the City Council will consider rent control on March 27, 1980. He submitted an outline of his proposed testimony and motion carried to discuss and approve it (attachment).
- b. Mendelson will write a letter on behalf of the Commission reprimanding the RAC for failing to respond to his March 4th letter to Jerome Shuman asking for disclosure of Commissioners' attendance records. Without that information, he was unable to prepare possible testimony for confirmation hearings on March 13, 1980. (attachment)
- c. ANC-3F requested that the Department of Housing (DHCD) publish a list of all buildings which have been issued certificates of eligibility for conversion during the past three years and a weekly compendium of current such applicants. Motion for the Commission to endorse this disclosure carried.
- d. Joe Goldblatt's motion for ANC-3C to reconfirm its summer 1979 position in support of Bill 232's legislation outlawing discrimination against families with children in rental housing carried. He will prepare the statement.

5. Human Resources and Aging

- a. Motion carried that the ~~name~~ name of the committee be changed to the Human Services and Aging Committee.
- b. Ruth Haugen moved that ANC-3C endorse transfer of Congress-owned site of the old Providence Hospital to the D.C. Government with the stipulation that the land be used for housing for the elderly within three years or ownership reverts back to Congress. Motion carried (attachment).

I. Special Committees

1. ByLaws: No report was given this month, but Mendelson reiterated his need for Commissioner input into this matter.

J. Other Business

1. ANC-3C-08: Notice was posted in the March 14th D.C. Register of vacancy in this SMD. Interested residents will have until April 17th to submit at least 35 signatures to Room 7 of the District Building to establish eligibility for this Commissioner slot. Motion to have Secretary write and distribute advertisement of this vacancy in 08-district apartment buildings, including one to Hugh Gittinger, carried. Ruth Haugen presented a breakdown of 08-residents' Nov. '79 votes for their Commissioner to supply names of other possible candidates for this position.
 2. Tregaron: The trustee sale has been completed with a bid of \$4 $\frac{1}{2}$ million from a coalition of the Washington International School and a New York development corporation.
 3. Unanimously, Commissioners determined it was inappropriate to have candidates for Democratic delegate appear at the April meeting to identify themselves to Commissioners/residents.
 4. Kopff asked for Commissioner volunteer to attend Office of Consumer Affairs ANC-Consumer Roundtable Meeting on Thursday, March 27, 1980. No interest.
 5. Area resident Mr. Simmons requested that ANC-3C have the D.C. Recreation Department outline area specifically designated for Newark St. garden plots.
- K. The next meeting of ANC-3C will be held on April 28, 1980 at 8 PM at the Second District Police Station.
- L. Meeting adjourned at 11:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted for the Commission

Linda D. Major, Recorder

Approved, as corrected

Ruth Haugen
Ruth Haugen, Secretary

List of attachments to March 24, 1980 Minutes:

1. Attendance registration cards (3)
2. Chairman Kopff's March 24, 1980 agenda (retyped)
3. Monthly Treasurer's Report (March)
4. Fiscal Year 1979 Treasurer's Report
5. Proposed FY80 ANC-3C Budget
6. Strand's reports of meetings attended in March
7. Garner's letter to Mayor Barry re: D.C. Convention Center
8. Spring 1980 ANC-3C newsletter mock-up
9. ~~Lindsley Williams' letter to BZA re: BZA #13087 (Sheraton Park)~~
10. Strand's report on Eaton-Hearst Parents' Meeting
11. Mendelson's letter to RAC requesting Commission Member's attendance records
12. Mendelson's Housing Committee Report
13. Communication from Chair, D.C. Commission on Aging, re: transfer of old Providence Hospital site to D.C. Government for housing for the elderly

* Chairman's Agenda for ANC-3C Meeting March 24, 1980

- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Verification of Notice
- D. Review and Approval of February Minutes
- E. Vice-Chairman's Report/Issues
 - 1. Informal Meeting at Klose home
 - 2. Anne Blaine Harrison Institute
- F. Treasurer's Report
 - 1. Monthly expenses and balances outstanding
 - 2. Quarterly Report to City, Jan-Mar 1980
 - 3. Report of expenses, FY79
 - 4. Proposed Budget, FY80
 - 5. Court's Bill
- G. Secretary's Report/Issues
 - 1. Election of new Secretary
 - 2. Account payable for Linda Major's services
- H. Standing Committees: Reports and Issues
 - 1. Budget and Fiscal Affairs
 - 2. Communications
 - a. Newsletter
 - b. Annual Report-FY79
 - c. Stationery
 - 3. Crime Prevention
 - 4. Housing
 - 5. Human Resources and Aging
 - a. February of Inter-ANC Committee
 - 6. Education
 - 7. Recreation
 - 8. Transportation, Zoning, Permits and Licenses
- I. Special Committees: Reports and Issues
 - 1. ByLaws Committee
- J. Other Matters
 - 1. Successor to Wilma Martin
 - 2. Account Payable-Courts Ouhlahan
 - 3. Appearance request by Democratic slate
 - 4. Consumer Roundtable
- K. Time/Place of next meeting
- L. Adjournment

3

- * Subject to: (1) majority vote to deviate from agenda as mandated in ANC-3C ByLaws (Article VIII, Section 21)
- (2) further deviations, as determined appropriate by the Chair, to accommodate Guest Speakers

TREASURER'S REPORT, ANC-3C

For Month of MAR, 1980

A. Opening Balances

- 1. Checking maintained at NS&T \$ 1939 37
- 2. Savings maintained at NS&T \$ 128 31
- 3. Other maintained at _____ \$ _____

\$ 2067.68

B. Revenues During Month

- 1. D.C. Government \$ 3921.88
- 2. Interest on savings \$ — 0 —
- 3. Other \$ _____

\$ _____

C. Disbursements Made

Total Disbursed \$ 418.97

	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1.			
2.			
3.	Checks # 381 - 6385		
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			

(Additional details posted in Treasury Accounts Book and in Treasury Vouchers, both available for inspection by consulting with the Treasurer)

D. Closing Balances (A + B - C) = (D.1 + D.2)

- 1. Checking \$ 5442.31
- 2. Savings \$ 128.31
- 3. Other \$ _____

\$ 5570.62

Respectfully submitted by

David Grinnell
David Grinnell, Treasurer

Gary J. Kopff, Vice-Treasurer

Date

secretary's copy

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COM. 3-C.

Oct 1 '78 - Oct 1 '79

● CASH ON HAND START OF YEAR \$ 3,982.54

RECEIVED DURING YEAR 17,903.64

CITY ALLOTMENT. 16,724.96.

INTEREST 160.80

OTHER 1,017.00

21,886.18.

(5,040.91)

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

OFFICE RENT 1200.00

TELE. 214.30

POSTAGE & DEL. 153.58

PRINTING & DUP 716.94

CONTRACT SERVICES 1075.43

OFFICE SUPPLIES 880.66

16,845.27.

COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT PROJECT. 16,413.00

NEWSLETTER 1,175.00

OYSTER SCH. 1000.00

EATON SCH. 1500.00

TOT LOT 2500.00

ADDRESSOGRAPH 3000.00

ANN BLANK H. INS. 4700.00

END OF YEAR BAL.

13,875.00

2538.00

discrepancy \$2105.73

432.27

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3-C
FY 80 BUDGET

Cash on hand, October 1, 1979	\$ 432.27	
(+) Revenue (projected for FY 80) *	<u>15,255.23</u>	
(-) Available for expenses, FY 80	15,687.50	15,255.23
(-) Expenses to date (Oct 179 - Feb 80)	(2,288.15)	

Month	Routine	Unusual
October	6153.37	
November	324.47	450
December	350.84	455
January	346.87	
February	<u>207.60</u>	
5-Month Average	276.63	181

(=) Available for expenses, March-September, 1980	<u>13,399.35</u>
(-) Projected routine expenses (March-September) at \$275 per month	(1,925.00)
(=) Available for non-routine expenses (March-Sept)	<u>11,474.35</u>
(-) Projected non-routine expenses (March-Sept)	
• Unusual administrative expenses	(1,500.00)
• Communications (2 newsletters at \$2,500 @)	<u>(5,000.00)</u>
= Available for community enhancement projects	\$ 4,974.35

Categories are suggestions only

	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Functional Sub-Totals
Crime Prevention			830				\$830
Education							830
Housing							830
Human Resources & Aging							830
Recreation							830
Transportation, Zoning, Licenses and Permits							830
Communications							5000
5-Monthly Sub-Totals	\$830	830	830	830	830	830	\$4980

* Excludes interest; assumes withholding by City from FY 80 allocation of amount equal to cash on hand at start of FY 80 (ie \$432.27)

Kaj Strand reported on a meeting held at the D.C. Council Chamber on March 8 for ANC Commissioners at the invitation of Mayor Marion Barry, who described in details the FY80 budget, the reason for the \$93 Mil. deficit, and his plans for meeting this deficit. Approximately 200 ANC commissioners attended, and an animated question and answer period followed the presentation. Mayor Barry wanted input ~~input~~ from the ANC's in budget preparations and had directed his Office of Budget and Revenue to establish a workshop with a representative from each ANC to participate.

He attended the conference on "Income Tax Conformity" held on March 15, 1980, at Georgetown University Law School Center, scheduled by the D.C. Government. After a brief fiscal overview by Mayor Marion Barry a panel of tax experts described the four types of conformity of state (D.C.) income tax with the federal income tax (see Table). Complete and substantial conformity may qualify for federal collection of D.C. income taxes, which could lead to improvement in enforcement procedures, reduction in tax evasion, and increased D.C. tax collection at a lower cost to the D.C. Government. D.C. council members Hilda Mason and Betty Ann Kane were present, and both were in favor of some type of conformity.

He attended on March 10, 1980, the Burleith Citizen's Association meeting at the Gordon Adult Education Center on the subject of property tax assesment. Mr. Jean Oliver, Acting Asst. Director for Assessment and Mr. Charles Fortney, Supervisor, Real Estate Assessment Section, both of D.C. Dept. of Finance and Revenue were present and explained the assessment procedures. This year average increase in assessment of owner occupied residential is 22%, and for Cleveland Park 30.7%. Appeal for factual, and clerical errors, and value questions should be addressed to Board of Equalization before Apr. 15, 1980. Appeal form can be obtained from Polly Shackleton's office, and from D.C. libraries.

Economists often describe four degrees of conformity of state income tax with the federal income tax. In each case, the state must give up some types of control and accept federal definitions in those areas. For example, under complete conformity (sometimes called "piggy-backing"), the state income tax is computed by multiplying the federal income tax due by a fixed percentage set by the state. This means that the state accepts the federal definition of taxable income and the progressive federal tax rate schedule. It also means that any change in the federal tax code could affect state revenue unless the state is able to adjust its fixed percentage. On the other hand, convenience and administrative efficiency are certainly enhanced and it could mean income redistribution, in favor of low, moderate and middle income taxpayers.

The federal government will collect state income taxes at federal expense if certain criteria are met. For example, a sales tax credit is permitted but not a property relief tax credit. At present, no state is permitting the federal government to collect state income tax revenues.

The table below outlines the four types of conformity and their characteristics.

Degree of Conformity	Description of Conformity	Factors under State Control	Federal Collection of Taxes	Number States Using
Complete	Accepts federal income tax liability as base	State sets fixed percentage rate to be applied to base. May define some credits	May qualify	3
Substantial	Accepts federal taxable income as base	State sets rate schedule to be applied to base. May define some credits	May qualify	8
Moderate	Accepts federal definition of adjusted gross income	State defines personal exemptions, deductions, tax rates, and credits	Does not qualify	21
Low	The State code conforms to the federal tax code on a hit or miss basis		Does not qualify	8 plus DC

You Are Invited To A Conference On

INCOME TAX CONFORMITY

Co-Sponsored By

The District of Columbia Government

and

The Harrison Institute for Public Law
Georgetown University Law Center

When:

Saturday
March 15, 1980
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Where:

Georgetown University Law Center
600 New Jersey Avenue, N.W.
Hall 2, First Floor
Parking available at 2nd & G Streets

Featured Speakers:

Mayor Marion Barry
Councilmember John Wilson
Tax Specialists from the D.C. Department
of Finance & Revenue, U.S. Internal
Revenue Service, Advisory Committee
on Intergovernmental Relations, and others

What is Income Tax Conformity:

Income tax conformity means that at least to some extent, the local government's income tax is calculated and/or collected in the same manner as the federal income tax. For example, three states set their income taxes as a simple percentage of the federal tax. This makes it much simpler for the taxpayer and the state; there is only one tax return to calculate. These states could also opt to have the federal government collect the state tax (and charge the state for the cost), but no states have yet done so.

What Are the Issues?

For most states, adoption of the federal tax rates would mean a more progressive tax system than they now have. However, for the District, the federal tax as a base for the local tax may be comparatively regressive. This is not only because of the D.C. rates, but because D.C. has "circuit breakers" for property tax relief built into the current income tax calculations. Such a feature might be lost with full tax conformity.

Another problem relates changes in the federal tax---these changes might result in tax decreases or increases at the local level with resulting complications for the local budget process. At any rate, these issues are effected by the actual degree of conformity being considered: See the chart on the opposite page.

Degrees of Tax Conformity

Degree of Conformity	Description of Conformity	Factors under State Control	Federal Col-lection of Taxes	Number States Using
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Moderate	Accepts federal definition of adjusted gross income	State defines personal exemp-tion, deduc-tions, tax rates, and credits	Does not qualify	21
Low	The State code conforms to the federal tax code on a hit or miss basis		Does not qualify	8 plus DC

Purpose of the Conference

This conference is intended to lead to a decision by the Mayor on which type of conformity is in the best interests of D.C. citizens. Therefore, extensive participation at this time is welcome and sought...and important. Comments and questions from interested citizens and experts are invited throughout the conference, but the last part of the program is an Open Forum. If you would like to present your views during that portion of the conference, please reserve time by calling Naomi Glass, 727-6135.

AGENDA

10:00 a.m.	Registration Fiscal Overview of the D.C. Government
10:30 a.m.	Approaches to Conformity of D.C. Income Tax with Federal Income Tax: - Overview of Tax Collection under Conformity - Complete Conformity - Substantial Conformity - Moderate Conformity - Other Alternatives
11:45 a.m.	Panel Discussion with Questions from the Audience
12:45 p.m.	Lunch
1:15 p.m.	<u>Workshops</u> : (I) Tax Collection Alternatives under Conformity; (II) Impact on Local Control under Conformity; (III) Analysis of Economic Impact of Various Approaches to Conformity
3:30 p.m.	<u>Open Forum</u> : 5-10 minute presentations by experts and citizens - Share your views with your government - Help form your government's position

*Sandwiches, at about \$2.00 each, can be ordered on the day of the conference, up to 10:30 a.m. -- or, you are welcome to bring a bag lunch.

*To reserve time to give your views during the Open Forum, call Naomi Glass, 727-6135

---there is no registration charge---

March 15, 1980

Dear Rick,


Did you know that there is \$20 million in this year's operating budget for the D.C. Convention Center?

Amidst all the hoopla of the financial crisis, the Mayor and the City Council have refused to acknowledge this glaringly inappropriate budget item. Even the supporters of the Convention Center can agree that capital costs belong in the capital budget.

The enclosed letter has been drafted by a citywide group which hopes that broad based support will force the Mayor and City Council to at least address this issue. Since time is short, I urge you to sign the letter by checking the enclosed postcard and returning it to me. Titles will be used for identification purposes only.

With your support we can turn the Mayor and Council around.

Sincerely,


Joel Garner

AN OPEN LETTER TO MAYOR BARRY AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Dear Mayor Barry and Councilmembers:

As we are all painfully aware, the City is experiencing a serious financial crisis. The estimates of the size of the deficit have grown from \$29 million a month ago to \$175 million today. It also appears that we will continue to have budget difficulties in future years due to rapidly growing Metro subsidies, the continued postponement of financial obligations from one year to the next, and the growth in interest payments on our outstanding long term debt. It is estimated for example, that the District will owe the U.S. Treasury close to \$3 billion by FY 1985 thus requiring a yearly payment of \$240 to \$250 million from the operating budget to service this debt. The true proportions of this obligation can only be comprehended when it is compared to the \$120 million the District paid for debt service in FY 1979.

Proposals now have been circulated concerning the method by which this deficit in the FY 1980 budget will be closed. The plan involves cuts in the current operating budget of \$26 million; a supplemental request from Congress of \$61 million; postponement in the refunding of \$40 million in revenues collected from the professional tax until FY 1981; and tax increases of \$20 million in FY 1980 and \$90 million in FY 1981. It is reported that neither residential property taxes nor the income tax will be increased. However, because of inflation, the burden of both these taxes will increase. In fact, the District probably will not reduce the property tax rate this year because of the budgetary crisis. Property tax rates were reduced in prior years when assessments increased due to inflation.

What is so disturbing to us about the various proposals is that they do not address the cause of our long term financial difficulties as mentioned above. For example, they do not mention the \$35 million municipal office building and one of the largest and perhaps most unpopular, public works projects ever proposed by the District of Columbia, the \$100 million convention center. Few realize that \$22 million for the convention center has been, or will be, obligated from the current operating budget to purchase land for the project. We are asked to pay more taxes and to accept a cut in services, including education, in part to pay for the convention center. Both of these projects will add \$112 million to our outstanding debt at a cost of \$10 to \$11 million per year for 30 years in interest payments. This \$330 million will come out of future operating budgets. It is clear that we can no longer afford the luxury of these two projects. With the completion of the Sheraton-Washington's 100,000 sq. ft. convention center, it amounts to fiscal irresponsibility to build another one at taxpayers expense.

The convention center has never been popular with the citizens of the District of Columbia both because of its location in the middle of the "old city" and because it was considered to be an unwise subsidy to the hotel industry. Sixteen-thousand voters signed petitions requesting a referendum on the project last year. The issue is now stalled before the D.C. Court of Appeals. The Court accepted the case on an expedited basis last summer and oral argument was presented in November. We hope the Court will issue an opinion on our right to a public vote on the convention center before it is built.

Because the Court of Appeals has not rendered a decision concerning a referendum on the convention center, we urge you to stop the expenditure of public funds on this project until we get a decision and until an assessment can be made of the seriousness of our financial problems. We have a "freeze" on hiring, travel and consulting contracts. There should be a "freeze" on the convention center before proposing any additional taxes on the already heavily taxed residents of the District. At the very least, if this policy option is not adopted, steps should be taken to obtain approval from Congress to shift the funding of the convention center to the capital budget. Construction projects should never be financed out of operating budgets but especially when it means cutting city services and increasing taxes.

Sincerely,

ANC NEWSLETTER
 SPRING 1980

The ANC and You. The Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) is the basic unit of representative government in Washington. The 35 ANCs, of which 3C is the largest, ^{- word III} were set up by the City Council in 1976 to promote individual participation in local government as well as to advise the Council on matters of citywide interest and concern. ANC commissioners are elected for two year terms and they serve without pay. Each represents approximately 2,000 residents in his or her immediate neighborhood, known as Single Member Districts ^{((SMDs))}. In addition to working on such ~~neighborhood~~ ⁹ neighborhood concerns as street lighting or parking and traffic control, the commissioners together strive to accurately reflect the attitudes of their combined constituencies on such broad issues as housing, hotel expansion, zoning, taxation, etc., and to shape City policies and legislation accordingly. Although commissioners work on a strictly voluntary basis, their activities are funded from the City's general tax revenues. Each ANC budget includes a certain amount for expenditures on locally based programs.

ANC 3C. The communities of Cathedral Heights, Cleveland Park, McLean Gardens and Woodley Park comprise ANC 3C, which is bounded roughly by Connecticut Avenue, the Zoo and Rock Creek in the east and south, curves around the old Naval Observatory to Glover Archbold park on the west and runs to ~~the~~ ⁹ Van Ness, Upton and Tilden Streets in the north. There are approximately 20,000 residents, of whom 25 percent are over the age of 65 - the largest concentration of Senior Citizens in Washington. Points of interest include the National Cathedral, the Zoo and former Presidential houses; three major hotels, several public and private schools, a branch library, numerous churches, embassies and chanceries. The area is served by several fire stations and the Second District Headquarters of the Metropolitan Police Department

Your ANC Representative. Christopher Klose (SMD 01), 2750 Woodley Place, is a senior editor for a government agency. A resident of Woodley Place for two years, he is interested in traffic congestion and parking, crime prevention and neighborhood beautification. He also serves as Secretary/Treasurer of the Woodley Place Elm Association *and is a member of the Sheraton Park Negotiating Committee.*

Ruth Haugen (SMD 02), 2800 Woodley Road, a career social worker, is serving her third term on ANC 3C. She is particularly interested in the areas of ~~public housing, education, and~~ human resources and the aging and serves on several committees ~~dealing~~ *with those issues.* She also ~~manages the apartment~~ *is a member of* contributes a great deal of time and energy to the Woodley Park Community Association's Sheraton Park Negotiating Committee, ~~of which she is a member.~~

Thomas Asher (SMD 03),

Joe Jeff Goldblatt (SMD 04), 2701 Cortland Place, is an actor and theatrical, film and television producer, who, with his wife, Nancy, a professional ~~mime~~ Mime artist, are the proud parents of Max Darwin, age 4 months. His interests include discrimination against children in rental housing, zoning issues in Woodley Park and crime prevention. He is setting up a coalition of citizens, business people, civic associations and government to be known as "Help Your Neighbor" *which will deal with the crime issue.*

Phil Mendelson (SMD 05),

Kaj Strand (SMD 06), 3202 Rowland Place, is a ~~retired~~ former Director of the U.S. Naval Observatory who has been a resident of ANC 3C since ~~1958~~ 1958. An astronomer and educator, he has been a consultant to the National Science Foundation and a Professor of Astronomy at Northwestern University and the University of Chicago. He is particularly interested in budgetary matters and serves as the ANC's representative to the Mayor's Office ~~concerning the District's budget.~~ concerning the District's budget.

Gary Kopff (SMD 07), 2939 Newark Street, is a management consultant with the worldwide firm of McKinsey & Company. He is Chairman of ANC 3C and also is a member of the Board of the Harrison Institute for Public Law at Georgetown Law ~~and~~ School. His wife, Judy, who works for the General Accounting Office, and he have recently finished ~~and~~ renovating their Tudor-style home.

VACANCY (SMD 08) Wilma Martin, former ~~representative~~ representative for SMD 08 resigned recently for personal reasons. The ANC is actively seeking to replace her and would welcome someone who is interested in taking on a worthwhile, challenging volunteer position.

Patricia Wamsley (SMD 09),

David Grinnell (SMD 10), 2603 36th. Place, is serving his ~~second~~ second full term as ~~Commissioner~~ Commissioner. He has acted ~~as~~ as Treasurer for the ANC for the past four years and is searching for a candidate to replace him upon the expiration of his current term in 1982.