

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3C GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

CATHEDRAL HEIGHTS • CLEVELAND PARK MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE HEIGHTS MCLEAN GARDENS • WOODLEY PARK

Single Member District Commissioners 01-Lee Brian Reba; 02-Gwendolyn Bole; 03-David Valdez 04- Vacant; 05- Margaret Siegel; 06-Carl Roller 07- Victor Silveira; 08-Catherine May; 09-Nancy MacWood 3601 Connecticut Avenue, NW Suite L-06 Washington, DC 20008 Website http://www.anc3c.org Email all@anc3c.org

ANC 3C Resolution No. 2015-008 Regarding DDOT Public Space Permit (Application # 102250) for additional signage at 3401 38th Street NW

WHEREAS, Vaughan Place at McLean Gardens ("The Applicant") has applied for a Public Space Permit, DDOT Tracking Number 102250 ("The Application");

WHEREAS, the Application describes the work to be performed in Public Space as:

- 1. Installation of six new directional signs, with the text "LEASING" and a directional arrow above "VAUGHAN PLACE AT McLEAN GARDENS", with one to be placed at the intersection of Porter and 38th Street NW, two at the north entrance to the Applicant's parking lot on 38th Street NW, one at the intersection of Newark and 38th Street NW, one at the intersection of Newark Street NW and Idaho Avenue NW, and one at the intersection of Idaho Avenue NW and Wisconsin Avenue NW (Sign Type C on pages 12-14 and 16 of the Construction Documents dated Jan. 12, 2015);
- 2. Installation of two new property signs, with the text "VAUGHAN PLACE AT McLEAN GARDENS", to be placed at the south entrance to the Applicant's property on 38th St NW (**Sign Type D** on pages 15 and 17-19 of the Construction Documents dated Jan. 12, 2015);
- 3. Installation of two directional signs, with the text "LEASING" and a directional arrow, onto the end pillars of an existing stonework wall at either side of Porter Street NW where it intersects with Wisconsin Ave NW (Sign Type B on pages 6-7 and 9-11 of the Construction Documents dated Jan. 12, 2015);

WHEREAS, the Application also describes work to be performed within the Applicant's property line, specifically alterations and additions to existing signage on an existing stonework wall that borders Wisconsin Avenue NW (**Sign Type A** on pages 5-8 of the Construction Documents dated Jan. 12, 2015);

WHEREAS, ANC3C understands that Sign Type A is not within the scope of review by the Public Space Committee as it is within the Applicant's property line;

WHEREAS, ANC3C has been informed that many members of the community have expressed strong concerns and objections concerning the changes contemplated the Application and the potential damage they could cause to the existing stonework wall, and that more than 175 residents have signed a petition to that effect;

WHEREAS, the existing stonework wall:

- a) dates back to the Friendship Estate, which was built in 1898;
- b) has many features that date back to 1898, such as a lion's head fountain and horse trough;

- c) was part of the Defense Home Corporation's design of the community in 1942 when many of the current buildings were developed as housing for wartime defense workers; and,
- d) the name "McLean Gardens" (as represented in the existing plaques on the stonework wall) was incorporated in the plans of the Defense Home Corporation's architect.

WHEREAS, the proposed changes to the existing stonework wall would substantially change the character and style of an historic gateway into the neighborhood;

WHEREAS, members of the community and representatives of a neighboring homeowners association (the McLean Gardens Homeowners Association located at 3811 Porter Street NW) have met with the Applicant and reached an agreement in principle, which has not yet been ratified, and the terms of that agreement are:

- a) the homeowners association would support the Applicant's request for the six new directional signs (Sign Type C, including the proposed "Leasing" language) and the two new property signs (Sign Type D);
- b) the Applicant would refrain from making any changes to the existing stonework wall (Sign Types A and B); and,
- c) members of the community and the Applicant would work together in nominating the existing stonework wall for designation as an historic object;

WHEREAS, ANC3C recognizes the efforts by the Applicant to engage with the community and supports the continuing efforts to reach a compromise, but notes that an agreement has not been ratified as of this Resolution's consideration:

BE IT RESOLVED, ANC3C objects to the Application as it proposes changes, some of which are substantial, to the streetscape of the community, and those changes are the subject of ongoing discussions between the Applicant and the community;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, ANC3C objects to the proposed Sign Type B as they would change and possibly cause permanent damages to the pillars, which are part of the stonework wall that marked a boundary of the original Friendship Estate, were preserved during the McLean Gardens development, and, as part of the stonework wall, are eligible for landmark consideration and there is community interest in filing for such a designation;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Commissioner representing SMD 3C06 and the Chair or their designees are authorized to represent the commission on this matter.

Attested by

Carl Roller

Chair, on February 17 2015

This resolution was approved by a roll-call vote of 6-0, on February 17, 2015 at a scheduled and noticed public meeting of ANC 3C at which a quorum (a minimum of 5 of 8 commissioners) was present.