

**16th Street Neighborhood Association
General Meeting Minutes
October 4, 2016**

Twelve neighbors attended the meeting at Simpson-Hamline Church.

Old Business:

Attendees approved the draft meeting minutes for the September 2016 meeting.

Jack reminded neighbors that one year ago, in October 2015, neighbors elected the current executive officers of the association for the purpose of restarting the neighborhood association after several years of inactivity. In accordance with our bylaws, we plan to hold an election for new board members at the December general membership meeting. Jack encouraged neighbors to run for an executive office because growing the association depends on participation by new board members.

New Business:

Garbage Cans: There was a short discussion about potential ticketing by the city for keeping garbage cans in the alley or on the sidewalk outside the time window for garbage pickup, which is 6:30 PM on Tuesday through 8:00 PM on Wednesday.

Guest Parking Passes: Jack reminded a neighbor that guest parking passes are no longer automatically mailed to residents but must be requested through the city's online services website or by calling 311.

Halloween Party: The association is not sponsoring the party on Buchanan Street NW this year. However, there was some discussion of holding a holiday social event.

Treasurer Report: Susie reported on recent financial transactions for the association. During September, one household joined the association by paying dues of \$30. Additionally, checks were issued to cover expenditures of \$1,075.16 for our website's hosting fees (www.ssna-dc.org), block party expenses, newsletter costs, and postage. The ending balances in our accounts at the time of the meeting were \$2,195.89 (checking account) and \$5 in the savings account. **WE HOPE MORE NEIGHBORS WILL PAY DUES SO THAT WE HAVE THE FINANCIAL RESOURCES TO HOLD MORE EVENTS!** To pay your dues, drop off a check written to 16th Street Neighborhood Association to 1501 Varum Street NW.

Speaker Presentation:

Cathy Reilly, who is the Executive Director of the Senior Alliance of Parents, Principals and Educators, shared information on the process for hiring a new School Chancellor to replace Kaya Henderson.

The process, which is fairly new, began with the Mayor's selection of a hiring committee that has

interviewed candidates and recommends the top candidates to the Mayor and Council. (Note that the Chancellor now reports directly to the Mayor.) The hiring committee has seventeen members including six parents, one school principal, one student, two teachers, the teacher union's president, and other community leaders. The co-chairs are Patricia McGuire, president of Trinity Washington University, and Gina Adams, a VP at FedEx.

This committee developed candidate selection criteria and DCPS priorities for the new Chancellor based partly on community feedback obtained at three meetings held in August and September. It listened to community concerns about the large educational assessment gap among DCPS students and the need for a Chancellor who is an experienced good teacher. Additionally, some parents want the Chancellor to expand the current educational experience to include the arts and educational needs beyond the basics covered by the assessment exams.

The selection criteria developed by the committee are reflected in the job announcement available at www.dcpsrising.dc.gov. The Mayor makes the final decision on which candidate is hired but the Council must approve her selection within 90 days of her decision. Before the Council vote, David Grosso's Council Committee plans to hold a public hearing on the Mayor's candidate. Ms. Reilly anticipates that the Mayor may announce her selection sometime this month.

In response to questions, Ms. Reilly described the Superintendent of Education, who primarily focuses on testing issues and the licensing of charter schools, as having a more limited role than the Chancellor. About 45% of D.C. children attend charter schools.