

Meeting summary for Woodridge Civic Association - 2024 meeting (01/07/2025)

Quick recap

The Woodridge Civic Association held its first meeting of 2025, discussing various community updates, upcoming events, and strategic planning. The meeting covered topics such as neighborhood maintenance, local government updates, community initiatives, and safety concerns. Members also introduced new commissioners, addressed historical aspects of the area, and explored ways to improve community engagement and address ongoing issues.

Next steps

- Jeremiah to send out a summary of upcoming events and information links, especially for Saturday's activities, by tomorrow.
- Jeremiah to provide a link for information about the Taylor Street and safe streets agenda for Saturday's meeting.
- Jeremiah to work on getting the strategic plan details out to members.
- Jeremiah to organize executive meetings to discuss the strategic plan and bring pieces back to the membership for input.
- Woodridge Civic Association to develop a cohesive approach to community interests and concerns.
- Jeremiah to invite MPD representatives to the next meeting to discuss recent crime patterns and address community safety concerns.
- Jeremiah to follow up with the new commander and Assistant Chief Altieri regarding traffic safety issues at Queen's Chapel and Channing Street.
- Jeremiah to investigate the bike lane issue at Bryant Street and 18th Street, as reported by Ms. Faulkner.
- Jeremiah to look into the status of the unfinished apartment/condo building at Channing and 20th Street.
- Commissioner Francis to address the abandoned property issue at Channing and 20th Street.

- Jeremiah to follow up on the status of the Woodridge Recreation Center project.
 - Jeremiah to prioritize and map out the community's to-do list, including the restoration of Woodridge gateway signs.
 - Carol Fleming to share original Woodridge Civic Association handbooks with Jeremiah for scanning and archiving.
 - Anthony to bring boxes of historical documents to Jeremiah.
 - Jeremiah to alert new ANC commissioners about ongoing community issues and request updates on unresolved matters.
 - Woodridge Civic Association to engage in fundraising activities for future projects and commemorations.
 - Roberta to assist with fundraising efforts for the Civic Association.
 - Woodridge Civic Association members to pay their dues if they haven't already done so.
 - Civic Association to monitor progress on the abandoned property and consider drafting a resolution if no action is taken within a reasonable timeframe.
 - Civic Association to draft resolutions addressing unresolved community issues and forward them to the city government and responsible agencies.
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Summary

Snowstorm, Tributes, AI, Trump, Panama

The transcript discusses several topics, including the ongoing efforts to clear neighborhood streets after a snowstorm, tributes to the late President Jimmy Carter as his body lies in state at the U.S. Capitol, allegations that the perpetrator of a recent attack in Las Vegas used AI to plan the incident, and comments made by former President Donald Trump regarding potential U.S. control over the Panama Canal and Greenland. The summary also mentions a judge temporarily blocking the release of a special counsel's investigation report related to Trump and the President-elect facing sentencing in a criminal case.

Strategic Plan Discussion and Updates

Jeremiah procrastinated on completing the outline for the strategic plan, leading to last-minute panic. Sandra's guests from Philadelphia could not attend due to the weather.

Roberta joined the call after returning from a work trip to Spain and shared that she has several upcoming work events, including one in Tanzania. The meeting aims to discuss the strategic plan without dragging on for too long.

Inviting Camilla and ANC Commissioners

The meeting discusses inviting a person named Camilla to join the call. After some confusion over her contact details, John successfully sends her an invitation email. Jeremiah mentions two new ANC Commissioners, Sasha and someone else, will be attending. As the meeting starts at 6:40pm, Jeremiah wants to get things going but encounters some technical difficulties.

Woodridge Civic Association Meeting Kickoff

Jeremiah welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Woodridge Civic Association for 2025. The meeting was held virtually due to safety concerns. Jeremiah confirmed that the meeting was being recorded and transcribed by AI for future reference. The agenda included updates from the Council member's office and business reports. Melissa from the Council member's office provided updates, including the start of a new Council period and new committee assignments. She also mentioned ongoing efforts to escalate plowing requests and address a block in Langdon that was missing from the snow plowing tracker. John Hampton asked about a homelessness case, which Melissa agreed to follow up on. The conversation ended with Jeremiah moving on to the business reports.

Membership Payments and New Commissioners

Jeremiah discussed the electronic portal for membership payments and the option to mail checks or money orders. He also mentioned the annual dues of \$50 for the DC Federation of Civic Associations. The group agreed to send the payment to Mr. Battle. Jeremiah also introduced the new Commissioner for 5C02, Sasha Francis, and welcomed Shawn Nelson, the newly elected Commissioner for 5C04. Carlos, the President of Woodbridge South, expressed his goal of bringing the community together under one umbrella. Charles Jones, from Brentwood, also participated in the meeting.

Upcoming Events and Initiatives Discussed

Jeremiah discussed several upcoming events and initiatives. He highlighted an exhibit at the Martin Luther King Jr. Library, called the Green Book, which showcases the challenges

faced by non-white citizens in the US during the 1940s. He also mentioned a public meeting about the modernization of the boroughs, scheduled for May 9th. Additionally, he announced a book sale by the Friends of the Woodridge Library and an open house by Ddot to discuss transportation improvements. Jeremiah also introduced a new feature on their website, a 61 points of interest map, and announced the 70th anniversary of the Woodridge Civic Association. Lastly, he mentioned a community project in collaboration with the DC Public Library and Dch [history.org](https://www.history.org), and the planning of a spring walking tour.

Strategic Plan for Woodridge Civic Association

Jeremiah discussed the strategic plan for the Woodridge Civic Association, outlining its purpose, goals, and implementation. He emphasized the importance of a shared vision, stakeholder involvement, and community engagement. Jeremiah also highlighted the need for fundraising and membership growth, with a focus on increasing outreach and securing grants. He mentioned the possibility of separating the board into an entity with greater oversight of the vision and mission execution. The plan is designed to be a living document, with reporting and reviews every year. Jeremiah encouraged everyone to participate and contribute to the organization's growth and success.

Addressing Community Concerns and Resources

Jeremiah discussed the importance of reflecting the community's interests and developing a cohesive, visionary approach to address diverse concerns. He emphasized the need to leverage resources from adjacent and other communities to address issues like safe streets and bike lanes. Jeremiah also mentioned plans for executive meetings and discussions with neighbors to gather input. Sandra requested a follow-up summary of the meeting, particularly regarding the hot topic of Taylor Street and safe streets. Carol, who identified herself as Carol Fleming, brought up the historical area known as Sherwood, which was discussed by Jeremiah. The conversation ended with Jeremiah mentioning the conversion of a church into a condo building and the history of the colored school.

Woodridge Civic Association Meeting Summary

In the meeting, Carol shared her original handbook copies from the Woodridge Civic Association's early days and offered to exchange information. Jeremiah expressed appreciation and mentioned that he would scan and archive the copies. The discussion also touched on the Woodridge Visitor Center project and a study funded by a grant. The new ANC Commissioners, including 5C02, were introduced and their respective areas

were discussed. Lisa suggested inviting the MPD to future meetings to discuss patterns of robberies and other safety concerns. Jeremiah agreed to send out more details and put additional information on the Woodridge Civic Association's website. The conversation ended with a discussion about a recent bicycle fatality at Channing and Queen's Chapel.

Addressing Nuisances and Improving Infrastructure

In the meeting, Jeremiah discussed the need to address the issue of the unfinished building on Channing and 20th Street, which has become a nuisance and a safety hazard. He also mentioned the need to restore the Woodridge gateway signs and improve the bike lanes on Bryant Street. Jeremiah committed to looking into these issues and promised to update the team. Camilla raised a concern about the proximity of the bike lane bar to the corner of 18th and Bryant, which could cause traffic issues when the new school opens. Jeremiah agreed to investigate this issue. The team also discussed the need for better communication with the city government and the importance of holding them accountable for unresolved issues.

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