

Meeting Summary for Woodridge Civic Association - 2024, 2025 meeting

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Quick recap

The Woodridge Civic Association held its monthly meeting to discuss several key community issues. The association reviewed the treasurer's report, which showed a current balance of \$1,865.17, and discussed plans for fundraising initiatives including a silent auction. Members expressed concerns about a proposed one-way conversion of Evarts Street from 18th to 20th, with Sandy Wojhan presenting detailed opposition arguments. The group also received updates from Councilmember Parker's office regarding tax decoupling issues and the Reimagining Rhode Island Avenue Task Force. Additionally, concerns were raised about the Woodridge (Langdon) Recreation Center's delayed modernization project, with the community seeking more input on programming and access. The conversation ended with a discussion of upcoming Comprehensive Plan sessions and a new bill regarding mayors ability to pressure zoning changes to achieve housing development goals.

Next steps

- [Leroy: Send Zelle account information and PO Box details for dues payment in the chat and/or to interested members.](#)
- [Ad-Hoc Fundraising Committee: Schedule next committee meeting within the next week to finalize venue, conduct inventory of potential auction items, and form a subcommittee for business outreach for silent auction event \(targeting late spring/early summer\).](#)
- [Ms. Brown: Continue outreach to local businesses \(including the museum\) to solicit donations \(e.g., gift certificates, hoodies\) for the silent auction and Civic Association promotional items; update the group when more information is available.](#)
- [All interested members: Volunteer for the Ad-Hoc Fundraising Committee by contacting Leroy or Ms. Brown.](#)
- [Sandy Wojan: Distribute two-page flyer with details and instructions for submitting NOI \(Notice of Intent\) comments regarding Evarts Street changes; encourage members to submit individual comments by March 16th.](#)
- [Sandy Wojan: Collect and circulate petition for Model Cities and Green Valley Apartments regarding Evarts Street; assist seniors in completing petitions and comments as needed.](#)

- [Jeremiah/Sandy Wojan: Post contact information for submitting comments on Evarts Street NOI \(including Scott Clark's email for DGS property comments\) on the Woodridge website.](#)
- [All interested members: Attend Model Cities town hall and/or upcoming DDOT presentation on Evarts Street changes; await announcement of final date from Ms. Mack.](#)
- [All interested members: Sign up for email list to receive updates on Evarts Street, Landing Rec Center, and firehouse issues; provide email addresses if not already on the list.](#)
- [All interested members: Submit comments or attend upcoming BZA hearing regarding 1908 Irving Street NE conversion; Jeremiah to post hearing dates and details on website.](#)
- [All interested members: Attend DC Comprehensive Plan rewrite sessions \(March 18 and March 21 at King Library\) and participate in planning process.](#)
- [All interested members: Submit nominations for Ward 5 awards by this Friday via \[ward5.us/nominate\]\(http://ward5.us/nominate\).](#)
- [All interested members: Apply for the Rhode Island Avenue Task Force via link in Ward 5 newsletter.](#)
- [Lisa/Community: Continue advocacy and communication with DPR and Councilmember's office regarding Landing Rec Center rebuild/funding, including providing feedback via the open budget survey.](#)
- [Jeremiah: Post relevant meeting slides and information on the Woodridge website by tomorrow.](#)

Summary

Woodridge Civic Association Monthly Meeting

The meeting began with technical difficulties regarding audio and scheduling confusion, including a discussion about a canceled meeting and rescheduling issues. Jeremiah opened the Woodridge Civic Association's regular monthly meeting at 6:35 PM on March 3rd, welcoming both in-person and online attendees. The meeting started with two additions to the: 1) a BZA case regarding 1908 Irving Street Northeast seeking a special exception, and 2) the upcoming DC2050 Phase 2 comp plan workshops. The meeting was in progress with plans to discuss the Treasurer's Reports. There the Treasurer provided specific details of that report in the slide deck but shared and recorded.

Treasurer's Report and Fundraising Plans

Leroy presented the Treasurer's report showing the current balance of \$1,865.17, with one \$30 dues payment received from Ms. Earthlee Moss. The meeting discussed how to pay dues, with Leroy (Treasurer) confirming that Zelle payments can be made electronically using the QR-Code or mailed to a PO Box 80101. The amounts are \$10 for individuals and \$15 for families.

The Ad-Hoc Fundraising committee reported meeting in February to plan a silent auction tentatively scheduled for late spring/early summer, requiring approximately 25-30 items for bidding, including rare books, artwork, and business gift certificates.

Civic Association Merchandise and Auction (Promotions)

The meeting focused on promoting the Civic Association through merchandise and a silent auction. Ms. Browne discussed plans to obtain donations from local businesses, including the Museum, for auction items and promotional materials like T-shirts and keychains.

From the DCFCA, Jeremiah provided an update on ranked choice voting, explaining that the Board of Elections is conducting outreach presentations to educate the public about the new voting system, which will be implemented in the upcoming primary elections.

Community Concerns Over One-Way Street

Sandi Wojhan presented concerns about a DDOT Notice of Intent (NOI) to convert Evarts Street to a permanent one-way street 24/7, affecting streets within a 350-foot boundary around Langdon's Elementary School. She highlighted issues including reduced parking spaces, potential interference with the Model Cities Senior Wellness Center, and lack of community consultation before the proposal was made public.

Ms. Wojahn encouraged attendees to submit individual comments on the NOI by March 16th and consider signing a petition, while also distributing detailed information about the proposal for further review.

Evarts Street One-Way Proposal

The meeting focused on a discussion about a dDOT proposed one-way street change and community feedback. Ms. Wojahn confirmed that Evarts currently has one-way restrictions during early morning and evening hours. Residents were encouraged to submit comments and alternatives through the official petition process.

The group learned that DDOT would not participate in the next day's Model Cities town hall meeting, with rescheduling planned for later in the week.

Melissa Littlepage, representing Councilmember Parker's office, provided updates about the NOI process being covered in the Ward 5 weekly newsletter for over a month. She also announced that Ward 5 awards nominations were open with a deadline of Friday.

Community Development and Project Updates

Ms. Littlepage provided updates on several key issues affecting the community. Regarding tax decoupling. She explained that while Congress has overturned local tax changes, there are ongoing uncertainties about implementation, with the Chief Financial Officer yet to provide clarity.

Ms. Littlepage announced applications for the Reimagining Rhode Island Avenue Task Force, which aims to revitalize the corridor from 13th Street NE to Eastern Avenue.

The community expressed concerns about the planned Langdon Recreation Center, with residents preferring a delay to ensure community needs are properly addressed rather than rushing the project.

Jeremiah also informed attendees about DGS's intent to purchase property at 2715-2725 22nd Street NE and discussed a Board of Zoning Adjustment application for converting a single-family home to an 8-unit building on 1908 Irving Street NE.