

www.LRCADC.org

“A Community Newsletter” —LRCA, P.O. Box 60272, Washington, DC 20039 (202)930-5473

LRCA OFFICERS

President
Uchenna Evans

1st Vice President
Gwen Cofield
202-832-0660

2nd Vice President
Barbara Rogers
202-904-1027

Treasurer
Iyanna Ndomale
202-573-9467

Recording Secretary
Helen Li

Corresponding Secretary
Vandalia Joyner-Taylor

Financial Secretary
Sheila King
863-648-4651

Parliamentarian
Deborah Grimstead

Trustees:
Thomas Blanton
Lauren Boyd
Charon Hines
Linda Hodges
LaRoya Huff
Olga Naidenko
Sarah Shank
Tanya Slade
Lisa Wray

ANC 4B07
Geoff Bromaghim
4b07@anc.dc.gov

ANC 4B08
Alison Brooks
4b08@anc.dc.gov

ANC 4B09
LaRoya Huff
4b09@anc.dc.gov

ANC 5A01
Frank Wilds
202-635-6215
ANC 5A08
Gordon Fletcher
5a08@anc.dc.gov

Yahoo Group:
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/LamondRiggsCommunity>

Online at:
www.LRCADC.org
Phone: 202-930-5473
Email: info@lrcadc.org

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings Lamond-Riggs,

Please join us for our next meeting on May 6. We will be voting on the community benefits agreement between LRCA and EYA/JBG. Find more information about that agreement on the last page of the newsletter. During the May meeting, we will also have an election for new LRCA officers and trustees. Only those individuals who paid membership dues by April 1 are eligible to vote. Nominations were submitted prior to and taken from the floor at the April meeting. The candidates are:

President
Gwen Cofield
Rodney Foxworth

1st Vice President
Tischa Cockrell
Anita Purvis

2nd Vice President
LaRoya Huff
Lisa Wray

Trustees: Elaine Gunter, Sharolyn Mack, Johnnie Mays, Theodore Ngatchou, Marsha Pender, Sarah Shank, Tanya Slade, Rev. Paul Smith, James Thomas, Helen Thompson, Michael Varela, Frank Wilds

Nominations will be taken from the floor at the May meeting. Individuals must be present to accept the nomination. All candidates must be present for the vote.

In Service,
Uchenna Evans

NOTICES & AGENDA

LRCA Meetings

General meetings are scheduled for the first Monday of each month from October thru June, 7:00 pm—8:30 pm at:

LaSalle-Backus Education Campus
501 Riggs Road, NE, Washington, DC, 20011

The next LRCA meetings will be held on:
Monday, May 6, 2019
Monday, June 3, 2019
7:00 pm in the LaSalle-Backus EC Auditorium (off Madison Street NE).

AGENDA

1. Welcome
2. Officers Reports: Minutes/Treasurer
3. Public Safety Report
4. Community Benefits Agreement Vote
5. Election
6. Updates from ANC and Elected Officials

Safety News

Sector 2 Captain Bryan Christian
bryan.christian@dc.gov; cell phone (202) 439-6326

311 vs. 911

DC has revived 311 for non-emergency calls. Call 311 for non-emergency issues such as noise complaints, vandalism, and non-occupied vehicle-related incidents. Continue to call 911 for all emergencies.

Mayor's Office Liaisons (MOCRS)

Ward 4 - KeShawn Harris
 (202) 724-7672; KeShawn.Harris@dc.gov

Ward 5 - Malik Miller
 (202) 727-2822; Malik.Miller2@dc.gov

ANC 4B Monthly Meeting – 4th Monday, 7:00 pm, MPD 4D Headquarters (6001 Georgia Avenue NW)

ANC 5A Monthly Meeting – 4th Wednesday, 6:45 pm, UDC-CC Backus (5171 South Dakota Avenue NE)

LaSalle-Backus Free Food Pantry

3rd Thursday monthly, 4:00 pm
 LaSalle-Backus Education Campus (501 Riggs Rd. NE)
 Free bags of groceries for community residents

SPECIAL THANKS

Printing of this newsletter brought to you by:

Harrison Becher REALTOR® CNE®

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 Cell - 301-448-6569
Harrison@coalitionpg.com

**Explore! Children's Museum Community Festivals**

Explore! Children's Museum is once again teaming up with the Modern (400 Galloway Street NE) to host free children's festivals in the neighborhood. The festival will take place 10:00 am-1:30 pm on the following dates:

May 4, 2019

June 29, 2019

August 24, 2019

Visit <https://www.exploremuseum.org> for information

Main Street Seeking Board Members

The Board of Directors for the South Dakota Avenue/Riggs Road Main Street is currently accepting applications for new members. Volunteers with diverse backgrounds are sought, but particular attention will be paid to those with legal, small business, marketing, promotions, communications, financial, or grant writing experience.

To apply, please fill out a board application form at <https://bit.ly/2VaNUsp> by May 1 and a board member will be in touch with you. Interviews expected on Sunday May 5 in the afternoon. As part of your application, please be prepared to address the following questions:

1. Why do you want to serve on the board of Directors for the South Dakota Ave & Riggs Road Main Street program?
2. What strengths will you bring to the board?
3. Any Special Skills & Relevant Community Experience to share?

Neighborhood Cleanup & Storm Drain Murals

Thank you to everyone who attended the neighborhood cleanup on April 13. Also, please be sure to check out the new storm drain murals in 3 locations: (1) South Dakota & Galloway NE; (2) Near 219 Riggs Road NE; & (3) 3rd Street & Chillum Place NE. These murals are designed to educate people about the Anacostia River and encourage everyone to keep trash off DC streets and out of the river. Black and white photos do not do the artwork justice, so please check them out in person. Special thanks to LRCA's environment committee for organizing these activities.

In Memoriam

Geraldine Martin, Hamilton St. NE

LRCA

LRCA General Membership Meeting Minutes
LaSalle-Backus Education Campus
April 1, 2019

President Uchenna Evans opened the meeting at 7:05pm. Minutes from March 2019 meeting approved. President Evans provided handout and information about the invocation.

Iyanna Ndomale, LRCA Treasurer – Quarterly report for quarter ending March 2019 approved. Balance of \$10,230.58.

Ward 4 Councilmember Brandon Todd – CM Todd will host meeting with DDOT/Pepeco/Washington Gas regarding repaving of Eastern Ave on April 4. Pepeco & Washington Gas are working on utilities in the road until next summer and after that road will be repaved. Office hours at Lamond Rec on April 13, 1:00 pm-3:20 pm. Ward 4 spring celebration/Easter egg roll is April 20. CM Todd looking at concerns regarding 12-month contracts for DCPS principals & new technology for all schools.

Barbara Mitchell, Deputy Chief of Staff to Ward 5 Councilmember Kenyan McDuffie – Emancipation Day Parade is April 13. A hearing on the Racial Equity Achieves Results Act will be on April 25.

Wendy Pohlhaus, US. Attorney's Office for DC – Information about new felons in possession initiative provided as well as information about outreach programs and the difference between cases handled by the Attorney General for DC and the U.S. Attorney's Office for DC.

Edwin Washington, Executive Director, South Dakota Avenue/Riggs Road Main Street – Presentation on Main Street and volunteer/board recruitment

Lauren Boyd, LRCA Nominations Committee – Read Rules of the Day: Election for LRCA Board of Officers & Trustees will be on May 6, 2019 at 7:00 pm by paper ballot. No campaign literature may be distributed inside the meeting room at any time. Candidates for any elected position must be present during the vote unless the absence is otherwise excused as noted in Article 6, Section 4, Part A and accepting or declining the nomination. Candidates for contested races will have 2 minutes to deliver remarks at the May meeting. Art. VI, Sec. 3(A): Nominations from the floor will be entertained with the consent of the nominee at the April and May Regular Body meetings; the nominations will be closed at the May meeting with a proper motion, second and vote of members in good standing. This means for floor nominations, the nominee must be present to accept the nomination or may self-nominate. Nominations from the floor: President; 1st VP; 2nd VP; Treasurer; Financial Secretary; Recording Secretary; Corresponding Secretary; Trustees. Nominations for 2019-2021 LRCA Board of Officers & Trustees – President: Gwen Cofield; Rodney Foxworth. 1st VP: Tisha Cockrell; Anita Purvis. 2nd VP: LaRoya Huff; Lisa Wray. Trustees: Elaine Gunter, Sharolyn Mack, Johnnie Mays, Olga Naidenko, Theodore Ngatchou, Marsha Pender, Sarah Shank, Tanya Slade, Rev. Paul Smith, James Thomas, Helen Thompson, Michael Varela, Frank Wilds. Vacancies for Treasurer, Financial secretary, Recording Secretary, and Corresponding Secretary. Nominating committee will check membership list to make sure nominees have paid dues. Names of candidates as of end of April meeting will be published in the May newsletter

Art Place at Fort Totten 2nd Phase – President Evans noted LRCA submitted request to Zoning Commission for party status in support of project based on feedback gathered from public survey and in public meetings. Request outlined 7 areas of concern: impacts of traffic on neighborhood; ensuring there are adequate pedestrian pathways; stormwater management; ensuring there is adequate security to protect the well-being of visitors to the neighborhood as well as residents; ensuring there is a plan to provide high-quality, sustainable retail, including neighborhood-serving retail; ensuring the project is well-integrated into the community; & waste management. With respect to public hearing scheduled for April 4, motion approved to submit testimony in support with identified areas of concern plus one addition of rodent control.

Gwen Cofield, LRCA 1st VP & Chair, Lamond-Riggs Development Task Force – Presented longstanding draft community benefits agreement between LRCA and EYA/JBG related to mixed-use townhome project slated for South Dakota & Riggs Rd. Vote to approve agreement tabled until May meeting.

KeShawn Harris, Ward 4 MOCR – Shepherd Park Target ribbon cutting April 2. Citywide cleanup is on April 6.

ANC Commissioner Alison Brooks (4B08) – Copies of Commissioner Brooks's newsletter are available.

ANC Commissioner LaRoya Huff (4B09) – Contact Commissioner Huff regarding Walmart grocery carts in neighborhood or contact Walmart management. Ramp installation for Riggs-LaSalle playground is ongoing, railing just needs to be installed. Meeting on community use of playground will be on April 16, 6:30pm-8:00 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:37pm.

/s/ Vandalia Joyner-Taylor, Corresponding Secretary.

Recap of ZC Hearing on Art Place at Fort Totten PUD by Gwen Cofield, LRCA 1st VP & Chair Lamond-Riggs Development Task Force

The April 4th Zoning Commission (ZC) hearing on the Art Place at Fort Totten second stage planned unit development (PUD) modification went well. First, LRCA was granted party status. The quality of our application helped. After filing it, Donna Hanousek, Senior Zoning Specialist said: "I will cite this one as a model to folks in the future."

The ZC did a thorough job of acknowledging that while this is an exciting, transformative project, there is a need for various improvements, including design tweaks; ensuring marketing explains how the project will benefit seniors; working with the community on a retail plan; encouraging deeper housing affordability in future phases; and resolving various issues with DDOT.

This aligns with much presented in LRCA testimony written by President Uchenna Evans, and in DC agency reports. Commission Chair Anthony Hood called the testimony "very well thought out," and said that "LRCA really gave the road map" on how to fine tune the project (as the other Commissioners nodded in agreement). He charged the development team to take careful note.

The developer is to explain how it will address those issues by May 2. A special Zoning Commission meeting (not hearing) is scheduled for May 20. It can be assumed if issues are satisfactorily addressed, ZC will vote to approve the project. Kudos to the task force members who contributed to this process!

Upcoming Vote on CBA between LRCA and EYA-JBG Smith

On Monday May 6, the LRCA membership will vote on the community benefits agreement (CBA) between LRCA EYA/JBG. This CBA relates to the sale of District-owned parcel across from the Walmart for the development of a mixed-use townhome project. Here are key points:

1. The specific CBA financial buckets have been common knowledge for at least 3 years. They were developed based on feedback at public meetings, on a 2016 member survey shared several times at LRCA meetings (hard copy) and online, and task force research on comparable CBAs found in planned unit developments. The task force meets monthly in open meetings that are shared in advance.
2. For at least 3 years, the CBA buckets were regularly communicated to members at meetings, in newsletters and on the website.
3. In the fall of 2016, the CBA financial buckets were made part of the official record of the DC Council committee report approving the parcel sale. This included a copy of a binding general term sheet and LRCA testimony. The term sheet is part of the legislation approving the sale of the District parcel.
4. In April 2017, the completion of the CBA was referenced in LRCA's official Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) statement as one criterion for LRCA support of a minor zoning variance.
5. In spring 2018, the LRCA did another, limited, community survey. It was only designed to get input on what types of entities should benefit from the financial buckets and on public space improvement priorities (the major concern from the first survey and meeting feedback). The survey was not written in any way to revisit the financial buckets submitted to the DC Council in 2016 and referenced before the BZA in 2017.
 - Throughout the balance of 2018, the task force finalized the full CBA language, which underwent legal review by an attorney who has worked on several CBAs in the District. Members were updated throughout this process at meetings and online. For a brief period, the document was classified as confidential (between the LRCA board and the task force) to better maintain its integrity in the legal review process.
 - At the April 1, 2019, LRCA meeting, the legally approved language, as well as a longer version of this chronology (also online), was distributed to members for a vote. That vote was tabled until May for the sake of time and review.

Here is a recap of the buckets:

- Workforce Development of local residents, including education, training, or certifications (\$20,000)
- Small Business Development for capacity building services (\$15,000)
- Educational Development: college scholarships for local students (\$50,000)
- Public Space Improvements to a local open space, the streetscape, signage and branding; temporary and/or evolving activation of a nearby public open space; and seed funding for a Business Improvement District (BID), Green Team, Main Street, etc. (\$200,000)
- Community Development: new equipment, services, or other facility upgrades at public and private-sector (nonprofit) entities; services or equipment to enhance security and minimize vandalism near the project; and certain LRCA administrative expenses (\$40,000)

- (a) LaSalle-Backus music & technology programs: \$17,000
- (b) DC Rape Crisis Center to expand clinical services for survivors: \$5,000
- (c) UDC Bertie Backus Urban Food Hub upgrades: \$5,000
- (d) Riggs-LaSalle Rec supplies: \$2,800
- (e) Coolidge Alumni Association mentorship program: \$2,700
- (f) Lamond-Riggs Library Friends programming: \$1,500
- (g) LRCA two-year expenses for newsletter printing and website maintenance: \$6,000