

Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

From: John H. Muller <jmuller.washingtonsyndicate@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 3:13 PM
To: DCOZ - BZA Submissions (DCOZ)
Cc: Dee Agyei; Tasha G; Oliver Spurgeon; John H. Muller; Hawkins, Travon (SMD 8A05); Prestwood, Troy (SMD 8A04); Fuller, Greta J. (SMD 8A06)
Subject: Reporter's Notebook -- December ANC8A meeting (December 5, 2017)

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

ANC 8A Street Reporter's Notebook:

In nearly ten years of attending ANC meetings across the city as a local journalist I thought I had seen it all until I attended ANC8A's monthly meeting on Tuesday, December 5, 2017.

At the meeting a resident of 15th Street SE raised a legal and procedural question concerning an ANC 8A vote taken in November to support a development project at the corner of 15th Street SE and Good Hope Road SE.

Due to the advocacy of a single resident this is what occurred:

ANC8A makes motion to rescind vote taken November 7, 2017.

Motion reads:

"Motion to provide Letter of Support for BZA Case No. 19572: 1916 15th Street, SE (Square 5766, Lot 0845). Motion provides Letter of Support for Special Exception relief of parking requirements at 1916 15th Street SE. Motion Cm Hawkins, 2nd Cm Sapp. Motion Passed (4-2-0) Cm Hawkins, Prestwood, Clark and Sapp in favor. Cm Fuller and Muhammad oppose."

Motion to vote on rescinding passes.

Vote to rescind Nov. 7, 2017 motion passes.

Yay:
Greta Fuller
Troy Donté Prestwood
Barbara Clark
Holly Muhammad

Nay:

Abstain:
Tchaka Sapp
Travon Hawkins*

Absent:
Terri Lorraine Acker

Motion to rescind Nov. 7, 2017 motion passes (4-0-2)

*Before voting to abstain, Commissioner Hawkins initially indicated his vote was Nay. Within five seconds, under the apparent direction of a fellow Commissioner and/or audience member, Commissioner Hawkins changed his vote.

Furthermore, before the rescind vote was taken Commissioner Hawkins was asked to explain his vote in November as the development is in his Single Member District. He displayed frustration at being asked the question and responded simply, "No," when asked if he would explain his vote.

Many in the audience, and this reporter, was dismayed at the level of aversion Commissioner Hawkins took towards a straightforward question from his constituents.

In nearly a decade of attending ANC 8A meetings I don't think I have ever seen this happen. When the motion to rescind vote passed at least a dozen or more applause.

The Executive Director of the Advisory Neighborhood Commissions, Gottlieb Simon, was present as both a witness and informal advisor to this process I had never seen before.

John Muller
1400 block of W Street SE
Old Anacostia

--

--

John Muller
202.236.3413
Capital Community News | Greater Greater Washington | Washington Syndicate

[Frederick Douglass in Washington, D.C.: The Lion of Anacostia](#) [The History Press, 2012] Winner of 2013 DC READS
[Mark Twain in Washington, D.C.: The Adventures of a Capital Correspondent](#) [The History Press, 2013]

--

John Muller
202.236.3413
Capital Community News | Greater Greater Washington | Washington Syndicate

[Frederick Douglass in Washington, D.C.: The Lion of Anacostia](#) [The History Press, 2012] Winner of 2013 DC READS
[Mark Twain in Washington, D.C.: The Adventures of a Capital Correspondent](#) [The History Press, 2013]

