



## Mount Pleasant Business Association

### Draft Notes November Meeting

**November 4, 2009 2-3:30 AM Don Juan Restaurant, Mount Pleasant Street, NW**

The November agenda and October minutes were approved and posted on the website: [www.mtpleasantbusiness.org](http://www.mtpleasantbusiness.org). Topics discussed during the meeting included:

#### **MPBA Project Updates/Announcements/News (*Anuncios y proyectos*) -Gabriela Mossi**

- Community meeting at Lamont Park with CM Graham, Oct. 31
- Dept. of Transportation TE Grant Award for Mt. Pleasant won by MPMS, Feb. 2010
- Office of Planning Mt. P Revitalization comments website, Nov. 13 deadline
- Pro-bono legal assistance "open house" at Reeves Center on 14th and U Sts., Nov. 18
- (*Fondos del Depto. Transporte, reunión comunitaria con Concejal, pagina web de Oficina Planeamiento para hacer comentarios, ayuda legal gratis para negocios, elecciones MPBA*)

#### **December events/Promotional Ideas for Mt. Pleasant businesses (*Oportunidades para promocionar su negocio*)-Joanie Majeed, Barbara Cameron, Gabriela Mossi**

- Annual Holiday Celebration in the Park, Dec. 12 (*Celebración Navideña, 12 de diciembre*)
- Promo ideas for December: media ads, Buy Local Day on Dec. 5
- Other member promotions: Past Tense Studio Holiday Gift Fair, Amani ya Juu Open House, live music at Haydee's and Don Juan

#### **Discussion/Vote: Proposals from Mt Pleasant Main Street and ANC Commissioner G. Edwards (*Discusión/voto: propuestas de Main Street y Comisionado Edwards para limpieza de las calles; basura, censura de motos y bicicletas, mini-buses, mercadeo e incrementar densidad en para Mt. Pleasant*)**

- Detailed MPMS/MPBA cooperative budget proposal for street cleaning (Green Team), landscaping, promotion circulated for approval.
- See detailed list with seven proposals below and member comments.

#### **Additional Notes**

Joanie Majeed described to the group the Annual Holiday Event for local children and its components which include a tree, Santa and friends, a book and a toy for each child, music and refreshments. It was decided the event would be held on Saturday, December 12 from 1 to 3PM. Gabriela will work with committee to complete tasks. Total cost for materials is approximately \$600-\$700 dollars.

Treasurer Oswald Cameron updated the members on the accounts, \$39k in the grant account and \$10 in the MPBA/membership account. Members reviewed Mt. Pleasant Main Street's (MPMS) proposal to cover labor, materials, and other expenses related to

the Green Team, promotional events such as movies nights, and printed media ads for 2009. Total of \$7,035 was approved by the members.

Members also held a preliminary discussion about the Annual Youth Arts Fair. The Mt. Pleasant Library will be closed so a different venue is being sought.

List of proposals from ANC Commissioner G. Edwards:

1) Commissioner Edwards and 5 other ANC commissioners support the creation of higher density in Mt Pleasant. Members: mixed opinions as there are several pros and cons to building higher and bringing in more people. Concerns with becoming a Columbia Heights and creating more parking issues. DC Office of Planning may not support this type of initiative.

2) Increase the creation/support of home-based businesses in Mt Pleasant. Members: Support this idea but they don't know specifically how they could do it. Open to suggestions.

3) Support a jitney system, a bus route a mile in "circumference" bringing people in/out of Mt Pleasant. Commissioner Edwards said he had recently contracted consultants for a discounted rate of \$6k to do this. Members: Supportive if this is a private enterprise that wants to undertake the service.

4) Pass a specific ruling to prohibit/fine certain types of high-speed bikes on Mt P Street and to fine cyclists on sidewalk. Members: Preference to education rather another "negative" related to the commercial district. The DDOT grant will address some cycling issues and pedestrian safety.

5) A trash dumpster monitoring coop system, with block captains (and/or a paid person such as Rudy Riley) to reduce violations and pests. Commissioner Edwards has very specific operating suggestions for this coop, fine payment structure, membership, etc. Members: Mixed comments on implementation and need/priority.

6) Corridor marketing strategies should be included in Office of Planning Small Area Plan such as "street dressing" that changes throughout the year or for special occasions. This could include banners, for ex. Members: Supportive of this type of initiative.

7) He mentioned he wants the ANC to be the entity to approve all permits and grants. Members: If this is accurate they do not support it.