

# Shaw-Dupont Citizens Alliance

## Minutes

Membership Meeting  
September 19, 2013

### Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 7:05p.m, by President, Joan Sterling.

Board Members in Attendance:

Joan Sterling, President.; Daniel McKay, Vice President; Elwyn Ferris, Sec.;  
Guy Podgornik, Treasurer; Robert Lawrentz, Technical Officer; Dan Wittels, Director  
A quorum was determined to be present.

### Guests of Distinction included:

Abigail Nichols, Dupont Circle ANC Commissioner  
Anne Renshaw, President of the Federation of Citizens Associations  
Ernest Springs, President of the Reed-Cooke Neighborhood Association  
Ramon Estrada, President of the Dupont Circle Citizens Association  
Christina Parascandola, President of the Meridian Hill Neighborhood Association  
Robin Deiner, Chair of the Dupont Circle Neighborhood Association Regulatory Committee  
Benedicte Aubrun, Reed-Cooke Neighborhood Association ABC Liaison

### Announcements:

#### Federation News:

Federation Assembly on September 24:

**Councilmember David A. Catania**, Chairperson, Committee on Education will address the DC Federation of Citizens Associations, on "The A-B-C's of DC Public Schools." Councilmember Catania will detail his proposals to improve the District's public school system, city-wide meetings on education and growth of DC Charter Schools.

The Citizens Federation's Assembly, which is open to the public, will be held at All Souls Memorial Episcopal Church Hall, 2300 Cathedral Avenue, NW from 6:45 PM to 9:00 PM.

**Featured Guest Speaker, Councilman Vincent Orange** was unable to attend due to a last minute conflict, and was required to attend the Congressional Black Caucus Meeting this same evening. He was gracious enough to send Gene Fischer, his Committee Director, in his place. Gene listened to our complaints about ABRA not following its own regulations and responded to concerns about civic associations being dismissed in some recent cases. He also noted that he is willing to convene meetings with civic associations to learn more about our concerns regarding the ABC Board terminating existing Settlement Agreements.

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### Committee Reports

#### Zoning Committee:

German Jimenez, Chair.  
No Report.

#### ABRA Committee:

Elwyn Ferris, Chair.  
No New Business to report

#### Design Committee:

Daniel McKay, Chair.

Regarding: *HPA #13-568, "1921-23 14th Street and 1351 Wallach Place, NW, HPA #13-568, concept/alteration and new construction of nine-story apartment building"* and *BZA # 18632 "Application of 14th & U Residential LLC"* as currently applied for as *14th & U Residential LLC*.

Following a comprehensive presentation by Madison Investments, and a lengthy Q&A session,

**Motion** by Daniel McKay to oppose the design concept based on: 1.) Excessive height and massing and design which does not fit with the other historic neighborhood 2-3 story homes . 2.) Requested variances to build zero parking (in a 56 Unit Apartment building) resulting in significant additional parking pressure on surrounding residential streets which are already over capacity. 3.) Operational problems due to no loading dock for a mixed use retail/residential building of this size. As well as concerns regarding the design's materials not being representative of the historic neighborhood, logistics concerns with refuse trucks, and alley-accessed resident parking during and post construction, resident's personal parking access and DC Department of Sanitation capability may be impaired temporarily or permanently.

Seconded by Dan Wittels. Vote on Motion to Oppose: 15 - 0 - 1

Motion passes.

#### Parking Committee:

Guy Podgornik, Chair  
No Report

#### Membership Committee:

Guy Podgornik, Chair.

Announced that reminders will soon be sent to the members whose membership has lapsed in recent months, especially during the summer hiatus period.

#### Adjournment

There being no further business before the members, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.  
The next meeting will be held on **October 17, 2013**.