

**DUPONT PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION
2007 – 2008 ACCOMPLISHMENTS
(September 1 through August 31)**

During 2007 and 2008 the Dupont Park Civic Association (DPCA) achieved the following accomplishments in support of its mission to promote the civic welfare of our community by providing citizens the opportunity to have a positive impact on:

- Healthcare
- Crime
- Neighborhood Cleanliness and Maintenance
- Traffic
- Public Safety
- Education
- Environmental Issues and much more

In addition, DPCA served as an advocate for the residents and through the monthly newsletter served as a clearinghouse for civic information and community events.

HEALTHCARE

- ❖ Sent a letter to the Ward 7 DC City Council Member, Yvette Alexander, requesting that she take the necessary action to have the Human Papillomavirus Vaccination and Reporting Act of 2007 (B17-0030) rescinded based on information learned about the vaccine and the legislative process involved in the passing of this law.

CRIME

- ❖ Used the DPCA monthly newsletter to provide information on identity theft, contractor scams, and crime prevention.
- ❖ Invited a PSA 605 Metropolitan Police Department representative to each monthly meeting to provide information on crime prevention and crime statistics in our area.

NEIGHBORHOOD CLEANLINESS AND MAINTENANCE

- ❖ Provided information to the community on various laws pertaining to lawn maintenance, clean-up of animal's waste, removal of trash cans, snow and holiday tree removal, leaf collection, etc.

TRAFFIC

- ❖ Sent a letter to Mayor Adrian Fenty in support of the Anacostia Waterfront Transportation Mobility Study and in particular, the improved interchange at the 11th Street Bridge, which should alleviate some of the traffic congestion along both sides of the Sousa Bridge.
- ❖ Played a key role in having the CSX tracks removed from the base of the Sousa Bridge on Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E. and on the connecting ramp

that leads to I-295 Northbound (Kenilworth Avenue) and the rehabilitation of the roadway under the tracks.

- ❖ Invited guest speakers, addressing the traffic study and traffic calming solutions prepared by DDOT, redesign of Penn Branch shopping center, development of the 2500 block of Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E., Skyland redevelopment, zoning in the district, planned economic development for Pennsylvania Ave, S.E., utility issues, and other community concerns.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- ❖ Requested in a letter to Mayor Adrian Fenty to conduct a stress test on the Sousa Bridge, if one had not been done recently. Advised by DDOT that the Sousa Bridge was safe and had been inspected on March 29, 2006 and was scheduled for another inspection in 2008.
- ❖ Reported gas and sewer smells on various streets in the community. Representatives from Washington Gas, WASA, the Public Service Commission, and the Ward 7 Representative from the Mayor's Office attended one of our monthly meetings to discuss this issue and the problems were quickly resolved.
- ❖ Advised community of free home safety and free home energy efficiency inspections, installation of free smoke alarms, and the availability of free radon testing kits as well as various energy efficiency expos and utilities discounts.

EDUCATION

- ❖ Provided community with information on a variety of job, internships and volunteer opportunities, information on higher education opportunities and available funding, and free educational camps.
- ❖ In response to the efforts of the Sixth District Advisory Council, sponsored a child to the Fifth Annual Joseph K Smith Memorial Summer Camp for a week.
- ❖ Sent a letter to the National Capital Parks East to support the efforts of the Friends of Fort Dupont Ice Arena (FDIA) for the expansion of the arena to include a second pad of ice and upgraded amenities and services. Friends of FDIA created the Kids On Ice program which provides free figure skating, hockey and speed skating lessons to economically disadvantaged children who might not otherwise have the opportunity to learn these sports. The FDIA is the only public indoor ice arena located in Washington, DC and the only skating facility in the area that provides free or subsidized skating programs to children.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

- ❖ Sent a resolution to the Advisory Neighbor Commission (ANC) 7seeking support for the city to purchase vacant lots on "O" Street, SE and to convert these lots to a Rain Garden. The ANC approved the resolution and since that time funds have been secured in the District's FY09 budget for this effort.

- ❖ **Provided written testimony to the DC Council's Committee on Public Services and Consumer Affairs on the quality of services provided by the incumbent electric, natural gas, and telephone utilities and included WASA as well. Some of the issues addressed in the written testimony were the outsourcing of jobs by both VERIZON and Washington Gas; the need for more responsiveness by PEPCO on the issue of surges; Washington Gas rate increases; and more customer care communications.**
- ❖ **Our President, Mrs. Barbara Morgan, testified before the Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia on the Washington Gas Company's request for authority to increase existing rates and charges for gas distribution service in the District of Columbia.**
- ❖ **Advised residents of various hearing on proposed rate increases for utilities and some of the plans of the utility companies that would affect them in the future as well as hearings on proposed rate increases for passenger fares and parking by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority.**
- ❖ **Our President, Mrs. Barbara Morgan testified before the DC City Council Committee on Public Services and Consumer Affairs in support of Ms. Linda K. Argo's nomination to serve as the Director of the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs. At that time she requested action and ongoing monitoring by DCRA and the DC Council's Committee of the "O" Street Retaining Wall and the filling of the hole that had been dug so as to avoid further risk to the wall from soil erosion, unanswered complaints regarding the group home in the 3200 block of "O" St, S.E., and the lack of responsiveness and communications regarding the Laundromat at the corner of Pennsylvania Avenue and Carpenter Street. The hole has since been filled.**
- ❖ **Advised the community of various areas where development is being proposed or has started - Penn Branch Shopping Center, Poplar Point, Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E. Corridor, Deanwood, site of the former Washington Convention Center, Sheridan Terrace, etc.**
- ❖ **Made the community aware of various public and community meetings/hearings such as the ones dealing with the DC Public Schools, Environment Assessment prepared for the transfer of jurisdiction of a portion of land at Fort Dupont Park from the National Park Service to the DC government, The State of Ward 7, etc.**
- ❖ **Through the efforts of DPCA member Joseph Glover, participated in the Pope Branch stream restoration and sewer line replacement/repair project which, is a multi-agency effort aimed at improving the water quality of this small tributary to the Anacostia River in SE Washington, DC. This project is a unique partnership of the District Department of the Environment (DDOE), the Washington Area Sewer Authority (WASA), the District Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) and the Pope Branch Citizens Alliance. The project goals are to rehabilitate an aging sewer line that runs roughly parallel to the stream, restore the stream using natural channel restoration,**

and add some walking paths through the park to encourage public use of this city park.

RESIDENT ADVOCACY AND INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

- ❖ Sent a letter to the US Post Master General regarding the lateness and inconsistency in the delivery of the mail on some streets in the community. Delivery has since improved.
- ❖ Made donations to the Toy Drive for PSA 605, Metropolitan Police Department.
- ❖ Donated two large boxes of non-perishable food items for Christmas baskets that were assembled and distributed to needy families by the Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Church.
- ❖ Participated in the 6th District Citizens Advisory Council (CAC) Annual Christmas Party for children in Ward 7 schools.
- ❖ Sent fruit baskets, plants and/or donations to sick members and flowers of condolences for deceased members.
- ❖ Conducted the annual car raffle fundraiser for Dupont Park Civic Association.
- ❖ Held Dupont Park Civic Association's Christmas Holiday Celebration. Mayor Adrian Fenty and Council Member Kwame Brown attended this affair.
- ❖ Sponsored a trip to Charlestown, West Virginia.
- ❖ Supported the DC Federation of Civic Associations Luncheon where Mr. Joseph Glover was recognized as Co-Award Winner of the "Lorraine Whitlock Award" for his efforts in restoring the Pope-Branch tributary and David and Felicia Retland were recognized as DPCA's Father and Mother of the Year.
- ❖ Made the community aware of various community activities, such as the awards banquets, and activities for seniors and families.

INFRASTRUCTURE

- ❖ Launched DPCA website at www.dupontparkcivicasociation.org
- ❖ Established email address at: dpca@dupontparkcivicasociation.org
- ❖ Saved DPCA money by changing the bank account to a no fee maintenance plan.
- ❖ Purchased four (4) signs to advertise DPCA's monthly meetings. The signs will be posted at strategic locations within the Dupont Park area.
- ❖ Published nine (9) monthly newsletters.
- ❖ Executed plans designed to attract new members to the Dupont Park Civic Association.
- ❖ Started research on DPCA obtaining a Non-Profit 501c3 status.