Minutes for River Terrace Community Organization meeting

June 25, 2025 at 6:30 PM

In-person at the Varick AME Zion Memorial Church and on Zoom

**6:30 PM - Opening prayer and notices from RTCO**

**6:35 PM – Report from MPD**

* Questions on fireworks
  + Sargeant assured that there will be taskforces out to deal with fireworks and there will be as many MPD on call as possible for July 4th
  + Concerns on the ATVs and bikes driving through the park at high speed
* [MPD Camera rebate program](https://ovsjg.dc.gov/page/private-security-camera-rebate-program)
* [MPD Hotline and Tiplines](https://mpdc.dc.gov/tiplines)
* Local station number: 202-698-0880
* Questions on speeding cars – the speed cameras are generating income and are a disincentive for speeding. However, there isn’t something they can do on car backfiring noise.
* Sergeant John Cephas – Environmental crime district: handles traffic, environmental crime, trash dumping, oil dumping, etc.

**7:00 PM – Unique Morris-Hughes from the DC Department of Employment Services**

* Ms. Unique Morris-Hughes presented on summer youth employment programs and Mayor’s FY26 budget:
* She thinks of DC employment market as focused in: Eds, Meds, and Feds
* With the significant reduction in federal workforce, it has made them rethink how DC does workforce development.
* There is lower unemployment in Ward 7 and Ward 8 than in previous years – it is in the single digits.
* DC is under a hiring freeze, they have moved spending in large capital projects to later years, but there are still many workforce development programs such as the Summer Youth Program (SYP)
  + These are summer jobs for DC residents 9-24 years of age
  + Summerjobs.dc.gov
* They also give $2,500 - $20,000 scholarships to students – they were specifically targeting students going into finance careers.
* Skillsnation.org is another good resource
* Question on Lederer Youth Community Garden and Greenhouses – Was funding in the budget or was it taken out?
* Question on the $15 million for East Capital Gateway grocery infrastructure – is that for imminent domain or for actual grocery or food markets?
* Contacts:
  + [Unique.morris-hughes2@dc.gov](mailto:Unique.morris-hughes2@dc.gov)
  + [Jason.washington@dc.gov](mailto:Jason.washington@dc.gov)
  + DOES.DC.GOV

**7:40 PM – Letisha Councilmember Felder’s Office**

* Wendellfelderdc.com
* Councilmember Felder hired new constituent services coordinator?
* Conducted a safety and flood assessment for Lederer Gardens – there was a flood on 49th St. the previous day.
* The office knows there are concerns on parking and noise from events at new stadium
* Events DC – DBA and DBC conduct noise study on when there are events – it should not be louder than conversational
* Reminder that it is critical to submit 311 requests – there are many ways to submit via computer, phone, an app – can do it anonymously.
* Last listening session on RFK stadium was 6/24 in Kingman Park. Final comprehensive document from the listening sessions will be compiled and then publicized and submitted
* Question on Pepco clean-up fund – where did the funding go? $57 million to clean-up.
* Councilmember office went out to the river – especially to review if a water taxi could be utilized for RFK Stadium

**8:00 PM Katie Miller**

* [7D04@anc.dc.gov](mailto:7D04@anc.dc.gov)
* She just got access to email last week – email her again if you had emailed the ANC commissioner previously and there had not received a response.
* The 10 commissioners meet every month – 2nd Tuesday of the month – they leave time for constituent questions. It is only virtual at the time.
* July 2nd there is going to be at-large councilmembers to discuss RFK Stadium

**8:08 PM Adrian Hasty – Emergency Evacuation Plan**

* Mr. Hasty is a Vietnam veteran and he evacuated folks in Vietnam but he felt he needed to create a plan for evacuation for the neighborhood.
* He reviewed which types of threats require a shelter in place advisory
* All handicapped residents must be identified by block captains in order to assist them.
* Block captains should be considered point of contact in order to coordinate evacuating.

**8:18PM Community updates**

* Riversmart programs is available to residents to help save water
* Ambassador program (paid) to talk more about the river conservation programs

**8:20 PM Treasury report**

**8:30 PM Shout-outs, closing prayers, and water ice!**

Luther’s Lovely Water Ice generously provided by Mr. Kyle Williams

###