Minutes for River Terrace Community Organization meeting

September 17, 2025 at 6:30 PM

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

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**6:30 PM – Start of meeting and opening prayer**

**6:35 PM – MPD Sargent D. Carter – PSA 602 Official: contact:** **Dominique.carter2@dc.gov**

* Local station number: 202-698-0880
* MPD will be receiving a crime reduction award.
	+ Major reduction in violent crime – especially in auto-thefts over the past year.
* Question on loitering in front of corner store on Benning Rd.
* Question on crime statistics and why Minnesota Ave. is included in same police district.
* Discussion of interaction between MPD and federal agents
	+ Question on collaboration between ICE and MPD
	+ Question on prevalence of helicopters
* Question on charging juveniles as adults and Trump administration’s push to do so.

**6:55 PM – Jay Sweeney, Boat Captain, Anacostia Riverkeeper**

* Discussion of new Commanders stadium development and its implication for the watershed. Mr. Sweeney has given tours to help with understanding of the entire Anacostia River ecosystem and the importance of taking care of the area as part of the development

**7:00 PM – Presentation from Justin Talom, Advanced Solar (Private company)**

**7:20 PM – Katie Murphy, ANC -** 7D04@anc.dc.gov

* Sharing that Attorney General Brian L. Schwalb issued a [Consumer Alert](https://oag.dc.gov/release/attorney-general-schwalb-warns-dc-residents-about) to help inform DC residents about predatory practices in the home solar system sales and loan industry. They are especially targeting residents of Ward 7 and 8
* Please call 202-299-5271 or email solarforall@dc.gov before signing any contracts in order to get more information.
* We don’t have representation in Congress – Free DC is a group that is advocating for Home Rule and against Congressional intervention in established DC laws
* The Transportation and Public Spaces Committee is seeking volunteer members (not comprised of ANC commissioners). This committee is going to be heavily involved in the RFK Stadium project and it will be accepting a River Terrace community member. Let her know if you are interested
* After a discussion, Katie said that she will not be requesting National Guard’s assistance on “beautification” projects – this is along with many other ANC members across the city.
* Discussion on new lines painted on Clay Pl NE and request for DOT to attend next RTCO meeting

**7:39 PM Mattew McClure and Candice Gordon – Co-Chairs of RTCO Arts and Culture**

* Announcement of data collection project to canvass the neighborhood and get a better sense of how to engage the community. They are looking for volunteers to assist with door-knocking in neighborhood and collecting responses.
* Installation of wayside marker of Rose Garden on Anacostia Ave., which will detail the history of the Rose Garden
* Plans for events for 2025-2026:
	+ Holiday party
	+ Easter party
	+ Historical neighborhood tour that will get organized in the winter and into the spring

**8:00 PM Greg presenting on River Terrace Clean-up day 9/27 at 10am at Rose Garden**

* Gloves and bags will be provided from city!
* This event is a collaboration between RTCO and Free DC

**8:04 PM Treasury Report: $45,878 is current**

* Ideas for fundraising
* Keep separate the beautification funds discussion

**8:10 PM Minutes**

**Other announcements/discussion:**

* Discussion on where to host the RTCO meetings – if the church is available and accessible for whole community or to maintain meetings at the school
* Notice for Friends and Family Day at Varick Memorial AME Zion Church - September 21, service at 3pm with food served around 1pm

**8:30 PM Closing Prayer**