

Minutes of the Ward 3 Democratic Committee  
for the November 29, 2011, Committee Meeting

The fifth meeting of the 2011-2012 term of the Ward Three Democratic Committee (the Committee) was convened at St. Columba's Episcopal Church in the District of Columbia on Thursday, November 29, 2011. There were approximately 100 members and guests present.

The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:20 p.m. by the Chair, Shelley Tomkin, and after welcoming remarks, proceeded with a presentation by Tony Lucadamo, Ward Three Field Organizer for Obama for America. Tony reached out to the Ward Three Democratic Committee to get involved in the upcoming presidential election campaign. Interest in the prospects for greater support for D.C. self-determination from President Obama was expressed by the audience.

The Committee then proceeded with a report on the "Building Bridges" initiative of the Committee, which seeks to build relationships between Ward 3 and other Ward Democratic Committees, by Deborah Shore and Matthew Kozik, Precinct 26 Delegate. They spoke about two projects to create opportunities for young people to participate in civic life, 1) community service opportunities that would team Ward 3 Wilson High School students with students living in different wards, and 2) engaging young adults who have moved to D.C. from other states in Ward Democratic Committees, and encouraging them to register to vote in D.C.

The meeting continued with the two guest speakers. Ward 3 Councilmember Mary Cheh described city initiatives affecting Ward 3, a new debt collection initiative, school growth and modernization, streetscape projects, recreation fields and new fire houses. She then introduced Mayor Vincent Gray. The Mayor introduced a number of government visitors present and spoke about the fiscal health of the city, continued education reform, economic development projects, employment, and self-determination and statehood. Their presentations were followed by questions from the audience about library hours, constituent services funds, the Lottery Board and upcoming on-line gaming issues, and American University expansion plans.

The Chair thanked our speakers and Delegates Deborah Russak, Betty and Howie Kreitzman, and Carol Shapiro for signing in attendees and Irene Morris for organizing hospitality and refreshments and adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:15 p.m.

The next Ward 3 Democratic Committee meeting will be held Thursday, January 19, 2012 at St. Columba's Episcopal Church.

Prepared by Isabel Sternberg, Recording Secretary