

Government of the District of Columbia



Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions
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TO: Dawn Dickerson, Program Analyst
FR: Denise Wiktor, General Counsel
DT: September 22, 2023
RE: Spooktacular 4D

DJW

The Petworth Peanuts has applied for a grant for its October 29, 2023, Spooktacular event and ANC 4D voted to fund the grant at its meeting this week. The application was also submitted to the OANC.

The purpose in stated in the application is for a “free Halloween event for the greater Petworth community hosted in Sherman Circle Park.” The event will take place within ANC 4D and primarily benefit the residents of ANC 4D though likely persons from other ANCs will attend.

ANC grants must be for “public purposes within the Commission area.”¹ A public purpose is one “that benefits the community as a whole and is not done for the primary purpose of benefitting a private entity.”² The event is open to to the public and would benefit the community as a whole.²

A detailed budget was submitted with the application. I would note that there is candy in the budget. Candy would not be considered food for purposes of the D.C. Code in this instance since it will be given to a number of children in amounts too small to provide sustenance.

¹ D.C. Official Code § 1-309.13(l)(1).²
Id.

² See also *Seasoned Settlers Grant and Grants Generally* found at [Letter-to-OANC-Re-Seasoned-Settlers-Grant-andGrants-Generally-.pdf \(dc.gov\)](#)