

DC Cooperative  
Housing Coalition

Helping Co-ops Flourish



1920 ★ 2020  
Celebrating 100 Years of Co-ops in DC

A coalition representing cooperative housing units in Washington, DC since 1984

## Welcome to our new newsletter!

Summer-Fall 2021

This newsletter is the best way for you to stay informed about our activities on behalf of member DC cooperatives, including our popular educational seminars. We plan to produce the newsletter in both electronic and printed formats for now. We invite your feedback on your preference.

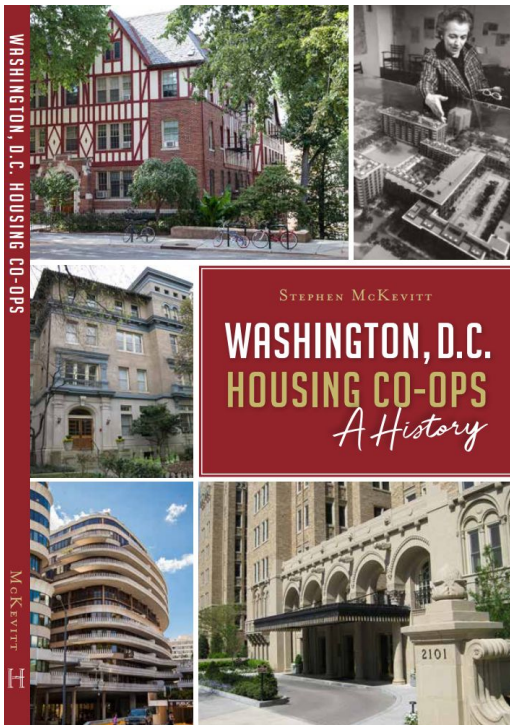
We want to hear from you.

If you would like to suggest a future seminar, please do not hesitate to drop us a line at [DCcoopcoalition@gmail.com](mailto:DCcoopcoalition@gmail.com). Also, board members and management company contacts change. In order to stay in touch, please keep us up-to-date on your key building contacts.

## Coalition Book on the History of DC Co-ops is Available on Amazon!

**Washington, D.C. Housing Co-ops: A History** by Stephen McKeivitt is available at local *Politics and Prose* bookstores, and also on *Amazon*. The book, created with the assistance of the Cooperative Housing Coalition, covers – and celebrates – the past 100 years of co-ops, looking at their beginnings and growth. It also examines many of their major developers and their fascinating architects. With photos and some interesting plans and images, the book then reviews the city's present-day co-ops and their varied and attractive buildings, and how co-ops are now flourishing in our modern world.

Buy the book: [Washington, D.C. Housing Co-ops: A History: McKeivitt, Stephen: 9781467146234: Amazon.com: Books](#)



## **ANNUAL MEETING ON ZOOM SET FOR OCTOBER 19**

### **Topic: Building Structural Reviews and Reserve Studies**

Mark your calendars! Our 2021 Annual Meeting will be held on the evening of October 19. Once again it will be a Zoom meeting. In the wake of the tragedy of the condo collapse in Florida, we have invited expert speakers to talk about structural reviews and the importance of planning for maintenance needs with reserve studies. Stay tuned. Details to come.

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### **SAVE THE DATE! Saturday morning, November 6**

#### **Saturday Seminar on the District's energy benchmarking program**

Hear from experts from the DC Department of Energy & Environment about the energy conservation program that will apply to all District cooperatives. Watch your email for details.

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### **About us**

The D.C. Cooperative Housing Coalition exists to advance the common interests of cooperative housing associations in the District of Columbia and promote cooperative housing as a desirable form of home ownership. It is therefore both an advocacy organization that articulates the interests of members before government officials and regulatory agencies and a service organization that provides information and education to members.

The Coalition grew out of an ad hoc group of District cooperatives that formed in response to a judicial ruling that had cast a cloud over many cooperatives by banning proportionate voting. By marshaling the forces of more than 3,000 units, the ad hoc group persuaded the D.C. City Council to resolve the matter. Recognizing the importance to the cooperative housing community of speaking in a single voice and maintaining the ability to respond quickly and knowledgeably to matters affecting cooperative housing, the ad hoc group decided to form a permanent organization. The Coalition was established in 1984 and was incorporated as the DC/CHC, Inc., a nonprofit organization in the District of Columbia, in 1993.



# Saturday Members-Only Seminar: Redecorating Common Areas – The Dos and Don'ts

On April 10, the coalition hosted a Saturday Members-Only Seminar on redecorating the common areas of our buildings. Presenters from local design firms offered step-by-step guidelines to help plan and execute these projects. They covered the nuts and bolts, including creating a clear scope, determining the budget, establishing an internal process, and managing resident expectations. The speakers were Sabine Roy and Drew Garfield from SR/A Interior Architecture + Design, Ken Tarter from International Wall Designs and Brian Smith from B. Smith Interiors. Gail Isaac, from coalition member co-op Shoreham West, spoke about her building's experience in successfully completing a major renovation, after navigating a few potholes along the way.

Details were covered such as how to think long-term to avoid a disjointed look as renovations are done at different times with different boards and planners, how to conduct a cost estimation exercise to avoid surprises, and why a detailed plan and Request for Proposal are critical. About 50 participants representing 30 coalition members took part in the seminar. Presenters emphasized that revitalizing common areas helps maintain an older building's position in the marketplace as newer properties are built with many attractive amenities.

Our seminars are organized to share information and help our members gain insights from their fellow co-op residents and board members. If you have a seminar idea, let us know!

## Recent Surveys

The results from the following Coalition member-requested surveys were shared with member co-ops' presidents, managers, and their representatives to the Coalition. How widely the results are distributed to others is a co-op's responsibility. These surveys were conducted January through June 2021.

- Employee Handbook (January)
  - Electronic Bulletin Board Policy (January)
  - Repair Responsibility (February)
  - Emergency Plans (February)
  - Energy Benchmarking (February)
  - Computer Maintenance Management (March)
  - Laundry Room (April)
  - Elevator Performance (June)
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# Surfside Condo Tragedy Shows Importance of Reserve Studies, Regular Maintenance

The Surfside condo collapse is a stark reminder of the need for co-ops to conduct reserve studies and stay current with repairs and maintenance. The Community Associations Institute (CAI) is a great resource. The Washington Chapter of the CAI provides a service directory with links to firms that conduct reserve studies or structural reviews.

RESERVE STUDIES - <https://caidc.officialbuyersguide.net/SearchResult.asp?cid=39>

ENGINEERS - <https://caidc.officialbuyersguide.net/SearchResult.asp?cid=14>

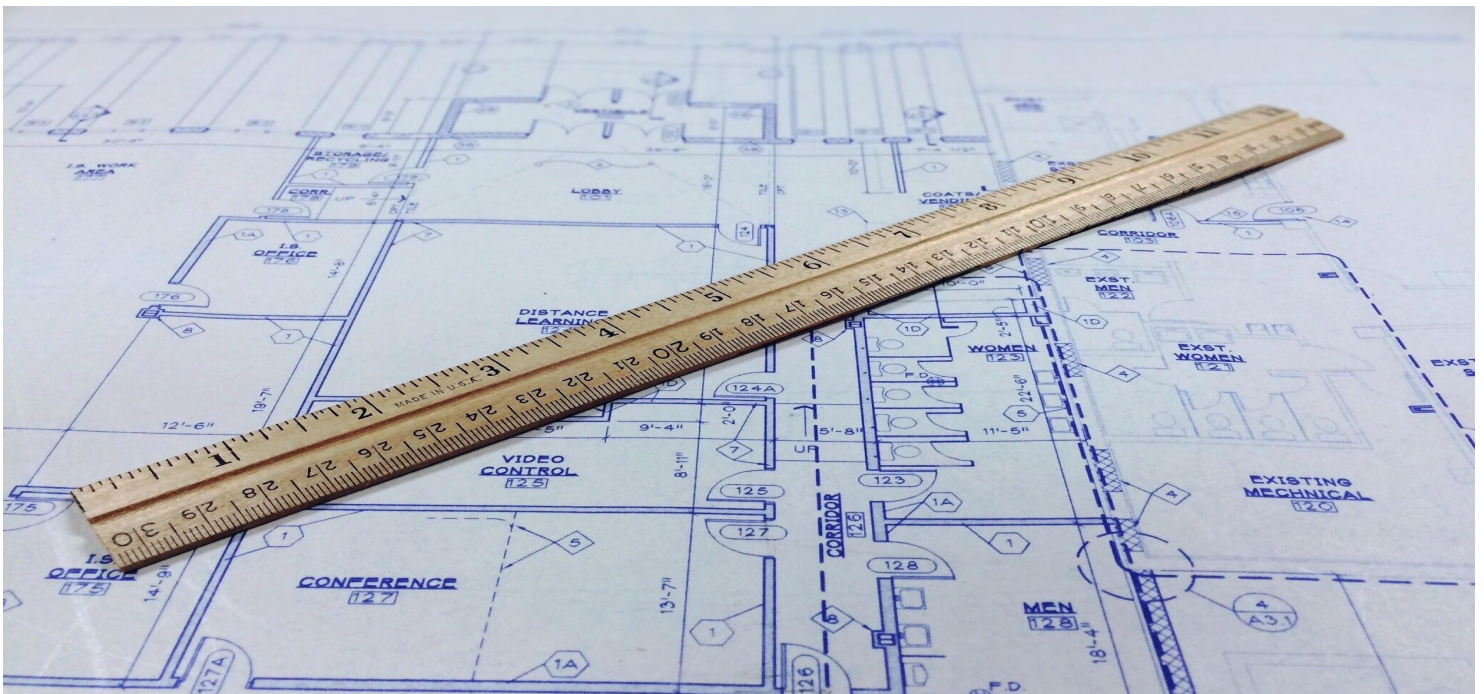
ARCHITECTS/ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW - <https://caidc.officialbuyersguide.net/SearchResult.asp?cid=2>

More information from CAI National:

<https://foundation.caionline.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/FoundationAgingInfrastructureReport.pdf>

[https://foundation.caionline.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/2020HSS\\_TopicOnePagere\\_Reserves.pdf](https://foundation.caionline.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/2020HSS_TopicOnePagere_Reserves.pdf)

[https://foundation.caionline.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/FB\\_Narrative\\_2019.pdf](https://foundation.caionline.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/FB_Narrative_2019.pdf)



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# Board of Directors

## **President**

Russ Rader

Westmoreland, 60 units

## **Vice President**

Katie Wilson

Cathedral Avenue, 145 units

## **Secretary**

Art Leabman

1870 Wyoming Avenue, 28 units

## **Treasurer**

Ray Olson

River Park, 518 units

## **Directors**

-Matt Buzby

Broadmoor, 194 units

-Fred Dyda

Tilden Gardens, 170 units

-Loretta Glaze Elliott

Shoreham West, 60 units

-Andy Litsky

Tiber Island, 389 units

-Stephen McKeivitt

Beverly Court, 39 units

-Karen Jones

Harbour Square, 447 units

-Janet Sten

3020 Tilden Street, 21 units

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