

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 24, 1990 MEETING  
OF THE DUPONT CIRCLE ANC (ANC 2B)

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The Dupont Circle ANC held a regularly-stated meeting on Wednesday, January 24, 1990 at St. Thomas Church. Present were commissioners Moses, Rieffel, Gaugler, Bass, Maggi, and Evans. Commissioner Grandis was absent.

Chairman Evans convened the meeting at 7:30 p.m. and asked if members of the public cared to address issues not on the agenda.

Mr. Joe Wittke (tel. 429-0175), a resident of the Bristol House at 1400 20th Street complained about the noise from Cagney's and Chicago's, especially during the Thursday "Happy Hour." He complained that patrons throw bottles, shout, urinate in public and park in private spots. Residents are unable to sleep because of the noise, yet when they telephone the police, the response time is very slow. Mr. Wittke agreed to return to the February 7 meeting of the ANC to present these concerns to the Third District police.

Chairman Evans noted that although a Third District Police representative is supposed to be at the second meeting each month, no such representative was present.

Father Paul Murray of St. Matthew's Cathedral expressed concerns about police priorities in that police are ticketing pedestrians while ignoring motorists who make illegal right turns. He also expressed concern about bicyclists on sidewalks who threaten the safety of pedestrians. Commissioner Rieffel agreed that these were severe problems, especially along the 17th Street corridor, and the commissioners agreed that Chairman Evans would transmit a letter to the appropriate authorities noting the following problems:

Although 17th Street is one-way during morning rush hour, cars turn north from M Street onto 17th Street because they don't notice the one-way sign. This happens numerous times daily, and creates a major hazard.

Pedestrian safety is a serious concern. Not only are cars making illegal right turns, but especially during rush hour, they block pedestrian crosswalks. Pedestrians are presented with two choices--to walk in front of cars blocking crosswalks, i.e. into traffic, or to walk behind such cars, hoping that the driver doesn't suddenly decide to back up.

Messengers on sidewalks create a serious hazard.

Commissioner Rieffel presented the minutes of the last

meeting but asked that approval be postponed until commissioners have had time to review them. In particular, she was uncertain that these minutes were accurate with respect to the persons who made and seconded the main motion and amendment concerning "Mr. P's."

She was informed that commissioner Gaugler had seconded the amendment and that commissioner Grandis had seconded the main motion.

Under Commissioners reports, commissioner Rieffel reported that she planned to convene existing 17th street liquor store owners to attempt to implement a voluntary agreement. Mr. Gaugler noted that there will be a meeting next week concerning the 17th Street plan. Mr. Bass noted the receipt of a letter concerning the transcript in the Buckley's Grill ABC case. Mr. Evans noted that he has been told that 85% of the parking spaces in the 17th and Q building have been rented to monthly tenants, leaving only 15% available for transient use--in violation of representations made to the ANC by liquor license applicants that ample parking would be provided within the building for their patrons. Mr. Evans has transmitted a letter to the ABC Board concerning this matter.

Mr. Evans moved, and Mrs. Rieffel seconded, a motion to renew the ANC's lease for its office quarters, at the same rent of \$400, but to request the landlord to address the problem of vagrants blocking the front steps so that people can't move into and out of the building, and so that the mail cannot be delivered. The motion was approved unanimously.

Staff coordinator Nancy Melville noted that an Animal Adoption Day will be conducted at Friends Meeting of Washington on February 3.

Ms. Moses moved, and Mrs. Rieffel seconded a motion that the staff coordinator be authorized to purchase a copy machine up to \$1,000. The motion was passed with Mr. Gaugler voting in opposition and other commissioners voting in favor.

Mr. Bass moved, and Mr. Maggi seconded a motion to transfer \$1,000 in the budget to the grants category from the reserve category. The motion was passed with Mr. Gaugler voting in opposition and other commissioners voting in favor.

Mr. Evans moved, and Mrs. Rieffel seconded a motion to approve the FY 90 budget. The motion was passed, with Mr. Gaugler voting in opposition and other commissioners voting in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alaire Bretz Rieffel, Secretary