

Letters:

To: Paul Greenberg, Consumer Utility Board
Re: Appointment of Kathleen O'Reilly to PSC

To: BZA

Re: BZA Application #15613

**MINUTES OF THE MAY 27, 1992 MEETING OF THE DUPONT CIRCLE
ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 2B**

The Dupont Circle ANC 2B held a regularly scheduled meeting on May 27, 1992 at St. Thomas Parish. Commissioners Meier, Pagano, Schwager and Shannon were present. (Commissioners Bass and Grandis arrived as noted below.) Vice-Chair Schwager called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. Officers G.V. Lee and K.R. Hoffman of the third district gave a police report.

During the Open Forum Mr. Joshua Sliver of the Committee for Better Transit, discussed an idea to form a Citizens' Advisory Committee for Metro. He left a petition for all those interested to sign.

At 7:50 p.m. Chairman Bass arrived.

Adoption of the Minutes

Ms. Shannon moved and Mr. Meier seconded, a motion to adopt the minutes of the May 13, 1992 ANC meeting. This motion passed unanimously.

At 8:00 p.m. Mr. Grandis arrived.

Issues:

I. Iverson Mitchell, attorney for the applicants for BZA Application #15613 and the architect for the project Tom Shiner, were present at the meeting to discuss their modifications to plans for new construction on the vacant lot at 18th and R streets, N.W. The new modifications will maintain the FAR at 4.0, lot occupancy will be 100%, and will include a recreation space approximately 483 feet. The only parking provided is a one-car garage for a compact car.

Mr. Grandis moved and Ms. Schwager seconded, a motion that ANC 2B oppose the application and plans as presented based on the ANC's continued concerns specifically: 1) there is nothing unique or exceptional about the subject site in comparison with surrounding lots, which would permit the applicant to satisfy the legal requirements necessary to obtain an area variance; 2) increases in density and in FAR are inconsistent with zoning map changes to the Dupont Circle area and the objectives of the Dupont Circle Overlay enacted by the Zoning Commission; 3) ANC 2B has consistently opposed new curb cuts because of their adverse impact on parking availability and traffic safety, and this remains a problem at the subject site

at 18th and R Streets; and 4) such a variance will have a detrimental impact on the light and air quality to the occupants of the contiguous building primarily due to the increase in FAR requested. The ANC's opposition in this case does not indicate that the ANC opposes a matter of right building on this property, as distinct from the proposed project. This motion passed with Commissioners Bass and Pagano in abstention.

II.

Mr. Bass proposed that ANC 2B nominate Kathleen F. O'Reilly to a term on the D.C. Public Service Commission. Councilmember Jack Evans will also interview Ms. O'Reilly for this position.

Mr. Grandis moved and Ms. Shannon seconded, a motion that ANC 2B recommends that Kathleen F. O'Reilly be appointed to fill one of the two positions on the D.C. Public Service Commission that will be open in 1992. This motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Reports

Mr. Grandis reported that the ANC account balances with the bank statements. He suggested that the ANC invite Andre Lewis from the F.O.P. to attend the next ANC meeting, when the "Reorganization of Police Districts Act" will be discussed, so that the ANC can learn how the rank and file will be affected by this legislation. He also suggested that representatives from Councilmember Crawford's office be invited to attend as well.

Mr. Pagano reported that he is going to meet this weekend with the committee he chairs comprised of concerned citizens and the developer at 1721 21st Street. He will keep the ANC informed on this matter.

Mr. Bass moved and Mr. Pagano seconded a motion that ANC 2B request the Public Service Commission to remove 2 payphones in the West Dupont Circle Park that have been used for alleged drug activity as documented by the Park Service Police. This motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Meier reported that all the benches in Dupont Circle have now been replaced. He also reported that he attended the BZA hearing for the Malaysian Embassy and it was found that 1 1/2 of the parking spaces outside the embassy are on public space which is illegal. The Board requested that the applicants have their plans redrawn showing the new number of parking spaces to be 5-6 and indicating the public space. Mr. Meier went on to say that he attended the BZA hearing for the Saudi Arabian Embassy on May 20th. Because of the lateness of the hour his comments were not taken by the BZA into the record, so he sent a letter to the BZA regarding the Saudi Arabian Embassy. Mr. Welt, an owner of a building next to the proposed embassy extension informed the Commission that if the plans for the embassy are approved, a newly constructed wall which is taller than his building, will block out any light and air to 15 windows in his building. He asked the ANC to help in this matter. The ANC informed Mr. Welt that if the record for this case is not

closed by June 10th, the date of the next ANC meeting, this issue will again be put on the agenda for that night.

Ms. Shannon reported that the task force addressing potential Halloween problems have been meeting and should have a report for the July 15th meeting.

Old Business

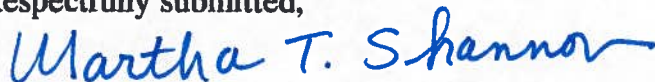
Mr. Bass asked for comments from the Commission and those present on the two bills that Councilmember Jack Evans discussed at the May 13th meeting of the ANC: Bill 9-494, "Resident Parking Plan Amendment Act of 1992" and Bill 9-392, "Business Improvement Districts Act of 1991". After discussing both bills, the Commissioners decided to take no position on either bill.

New Business

The Commission will nominate Charles Lowe to the Traffic Adjudication Board. Mr. Bass also reported that he received a letter from the Committee for Better Transit asking the ANC to support them in requesting that METRO consider forming a Citizens Advisory Board. It was decided that more information about the advisory board would be needed before any decision could be made.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Martha Shannon
Secretary, ANC 2B