

Letters

To: BZA

Re: BZA Application No. 15753, 1631-33 16th Street, N.W.

To: HPRB

Re: 1631-33 16th Street, N.W.

To: Evelyn Shields, Director, Office of Recycling

Re: Dupont Circle Recycling Drop-Off, 25th and N Sts., N.W.

To: ABC

Re: ABC Application No. 31473, D-P Inc., t/a Pesce, 2016 P Street, N.W.

To: HPRB

Re: Logan Circle Historic Landmark Designation

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 28, 1992 MEETING OF THE DUPONT CIRCLE
ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 2B

The Dupont Circle ANC 2B held a regularly scheduled meeting on October 28, 1992 at St. Thomas Parish. Commissioners Pagano, Shannon, Bass, Meier, Schwager, Taylor, and Grandis were present. Chairman Bass called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. Lt. Sal Lauro of the U.S. Park Police gave a police report. Commissioner Taylor asked Lt. Lauro if the Park Police patrol the P Street Beach area after dark. Lt. Lauro replied that the police do random searches of the area. Commissioner Taylor also informed Lt. Lauro that the small park on P street has become increasingly worse with the homeless panhandling and cooking outdoors. Lt. Lauro said he would look into the matter. A resident reported that he and another person were held up by gunpoint at 19th and Riggs Pl., N.W., which they reported to the police. The assailant has not been caught. A Southeast resident, Matthew Donaghue, attended the meeting to inform the ANC that he was assaulted on P Street, N.W. and pushed into a stairwell. He wanted the ANC to know about the incident which he said was bias related. He suggested that the city cover up the stairwells around Dupont Circle. Chairman Bass responded that Councilmember Evans was proposing a budget line item to accomplish this.

During the Open Forum Dennis Gaugler, a resident at 1634 Riggs Pl., N.W. told the ANC of continuing problems he and others in the area are experiencing with inebriated individuals urinating, defecating, and littering. He said that since the change in ownership of Berose Liquors, 1711 17th Street, N.W. problems have increased. He said he has even been threatened by drunk individuals using bottles and bricks. Mr. Gaugler therefore, requested the ANC's support in this matter. The owner of Berose Liquors, Mr. Han Tok Yi, was unable to attend the meeting but his sister and wife were in attendance. His sister told the ANC that there are other liquor stores in the area that may be selling to these drunk individuals but that Berose does not sell to drunk individuals. She said that they too, have experienced harassment from these people. Commissioner Shannon, within whose SMD Berose lies, reminded Mr. Yi's sister that the ANC and Berose have a voluntary agreement that must be adhered to. Commissioner Ed Grandis suggested that Mr. Yi talk

with the owners of the liquor store at 18th and T to find out how they have handled similar problems. He also suggested he speak with the owners of Cairo Liquor on 17th Street to discuss how to deal with the problems. Danny Callahan of La Fonda Restaurant, 1639 R Street, N.W., said that he has seen the problems in the area get worse and that Mr. Yi has tried to run his business as best as he could. Mr. Callahan offered to go with Mr. Yi to speak with the different liquor store owners.

Adoption of the Minutes

Ms. Shannon moved and Ms. Schwager seconded, a motion to adopt the minutes of the October 14, 1992 meeting of the Dupont Circle ANC 2B. This motion passed unanimously.

Issues:

I.

Candidates for the seven seats on the Dupont Circle ANC were present at the meeting to inform those present of their goals for the ANC if elected. For 2B01, Kevin Ivers and Larry Ray are the qualifying candidates, 2B02 Jay Pagano, 2B03 Martha Shannon, 2B04 Dennis Bass, 2B05 Russell Gamble, 2B06 Pam Taylor and 2B07 Harry Meier, Dennis Holmes and Lisa Moczynski.

II.

Jim Smith, attorney for BZA Application No. 15753, 1631-33 16th Street, N.W. was present at the meeting to discuss plans to subdivide the lot on the property into two lots, which requires area variances, and convert an existing 42 unit rooming house into a 5 unit condo or apartment house and a 3 unit apartment house.

Mr. Bass moved and Ms. Shannon seconded, a motion that ANC 2B support BZA Application No. 15753 for 1631 and 1633 16th Street, N.W., for the subdivision of the lot into two lots, and conversion of an existing 42 unit rooming house into a 5 unit condominium or apartment house and a 3 unit apartment house. This motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Smith also requested that the ANC write a letter to the HPRB stating it's position on this application.

Mr. Bass moved and Ms. Shannon seconded a motion that ANC 2B supports the subdivision of lot 817, Square 193 at 1631 and 1633 16th Street, N.W. Approval is limited to this matter only. This motion passed unanimously.

III.

Mr. Bill Freese, manager of the Dupont Circle Recycling Center at 25th and N Sts., N.W. was present at the meeting to update the ANC on his efforts to improve the operation of the center. Mr. Freese informed the ANC that he has: 1) installed a new 10 ton newspaper bin at the facility and limited the hours of drop off to 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. on

weekends 2) contracted with new aluminum hauler who now comes on a more regular basis 3) hired new volunteers to work during the week rather than just on weekends 4) handed out fliers notifying residents of the new hours of drop-off 5) contacted GWU which has offered to supply the facility with extra trash bins. Mr. Freese also presented a recent photo of the recycling center which showed it to be clean and organized. Mr. Fonseca of the West End Business Association also presented a photo taken of the center the day after the photo by Mr. Freese and it showed the center to be messy and disorganized. Mr. Fonseca told the ANC that the WEBA does not want the recycling center to be closed down but wants the facility to be manned. Many residents expressed their willingness to help the center because of the great need for it in the area. Commissioner Grandis suggested that perhaps a partnership with the city could be reached. Mr. Freese told the ANC that the city has been unwilling to help and gave the center the choice of either relocating or letting it take over the facility. It was then suggested that a letter be sent to the Office of Recycling requesting their full cooperation with the center.

Ms. Taylor moved and Mr. Grandis seconded, a motion to support the continued operation of the recycling center at 25th and N Sts., N.W., until January 27, at which time Mr. Freese will return to the ANC for further discussion. This motion passed unanimously.

IV.

Mr. Stephen O'Brien, attorney for D-P Inc., ABC Application No. 31473 was present at the meeting to discuss his clients application for a Class "DR" license. D-P Inc., plan to open a retail fish store at 2016 P Street, N.W. Ms. Taylor said she was concerned with having another liquor licensed establishment on P Street and said that when residents first heard of the proposal it was thought that it would only be a fresh fish shop and not a place to also buy beer and wine. Ms. Taylor also went on to say that there is already a trash problem on P Street and the thought of having fish remains in trash bins was undesirable. The applicants explained that they will not be putting fish remains on the public space but rather will be using a disposal to discard them. All other trash will be taken to the Les Belles Fleur shop and placed in their dumpsters for pick up. The ANC was also informed that an ionizer will be used to diffuse fish odors. There will be no bar and food service will stop at 11:00 p.m. Tues - Sunday. The applicants have no plans to apply for a sidewalk cafe. Chairman Bass reiterated the fact that there is an overconcentration of ABC licenses on P Street and informed those present that the ANC's proposal for a moratorium on ABC licenses on that block has already been presented to the ABC Board. Kyle Pitsor, President of the DCCA also informed the ANC that the applicants had managed another ABC licensed establishment, Galileo's and were not very cooperative with residents.

Mr. Pagano moved and Ms. Taylor seconded, a motion to protest the issuance of a new Class "DR" license, Application No. 31483, for D-P, Inc. t/a Pesce, 2016 P Street, N.W., for the following reasons:

- 1) Further ABC-licensed establishments in this area will adversely affect the peace, order, and quiet of the nearby residents. Residents currently suffer from high levels of noise pollution, illegal parking by patrons of ABC establishments, and littering of

residential property and public space by inebriated patrons of these establishments.

2) Issuance of this license will contribute to an overconcentration of ABC-licensed establishments. There are currently 26 ABC licenses within a one-block radius of this license and ANC 2B has submitted a petition for a moratorium on the issuance of ABC licenses in this area.

3) the applicant's record of compliance and cooperation with adjacent residential neighbors at another licensed establishment owned or managed by the applicant (Galileo's) indicated problems in the future operations of the proposed establishment.

This motion passed unanimously.

V.

Chairman Bass informed those present of the ANC's proposal for a renewal of the moratorium on ABC licenses on 17th Street, N.W. The moratorium will: 1) renew the moratorium which was established in 1990 2) put a "freeze" on seating capacities at their current level 3) increase the period of the moratorium to 5 years 4) change the name of the moratorium zone to the "East Dupont Moratorium Zone". A representative from Trumpets was concerned about the "freeze" on seating capacities because he said that in the future, Trumpets may use additional space for private functions. He asked if the moratorium will prohibit that. Commissioner Grandis commented that he thought a freeze was too restrictive and that perhaps some additions in seating capacities could be accepted. John Calameco, of Boss Shepherds said that he felt that ABC licensed establishments were being singled out and not allowed to expand. It was then decided that a meeting between business owners and the ANC would be organized to further discuss the seating capacity issue.

Mr. Pagano moved and Mr. Grandis seconded, a motion that ANC action on the petition for renewal of the East Dupont Circle ABC moratorium be postponed until the November 18 meeting of the ANC to allow for a meeting between the 17th Street Merchants Association and the ANC to discuss the language of the moratorium proposal regarding the freeze on seating capacities. This motion passed unanimously.

VI.

Mr. James Slaughter of the "Coalition to vote NO on the Death Penalty Referendum" was present at the meeting to discuss the Death Penalty ballot issue. The ANC invited the "pro" side in the issue to the meeting but they did not attend.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Meier reported that the HPRB denied the application for 11 Dupont Circle. The applicants cannot go ahead with their application but they can appeal the decision which will be a long process. Another option for the applicants is to revise their current application and resubmit it to the HPRB. They will of course, have to come before

the ANC with those revisions.

Chairman Bass reported on the crime meeting he attended with residents of his SMD and said he was astounded at the amount of crimes that go unreported. He promised to make crime his focus for next year.

Ms. Taylor also reported on the crime meeting she organized and said that she too, will focus on crime in the coming year.

New Business

The ANC voted unanimously to adopt the following motion:

Mr. Bass moved and Ms. Shannon seconded, a motion to strongly urge the Historic Preservation Review Board to grant the application for historic landmark status for the row house at 1327 N Street, N.W. This structure has city-wide significance as one of the few remaining antebellum brick dwellings in the District. This rare building qualifies in all respects for landmark designation and we urge the Board to move expeditiously to grant it, since it is in imminent danger of demolition.

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha T. Shannon

Martha T. Shannon
Secretary, ANC 2B