

Letters:

To: ABC

Re: International Market & Deli

To: Manager, Peoples Drug Store, 17th and P Streets, N.W.

Re: Cleaning public space in front of store

To: Manager, Blockbusters, 1639 P Street, N.W.

Re: Cleaning public space in front of store

To: DPW

Re: Replacing trash receptacle in front of People's

To: Riggs Bank

Re: Byron Peck Mural

To: Carol Hill Lowe, Director, Dept. of Rec. and Parks

Re: Dupont Circle Recycling Project

To: PSC

Re: Installation of payphone at 1618 17th Street, N.W.

MINUTES OF THE JULY 21, 1993 MEETING OF THE DUPONT CIRCLE ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 2B

The Dupont Circle ANC 2B held a regularly scheduled public meeting on July 21 at St. Thomas Parish. Commissioners Ray, Pagano, Shannon, Bass, Gamble, and Holmes were present. ANC 2B Chair, Dennis Bass, called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. Captain R.V. Boggs of the third district gave a police report. He pointed out that there has been a considerable reduction in theft from autos in the Dupont area comparing statistics from June '92 to June '93. He also pointed out that robberies have increased. Lt. Van Horn of the U.S. Park Police, gave a crime report and introduced Lt. Bruce Cunningham who is his temporary replacement and will attend the ANC meetings. Lt. Van Horn is going on to another assignment and will be promoted to Captain.

At this time, Chairman Bass introduced Mr. Ronald Moore who is the newly appointed Director of Stead. He addressed the ANC and those present informing them that Stead is scheduled to be finished by the last week in July. However, he said that there are problems with sodding the field and rats. Also, the handicap ramp is not finished, and upon completion, will extend only to the first floor of the facility, thus, prohibiting access to the upper floor to all handicapped individuals. Mr. Moore said that he is a multi-media artist and plans on having photography, pottery, and other art classes at Stead as well as sports of all kinds. He asked that anyone with ideas of other classes to be offered give him a call. Commissioner Gamble encouraged everyone to get involved with the "Adopt a Park" program to help maintain Stead and other parks in D.C.

Adoption of the Minutes

Commissioner Shannon moved, and Commissioner Gamble seconded, a motion to adopt the minutes of the June 9, 1993 meeting of the Dupont Circle ANC 2B. This motion passed with Commissioner Ray in abstention.

Issues:

I. Nancy Moses and Don Jackson were present at the meeting and informed the Commission that Pepco will now assign representatives to each ANC. These representatives will attend ANC meetings and answer any questions residents might have about their electric service. Kyle Pitsor, President of DCCA, asked about residential rate increases. Mr. Jackson said he would get more information and present it at the next ANC meeting. Ms. Moses said that if anyone is having any problems with their service or wants to ask questions, to call the Pepco customer service line at 833-7500.

II. The new owners of International Market & Deli, Weinchet Tolessa and Mestawat Wede, and their attorney, Mr. Michael Levy were present at the meeting to discuss ABC Application No. 22458. Mr. Levy began by saying that there will be no substantial changes to the establishment but that the new owners will be more responsive to the community. He also presented Chairman Bass with the voluntary agreement between the ANC and his clients, which was agreed upon and signed by the applicants. Chairman Bass commented that this agreement was identical to agreements with other class "A" and "B" stores in the area. He also informed the applicants that the previous owners were fined for sale to minors and cautioned them against this. Kyle Pitsor, President of the Dupont Circle Citizens Association, said that he was very concerned with the previous owners and their selling of alcohol to minors and inebriants. He said that the previous owners were ordered by the ABC Board to put their personnel through ABC training and asked if the new owners would be willing to undergo such training. The Applicants replied that they would. Mr. Pitsor also asked the Applicants if they will follow all ABC laws in regard to these problems and they again replied yes. Mr. Levy pointed out that the two ladies would be the only fulltime employees. Commissioner Pagano, within whose SMD this establishment lies, said that it is in the best interest of the Applicants to police their establishment and not to sell to minors or inebriants. He said that the ANC is willing to work with them.

Mr. Pagano moved, and Ms. Shannon seconded, a motion that ANC 2B support the transfer and renewal of ABC license No. 22458, for International Market & Deli, 2010 P Street, N.W. on condition that the approved voluntary agreement is incorporated into the reissuance of this license. This motion passed unanimously.

IV. The ANC tabled its discussion of SuperCrown Books and the neon lighting in its windows until the August 18 meeting of the ANC. Kyle Pitsor said that the DCCA is conducting an investigation into the historic district lighting regulations and will notify the ANC of its findings.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Ray reported that Ambassel, 1910 18th Street, N.W. is still operating

as a nightclub and he is staying involved in the case. Straits of Malaya is applying for a tavern/coffeehouse license and Mr. Ray is in the process of working out a voluntary agreement with the owners.

Ms. Shannon reported that she has been working with DCCA, Marilyn Groves, and Tom Day, Ward 2 Sanitation Officer, to identify infractions of D.C. Sanitation laws.

Mr. Bass reported that Francis Pool is expected to open August 15. The Dept. of Recreation and Parks notified him that they are planning a grand opening.

Mr. Gamble encouraged all to get involved in the "Adopt a Park" program. He also reported on sidewalk cleaning problems with Peoples Drug on 17th Street and Blockbusters. He asked that the ANC send a letter to the managers of Peoples and Blockbusters to clean the public space in front of their establishments. He also requested that another letter be written to the Dept. of Public Works requesting that the trash receptacle adjacent to the METRO stop on the corner of 17th and P streets, be replaced and emptied consistently. Lastly, Mr. Gamble said that Fox and Hounds and Trio Restaurant are reportedly staying open past its legal hours of operation. He asked anyone with information on this matter to contact him.

Commissioner Holmes commented on the increasing trash, garbage, and rat problems on his block of P Street and in the city in general. He requested that the ANC make this an official agenda item for its first September meeting. Ms. Shannon reminded him that she is already working with DCCA and Tom Day to help with these problems and invited him to join their effort by contacting Marilyn Groves. Kyle Pitsor said that the DPW is reporting regularly to the DCCA on sanitation infractions.

Office Lease

Mr. Bass moved and Mr. Gamble seconded, a motion to adopt the lease for the new ANC office located at 1347 Conn. Ave., N.W. This motion passed unanimously.

At this time, Mr. Bass explained that as part of the process in hiring staff coordinator Hollie Saiz as a permanent ANC employee, the ANC must agree to, and sign, a D.C. personnel adoption agreement in regard to health benefits and sign Ms. Saiz's employee agreement for one year, ending 7/31/94. Mr. Bass also proposed giving Ms. Saiz an hourly pay increase from \$12 to \$13.

Mr. Bass moved and Mr. Ray seconded, a motion to adopt the D.C. personnel agreement and the employment agreement reflecting an hourly wage increase for Ms. Saiz to \$13 per hour. This motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

Chairman Bass reported that Riggs Bank will let the proposed mural by local artist, Byron Peck, happen if the ANC agrees not to include the mural in future considerations regarding the bank's Dupont Circle property.

Mr. Bass moved and Mr. Pagano seconded, a motion that ANC 2B supports the mural proposed for the Riggs National Bank property at Connecticut Avenue and Q Street, N.W. by Mr. Byron Peck. In the consideration of any future disposition of that property by Riggs National Bank, the existence of the mural will not be a factor considered by the present ANC. The ANC preserves all its other rights and other considerations related to the property. This motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Bass added the word present ANC after a resident voiced a concern that the motion could not restrict the free speech of future ANC Commissioners.

New Business

Ms. Shannon discussed the Public Service Commission's request for the ANC's recommendation on the installation of a new public payphone at 1618 17th Street. Ms. Shannon said that she investigated the situation and offered the following motion:

Ms. Shannon moved and Mr. Ray seconded, a motion that ANC 2B oppose the installation of a new public payphone at 1618 17th Street, N.W. because there is an adequate number of payphones in the immediate vicinity. This motion passed unanimously.

Open Forum

A resident voiced her concern with the transfer of Mr. Roenokee Evans from Stead Park. The ANC informed the resident that it had sent a letter to Carol Hill Lowe, Director of the Dept. of Recreation and Parks, voicing its opposition to Mr. Evans' transfer but that the transfer had been made.

Mr. Bill Freese, of the Dupont Circle Recycling Center informed the ANC that he had received a letter from Carol Hill Lowe, requesting that the site be closed down by the end of July. Mr. Freese reminded the ANC 2B that it supported the continued operation of the facility at its January 27, 1993 meeting and requested that the ANC send a letter to Ms. Lowe reaffirming its position. Mr. Pagano moved and Mr. Ray seconded, a motion that ANC 2B send a letter to Carol Hill Lowe asking for an explanation as to why the facility should be shut down and pointing out that the ANC has worked very diligently with this facility to improve conditions in its operation. Further, the ANC has not received any recent complaints about the facility and inquires why the center has been requested to close. This motion passed with Commissioner Bass in abstention.

Resident, Robin Diener said that she is willing to fund a literacy program to involve teens and adults. She asked the ANC if they could suggest whom to contact. It was suggested that she get in touch with another resident, Debby Hanrahan who is very active with Ross Elementary. It was also suggested that she contact Francis Jr. High School.

Maxine Sitts, Jr. Warden for St. Thomas Parish, introduced herself to the ANC and stressed that the church is interested in increasing social events at the church.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha T. Shannon

Martha Shannon

Secretary

ANC 2B