

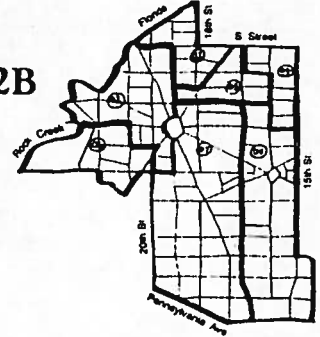


**DUPONT CIRCLE
ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 2B**

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Letters:

To: Rep. Fortney Stark
Rep. Julian Dixon and
Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton
U.S. House of Representatives
Senator Herbert Kohl
Senator Conrad Burns and
Senator James Sasser
U.S. Senate
Re: D.C. Budget

To: Public Space Commission
Re: Lawson's Gourmets proposed use of public space

To: Public Space Commission
Re: Review Dupont Circle Recycling Project

To: Madeliene H. Robinson - BZA
Re: Jana Corporations revised parking lot design

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 27, 1994 MEETING OF THE DUPONT CIRCLE ANC 2B

The Dupont Circle ANC 2B held a regularly scheduled public meeting on April 27, 1994 at St. Thomas Parish. Commissioners Shannon, Gamble, Bass, Taylor, Pagano, Holmes and Ray were present. Chairman Gamble called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm.

Introduction of the Commissioners

Adoption of the Minutes.

Ms. Shannon moved and Mr. Ray seconded a motion to adopt the minutes of the April 13, 1994 meeting of the Dupont Circle ANC 2B. This motion passed unanimously.

ISSUES:

I.

Commissioner Holmes introduced a request for a public space permit by Lawson's Gourmet, 1350 Connecticut Ave. Mr. Larry Abrams presented plans for Lawson's proposed outdoor cafe. The space occupied would be on the 19th street side of Lawson's, next to the windows consisting of 7 tables, seating capacity of 15. Mr. Abrams said that he was responding to patrons' requests for outdoor seating, the tables would be outside for 6 or 7 hours a day, between the hours of 11am and 5pm. The area would be self service, food and non-alcoholic beverages only. Mr. Holmes said that he was

COMMISSIONERS

01 Larry Ray
Parliamentarian

02 Jay Pagano

03 Martha Shannon
Secretary

04 Dennis Bass

05 Russell Gamble
Chairperson

06 Pam Taylor
Vice Chairperson

07 Dennis Holmes
Treasurer

satisfied with the proposed hours of operation. Mr. Bass asked how many feet to the Metro entrance. Mr. Abrams responded 15 feet. Mr. Gamble asked if Lawson's was willing to conform the stipulated hours of operation as being between 11am and 5pm. Mr. Abrams responded that he'd rather not be locked into those specific hours. Mr. Abrams indicated that he may want to vary hours on particular days. Mr. Holmes asked if he could live with a restriction of 9-5. Mr. Abrams said he would like to have no restrictions on Saturdays.

Commissioner Holmes moved and Ms. Taylor seconded a motion to support Lawson's Gourmet's 1350 Connecticut Ave., NW, request for a public space permit for a sidewalk cafe to operate between the hours of 9am to 5pm weekdays and 9am to 6pm on Saturdays, restriction to these hours will avoid congestion at the Metro entrance. Lawson's agree to police the area for trash. This motion passed unanimously.

II.

The next item on the agenda was the review of the testimony to be given by Commissioner Shannon before The Committee of Public Works and Environment on Friday, April 29, 1994. Commissioner Shannon gave the Commissioners copies of her proposed testimony on the Litter Control Fine Increase Amendment Act. Ms. Shannon said that this Sanitation Act is very focused, increasing fines for various sanitation infractions. Additionally, this commission has been very concerned for a long time about sanitation in this neighborhood and has worked with the DCCA to improve residents quality of life. This testimony has been reviewed by Commissioner Dennis Bass. Mr. Gamble asked if any of the commissioners had any changes to propose at this time. Ms. Taylor said that she requested a small change in wording. Ms. Shannon agreed to this change.

Commissioner Gamble moved and Mr. Pagano seconded a motion to approve the proposed testimony. Any non-substantive edits can be called into Ms. Shannon to be incorporated into the testimony. The motion passed unanimously.

III.

Chairman Bass introduced the third item: renewal of Class "CR" liquor licenses. Mr. Bass said there have not been any new referrals to the ANC from the ABC Board for license renewals since the last meeting of the commission. However, we have worked out another Voluntary Agreement with the Bua Restaurant at 1625 P St., NW and this needs to be ratified by the commission. This agreement only addresses rodent and trash control.

Commissioner Bass moved and Mr. Gamble seconded the adoption of the Voluntary Agreement with Bua Restaurant. The motion passed unanimously.

IV.

Mr. Gamble introduced Mr. Henry Lee, representing Jana Corporation, which proposed use as a parking lot the property at the 1500 block of O Street, NW. Jana Corporation had presented an earlier proposal which was opposed by residents. The Commission

asked Jana to redraw their plans, meet with the neighbors and come back to the commission. Mr. Henry Lee said that he was unaware that he was to go back to the community. Mr. Lee noted that the revised plan reduced the original number of parking spaces from 11 to 7, which would be locked, and a landscaped area. He added that only Jana employees will have access to the parking and that the complaints of neighbors concerning truck deliveries, tour buses, etc. are being addressed. Mr. Lee said that their BZA hearing is on May 9. He said that the Jana Corporation would also be willing to enter into a side agreement as a part of the presentation to the BZA on issues of maintenance and said that he felt Jana Corporation had addressed concerns that went beyond the parking application in an effort to be being a good neighbor and to ameliorate residents concerns. Residents said that the Jana Corporation had done nothing to improve or address on going problems of trash and traffic, and that they were concerned that the gates of the individual spaces would not always be secured. Mr. Bass said that although parking variances are supposed to be temporary, this property has a history of variances dating back twenty years, and that he feels it is time that this property be put to more permanent use.

Chairman Gamble moved and Mr. Pagano seconded, to oppose Jana Corporations application for a parking lot in the 1500 block of O Street, NW due to the detrimental effect on the community of converting this parcel of land from its present status as residential zoning and its intended residential use. The motion passed unanimously.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Gamble re-introduced a motion from the ANC meeting of April 13 that a letter be sent to appropriate members of congress (serving on oversight committees) to investigate D.C. budget and financial management. Mr. Bass said that the motion poses a series of questions that the ANC would like the General Accounting Office and Congressional Committees to investigate so that citizens can be assured that they are getting honest and accurate information. Commissioner Bass read the 6 questions (attached) that the ANC would like the Congressional Committees to answer since they are not being answered by Mayor Kelly's administration.

Commissioner Bass moved and Mr. Holmes seconded a motion to send letters to appropriate members of Congress to investigate D.C. budget and financial management. The motion passed with Mr. Ray abstaining.

Commissioner Gamble said that since neither a representative of the Dupont Circle Recycling Center nor of the City was present, the ANC would not consider changing its previous decision to take "no position" on this matter.

Mr. Gamble announced that the ANC is in need of office space. Two possible spaces have been identified. Commissioner Taylor has looked at one and Commissioner Ray will be looking at another. Mr. Holmes said the maximum available for rent is about \$400 per month.

OPEN FORUM

A resident expressed concern about graffiti, vandalism of public signs and public drunkenness. Mr. Gamble referred the resident to Commissioner Ray and suggested they consider these issues for a future agenda.

A resident asked about the status of the St. Matthews PUD Mr. Bass said that the proposed razing of this building is being litigated. Mr. Gamble added that the community has been successful so far in stalling the developers.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Shannon
Secretary, ANC 2B

DRAFT

MOTION:

At this critical moment of fiscal crisis for our city, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B welcomes a congressional investigation of the District of Columbia's budget and tax policies and projections. The Mayor herself projects and \$800 million annual deficit by 2000, if current trends continue. It is absolutely essential to the future of our city and the nation's capital that there be full disclosure, adequate understanding, and mutual agreement on the financial information on which the District government and Congress will be basing its decisions. Specifically, we ask Congress to address the following:

- 1) How was the \$300 million spent which was borrowed by the District in 1991 to pay \$200 million in debts and which was to provide a \$100 million cash fund to alleviate future cash shortages?
- 2) What is the District's total future financial liability for all contracts, agreements, retirement obligations, and all other commitments of future funds?
- 3) How realistic are the projections in the fiscal year 1995 budget for revenues, expenditures, and expenditure reductions?
- 4) Has the District government adequately and realistically implemented the financial management reforms recommended the 1991 Rivlin Commission?
- 5) What is the appropriate contribution of Federal and District governments, current employees, and retirees to achieving full funding of the District's pension plans?
- 6) What are the merits of federalizing or takeover of District government functions that are operating under court or regulatory orders, such as the corrections and public housing departments, and foster care program for children?

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Eleanor Holmes Norton Congress