

## **Minutes of the October 14, 1998 Public Meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B (Dupont Circle).**

Chairman Pitsor called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. Commissioners King, Cary, Jackson, DeHart, and Newton were present. The minutes of the September 9, 1998 meeting were approved with 2 minor corrections.

**Police Reports** Officer Willie Lawrence of PSA 308 gave the Third District Crime Report. Overall crime levels for September compared with the previous year were the same or lower. When questioned, Officer Lawrence responded that so far none of Chief Ramsey's new strategies have been implemented at the Third District. He was also requested to have a report for the November meeting on parking problems in the 17th Street commercial corridor. Residents also asked questions about increased auto glass on the sidewalks and vagrants in the alley between Corcoran, R, 18th & 19th Sts.

### **OPEN FORUM**

**Barbara Kahlow** from Foggy Bottom thanked ANC 2B for supporting her ANC's request for a major residential component in a new building at 2600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW. She also spoke on behalf of Westy Byrd who is running for the Ward 2 school board position.

**Sondra Seeger** who is running as an independent for an At-Large Council seat presented her platform.

**Judy Werdell** announced a program by the Sierra Club to revitalize cities.

**Kathryn Talmadge** asked for assistance with the Argentine Embassy (New Hampshire & Q) and their plans to build a fence that would block on the alley and which has no HPRB approval. Commissioner Cary agreed to meet with Ms. Talmadge.

**A resident** asked about the status of residents only parking on one side of the street. Chairman Pitsor responded that the plans for Georgetown were never implemented and that DCRA is reviewing procedures that would allow them to implement such parking changes.

**A resident** complained about early morning pick-ups on 17th St. Commissioner Pitsor responded that Sgt. Kutniewski had been ticketing some vehicles, but that it would be appropriate to organize a meeting between police, the businesses, and building residents.

**Commissioner King** thanked Commissioner Pitsor for tracking the sidewalk repairs from past utility service cuts.

**Commissioner King** presented a copy of the Intowner with a picture of the new patio enclosure at Rumors, 19th & M Sts. He asked that it be entered into the ANC records as an example of sloppy record keeping in DC offices and lack of community notice on issues. Commissioner Cary moved that a letter be sent to Anne Simpson-Mason, The Cell Bernardinao of DPW, and Camille

5. **The Dupont Circle Resource Center.** Commissioner Pitsor presented the Park Service's proposed letter of agreement for use of the renovated center by the Park Service Police, the Metropolitan Police and ANC 2B. Primarily, the Park Service would provide electric and water, perform all routine maintenance repairs, and clean the restroom floors. ANC 2B would provide local only phone service and other cleaning of restrooms. Commissioner Cary felt the proposal should have included a budget. Commissioner Newton asked why the park Service was not cleaning the restrooms completely since they would be mopping the floor. Commissioner DeHart asked whether we would have to enter the Federal phone service contract rather than the current DC government phone contract. With the renovation nearing completion and a need to move forward, Commissioner Pitsor moved and Commissioner King seconded the following motion:

ANC 2B supports the general principal of the agreement with the understanding that the cleaning and phone contracts would be finalized later. The motion passed 5-0-1 with Commissioner Cary abstaining.

6. **1720 H Street Club.** Art Schultz of the 1700 I St Business and Professional Alliance and Terry Lynch of the Downtown Cluster of Churches requested that the ANC file a letter of protest with the ABC Board concerning the relocation of this business to 1720 I Street. Because the club has nude dancing they felt it would have a negative impact on future business because of the potential for prostitution and increased crime from additional liquor license in the area. Stephen O'Brien attorney for the club pointed out that it had been in operation since 1993 and was not a new business, they were relocating because their building was torn down. Also, the protestants request for an ANC protest letter is late since the protest period on the license application has closed.

Mr. Jackson noted that discussions he had with Sargent Vincent of the PSA for the area under discussion indicated that there were other sexually oriented businesses in the area that had far greater crime problems than the 1720 H St. Club. Mr. King expressed concern that the new address was close to a Metro station used by tourists and that it would create a bad perception of the city. Commissioner Pitsor moved and Commissioner Cary seconded the following motion:

ANC 2B is not opposed to a CN license in the area per se. The area is changing and developing its retail offerings. We are concerned that granting an CN license with sexual activity would have a negative impact on the real property values and hurt redevelopment in the area. The motion passed 5-0-1 with Commissioner Jackson abstaining.

7. Chairman Pitsor recognized the arrival of Phil Mendelson, a candidate for At-Large council seat who gave a statement on his campaign. Questions were entertained and answered by both Mr. Mendelson and Ms. Seeger.

8. **ABC License Renewals.** Chairman Pitsor read the list of ABC licenses that are posted for renewal. No comments were received regarding any of the businesses. Commissioner King noted that Gusti's at 1837 M St. is now closed. Chairman Pitsor indicated a letter would be sent to the ABC Board noting this change in Gusti's status.

Barnett that ANC 2B is opposed to such enclosures. The motion passed unanimously. A resident noted that Rumors recently filed bankruptcy when presented with bills and fines for back taxes.

#### **ISSUES:**

1. **Heritage Tours.** Barbara Franko of the Historical Society presented their plans for Heritage Tours that would take to tourists into neighborhoods and house museums to learn local history. Their planning process includes input from the community to make it a positive experience for both tourists and residents. Chairman Pitsor noted he had asked Commissioner Cary to monitor this for the ANC.
  
2. **Marriott Hotel 2200 block of P Street.** Representatives of Marriott presented their revised plans for the new hotel. The main change is that the front surface will now be irregular by incorporating bays that are approximately 18 inches deep. The first few floors will be a brick base with concrete on upper floors, interspersed with soft orange panels. They plan to complete digging in November provided the ground water problems are no worse than those to date. The remainder of the building will take about one year to complete. Questions from the audience concerned where the workers would park with the curbs blocked for delivery vehicles and the adjoining residential parking. Once the garage is complete, employees will be parking there.
  
3. **1660 16th St., NW.** Eric Colbert and Gary Squires returned to discuss their new building. HPRB approved the conceptual design with changes such as lowering the cornice by one floor. The Dupont Conservancy also approved the design. Questions were posed about the landscaping and parking plans. Mr. Colbert responded that the tulip poplars were diseased and other trees were not worth keeping. Most were too close to the construction to guarantee preservation despite the garage only being under the building and will not go all the way to the 16th Street sidewalks. Additional trees will be planned along the 16th Street sidewalk to continue the plan exists in other blocks, but no initial height guarantees were made. Mr. Colbert indicated that permitting should be complete by the spring and construction completed within 14 months. Commissioner Jackson asked that the sidewalk replacements not be held until the very end of the construction given the number of people without cars. Mr. Squires indicated that PEPCO and Washington Gas usually cause these delays. Mr. Jackson agreed to discuss this problem with construction representatives at PEPCO, his employer. Resident Leigh Shein thanked Commissioner Cary for facilitating discussions with the builder.
  
4. **17th St. High Heel Race.** Dennis Cuevas presented the plans for the annual race. Delta Lambda Phi, a gay fraternity, is organizing the event. They selected Tuesday, October 27 in hopes of containing the crowd size and keep it a neighborhood event. The street would be closed from 7 pm to 10 pm with the race at 9 pm. They will also use the west curb lane for viewers in hopes of eliminating people standing on the residential lawns on that side. Commissioner Pitsor moved that a letter be sent to the Office of Emergency Preparedness supporting the plans by Delta Lambda Phi for the 1998 High Heel Race. The motion passed unanimously.

## COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Mr. Jackson reported that St. Luke's Church has a new rector and that he would be in contact since the parking lot renewal would be announced soon.

## OLD BUSINESS

1. **East Dupont Liquor Moratorium.** Chairman Pitsor announced the hearing date for the renewal petition had been moved to January because of delays with the ABC notice. Further, questions had been received about wording in the petition regarding the definition of a substantial change in seating. Chairman Pitsor moved and Mr. King seconded that:

The intent of petition wording regarding seating changes and expansion (Section B of petition, p. 9) would be handled as "an increase in the occupancy of the establishment" under the substantial change provisions and notice requirements (part 505) of the ABC regulations (Title 23). The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Pitsor then moved and Mr. King seconded that

ANC 2B adopts the August 7, 1998 petition as signed by himself and the President of the Dupont Circle Citizens Association. The motion passed unanimously.

2. **1312 21st Street** Chairman Pitsor, at the request of the Dupont Conservancy, moved that we send a letter to DCRA requesting they seek enforcement of their HPRB order to remove a floor illegally added to 1312 21st Street. DCRA has taken no action in 3 years. Commissioner Cary seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3. Mr. Desmond Foynes reported on the ABC Hearing today regarding the **Ha' Penny Lion** ABC license renewal. Questions had been raised concerning peace, order, quiet, and use of public space without a permit. He had been unable to find the public space permit and had written to Michelle Pourcieau asking for a copy of any existing public space permits for this establishment.

4. Mr. Jackson expressed his concern over the short notice given to us by the **ABC Board** and that with a regularly scheduled meeting on the second Wednesday there are numerous times that we cannot give the prescribed one week notice of discussion at our meeting, hold the meetings and file any protests before the assigned protest date. Mr. Jackson moved that we send a letter to DCRA requesting a change of rule making adjusting the protest period from 30 days to 45 days. Michael Fasano noted that the protest period is supposed to be 45 days. Chairman Pitsor suggested that we write to the ABC Board expressing our problem with notice and asking for clarification on the notice requirements and protest period. Hearing no objections from commissioners, it was agreed that Commissioners Pitsor and Jackson would draft the letter to the ABC Board.

## NEW BUSINESS

1. Treasurer DeHart presented the **4th Quarter Financial Report**. Commissioner Newton moved and Commissioner Jackson seconded approval of the report. The motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Newton reported on the lobby day on Capital Hill to restore funding to ANC's. Chairman Pitsor announced that Congress may include a provision in the next budget that will restore funding to ANC provided council passes legislation increasing oversight on ANC spending.
2. Chairman Pitsor gave an overview of the **ANC 2B Annual Report** that had been previously distributed to the commissioners. Mr. Pitsor moved and Commissioner Cary seconded approval of the report with the inclusion of the ABC rule making noted in Old Business and that copies be sent to the Mayor, Kathy Patterson, the Financial Control Board, and Camille Barnett. The motion passed unanimously. The commissioners expressed their thanks to the chair for his thoroughness in writing the report.
3. Chairman Pitsor gave an overview of proposed legislation that would investigate neighborhoods to determine whether they were adequately served by **public phones**. Mr. Pitsor moved and Mr. Jackson seconded that a letter be sent to the PSC indicating that ANC 2B is well served by public phones and that there is competition among phone providers for this service. The motion passed unanimously.
4. Chairman Pitsor reviewed proposed regulatory changes from the **DCRA Business Regulatory Reform** effort led by the Control Board. He noted that the comment period is closed. The reforms included items affecting zoning applications and sidewalk vending.
5. Chairman Pitsor read a resolution from the Council on Court Excellence declaring October as **Jury Appreciation month**. The commission supported the resolution unanimously.
6. **Resident Jonathan Heller** questioned the action at the last meeting abolishing the position of staff coordinator. Chairman Pitsor responded that the uncertainty of funding, the uncertainty of budget at the new office space, and the appearance of other options to provide the same services made the decision necessary, although difficult.
7. **Resident Michael Fasano** noted that Blink Optical Store on 17th St. has retained the cafe railing in front of their store even though they are not operating a restaurant. Commissioner Cary agreed to investigate whether the railing had to be removed.

The next meeting was announced for November 11, 1998.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



DUPONT CIRCLE  
 ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 2B  
 P.O. Box 33224  
 Washington, D.C. 20033-0224  
 Telephone: 202-822-6222



Public Meeting of Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood  
 Commission 2B, Wednesday June 10 1998, 7:30P.M.  
 Saint Thomas Parish, 1772 Church Street, NW.

AGENDA

Call to Order - Introductions	7:30P.M.	✓
Adoption of Minutes	7:40P.M.	✓
Local Police Crime Report	7:50P.M.	✓
Open Forum - Announcements	8:20P.M.	✓
Presentation - Jack Evans Office	8:40P.M.	✓

*stead compliance,*

ISSUES:

- ✓ 1. Discussion of Public Space application, Xando 1627 20th St.
- ✓ 2. Discussion of application to modify PUD at 1616 Rhode Island Ave., by the University of California for office, classroom and housing use.
- ✓ 3. Discussion of ABC Application #25123, Dupont Italian Kitchen, Class 'CR' to add small upright piano to their restaurant.
- ✓ 4. Consideration of renewal of the Dupont East ABC Liquor License Moratorium.

Commissioners reports	9:00P.M.
Staff Coordinators report	9:20P.M.
Old Business	9:40P.M.
New Business	9:50P.M.
Adjournment	10:00P.M.

*10<sup>30</sup> PM*

There will be an Open Forum before adjournment at the end of the meeting if necessary. The next meeting of ANC 2B is July 8, 1998

SINGLE MEMBER DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS AND OFFICERS:

2B01 David King	2B02 Karen Rosenthal	2B03 Fran Cary Vice Chair	2B04 Don Jackson Secretary	2B05 Meredith DeHart Treasurer	2B06 Marilyn Newton	2B07 Kyle Pitsor Chair
--------------------	-------------------------	---------------------------------	----------------------------------	--------------------------------------	------------------------	------------------------------

**Public Meeting of Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B  
Wednesday, October 14, 1998, 7:30 p.m.  
Saint Thomas Parish, 1772 Church Street, NW**

**AGENDA**

Call to Order and Introduction of Commissioners  
Adoption of Minutes  
Local Police Crime Report  
Open Forum and Announcements

**ISSUES:**

1. Presentation on design plans for Marriott Residence Inn, 2100 Block of P St; Commissioner Newton
2. Presentation on design and landscaping plans for new residential building at 1660 16<sup>th</sup> St (at R St.); Commissioner Cary
3. Presentation on plans for the 1998 High Heel Race on 17<sup>th</sup> Street; Commissioner Pitsor
4. Report on the Dupont Circle Resource Center; Commissioner Pitsor
5. Report on Tourism Promotion Campaign; Commissioner Cary
6. New liquor license applications:  
CT license at 1223 Connecticut Ave, t/a MCCXXIII; Commissioner Pitsor  
CH license for Courtyard by Marriott at 1600 Rhode Island Ave; Commissioner DeHart
7. ABC Application for transfer of a nightclub license (CN), The 1720 H Street Club; Commissioner Pitsor
8. Public comment on the following ABC license renewal applications:  
Volare Pizza, 2011 St; Polo India Club, 1736 Conn. Ave; Odeon Café, 1714 Conn Ave; Wrapworks, m1601 Conn. Ave; Zorba's Café, 1612 20<sup>th</sup> St; I Ricchi, 1220 19<sup>th</sup> St; Bombay Club, 815 Conn Ave; Trio Pizza, 1624 Q St; Isabella, 807 15<sup>th</sup> St; The Front Page, 1333 NH Ave; Vox Artis, 809 17<sup>th</sup> St; Vox Populi, 800 Conn. Ave; The Oval Room, 800 Conn Ave; Café Marche, 1810 K St; Gusti's, 1837 M St; the Tequila Grill, 1990 K St; Beatrice Restaurant, 1823 L St; California Pizza Kitchen, 1250 Conn Ave; Luigi's, 1132 19<sup>th</sup> St; Fellini, 1800 M St.

**Commissioner Reports**

**Old Business**

1. East Dupont Circle ABC Moratorium; Commissioner Pitsor
2. HPRB decision re: 1312 21<sup>st</sup> St.; Commissioner Pitsor

**New Business**

1. ANC 2B 4th Quarter Financial Statement & discussion on funding status
2. ANC 2B Annual Report for FY 1998
3. Discussion of Public Service Commission action on Public Interest Pay phones
4. Discussion of results of DCRA Business Regulatory Reform
5. Audience business items

*Council of Court Excellence*

The next meeting of ANC 2B will be on November 11, 1998

2B01  
David King

2B02  
Karen Rosenthal

2B03  
Fran Cary

2B04  
Don Jackson

2B05  
Meredith DeHart

2B06  
Marilyn Newton

2B07  
Kyle Pitsor