

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 10, 1990, MEETING
OF THE DUPONT CIRCLE ANC (ANC 2-B)

The Dupont Circle ANC held a regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, October 10, 1990, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Thomas Church. All commissioners (Moses, Rieffel, Bass, Maggi, Grandis, Evans and Gaugler) were present.

Chairman Evans called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Representatives of the 2nd District Police and of the Park Police presented reports about crime in the area.

The following candidates for at-large seats on the Council of the District of Columbia presented comments and answered questions: Clarene Martin, Hilda Mason, Jim Harvey, Ray Browne, Linda Cropp, Rochelle Burns, and Cardell Shelton. In addition, Florence Pendleton, a candidate for the shadow senate seat, presented comments and answered questions.

Mr. Maggi moved, and Mr. Gaugler seconded, a motion to adopt the minutes of the previous meeting of the ANC. The motion was approved unanimously.

Under commissioners' reports, commissioners reported on efforts to establish a crime watch, on violations in construction at 2000 S Street, on bricked in public space at 1724 Massachusetts Avenue, on the rejection of the ABC license for 1635 R Street, on the progress of the 17th Street Plan, on the postponement of the ABC hearing concerning Royal Palace, on the liquor license moratorium, on complaints about Chicago Bar and Grill, and on progress by the PUD task force.

Mr. Bass moved and Mrs. Rieffel seconded, the following motion, which was approved with all commissioners voting in favor except Mr. Maggi, who voted in opposition:

While we recognize the responsibility of the D.C. government to work to alleviate the problem of homelessness, ANC 2B nevertheless opposes enactment of Referendum 005 and urges Dupont Circle voters to vote against it because (1) Referendum 005 mandates for homelessness an absolute priority of the District's resources over all other social needs, and (2) it exempts expenditures for the homeless from the regular budgetary process that all other expenditures must undergo.

Representatives of developers of a proposed PUD at 22nd and N Street presented revised plans for that site. The revised plan involves adding one floor to the top of the historic landmark, which would be recessed 7' from the fact of the building, adding sleeping porches, and filling in the "U." Mr. Magqi moved, and Mr. Grandis seconded, the following motion:

ANC 2B opposes the proposed design for the landmark building at 2225 N Street, N.W., in particular because (1) of the additional floor on the top of the building and (2) the in-fill of the courtyard on 23rd Street is inconsistent with the architecture of the original structure and with the moderate [income] residential character for which the landmark status was requested and granted.

Subsequently, with the agreement of the seconder, the motion was amended to delete reason (1). The motion was passed, with all commissioners voting in favor except Mr. Gaugler who voted no, and Ms. Moses, who had departed.

Mr. Michael Fox presented a new design proposal for 1800 R Street. Residents of adjacent buildings vigorously objected to the lack of notice that this matter would be considered at the meeting and asked for time to review the plan.

Mr. Grandis moved, and Mr. Gaugler seconded, a motion that the ANC oppose this proposed project on the following grounds. The motion was approved unanimously (Ms. Moses having departed):

-The rendering reflects a building that is not consistent with the historic character of Dupont Circle;

-The proposal goes beyond what could be built as a matter-of-right;

-The R Street side of the building reads as a side entrance instead of a front entrance.

-The ANC objects to curb cuts in this and every location in historic districts;

-The ANC does not support any overhang that encroaches public space; and

-The building is inconsistent with the style and materials of surrounding buildings.

While the position of the ANC is not that all use of the property

should be denied, the ANC hopes the HPRB is sensitive to the landscaping issues. The ANC is opposing this individual building, not just any building.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alaire Bretz Rieffel
Secretary