

20th & S
Bua Restaurant
Dupont Circle Development Task Force
Dupont Szechuan Restaurant
Father Bruel
Friends Restaurant
La Fonda BZA
quarterly budget
staff coordinator

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 13, 1991, MEETING OF THE DUPONT CIRCLE ANC (ANC 2B)

The Dupont Circle ANC held a regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, February 13, 1991, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Thomas Church. Commissioners Rieffel, Grandis, Taylor and Bass were present; commissioners Evans, Moses and Gaugler were absent.

Chairperson Rieffel called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and introduced Captain McDonald of the Second District Police, who presented a crime report.

During the open forum, Mr. Mike Dwyer asked what could be done about Blockbuster Video at 20th & S Streets, NW. Commissioner Grandis suggested that, aside from recruiting the help of the Commissioner for that SMD, Doreen Moses, residents of the area should commence such activities as holding a block meeting, starting a citizen's petition and urging the press to cover the issue.

Mr. Grandis moved, and Ms. Taylor seconded, a motion to send a letter to Vincent Ford, of the Office of Permits, and other appropriate officials saying that the ANC has had numerous complaints regarding the building at 20th & S Streets, NW, and that the city has been entirely unresponsive in protecting the residential quality of that corner. The motion was passed unanimously.

Richard Nettler, the attorney representing the Dupont Circle Development Task Force, gave a presentation and took questions from the audience regarding the proposed Development Overlay.

Issues:

I. Edna Long, representing Friends Restaurant, made a presentation regarding the establishment's license renewal and change from "C" to "CT." Commissioner Bass expressed concerns regarding the change to "CT," saying that he would prefer the classification of "CR" because "CT" could open doors to future changes, which Ms. Long denied would occur.

Commissioner Taylor moved, and Commissioner Bass seconded, a motion that the ANC take no position on the license renewal to "CT" of Friends Restaurant. The motion was passed unanimously.

II. Manny Pena, representing La Fonda Restaurant, made a presentation regarding BZA Application #15459 for alterations and an addition to a restaurant in a C-2-A District at 1639 R Street, NW.

Commissioner Rieffel moved, and Commissioner Bass seconded, a motion to support BZA application #15459 on the condition that the applicants discontinue the use of public space for their dumpster. The motion was passed unanimously.

III. Mr. Tony Chen, representing Dupont Szechuan Restaurant, made a presentation regarding the ABC license renewal for his establishment. Mr. Chen explained that the restaurant is undergoing decorative renovations and will re-open next week. Commissioner Rieffel raised strong concerns about a serious rat problem that the restaurant appears to be directly responsible for. Ms. Rieffel suggested that the problem could be related to the fact that the layout of the restaurant prevents them from having a dumpster in their rear lot, thus the storage and disposal of garbage could be greatly responsible for the problem.

Commissioner Rieffel moved, and Commissioner Grandis seconded, the motion that the ANC oppose the license renewal of Dupont Szechuan Restaurant because of chronic rat problems and because the limited layout of the property does not lend itself to any kind of food establishment. The motion was passed unanimously.

IV. Mr. Tony Hia, representing Bua Restaurant, made a presentation regarding the establishment's license renewal.

Commissioner Rieffel moved, and Commissioner Taylor seconded, the motion to support the ABC license renewal for Bua Restaurant. The motion was passed, with Commissioners Rieffel and Taylor voting in favor, and Commissioners Bass and Grandis abstaining.

Under Commissioner Reports:

Commissioner Bass moved, and Commissioner Grandis seconded, a motion that the ANC prepare an award of service certificate for Father Bruel, who will be leaving St. Thomas' Parish. The motion was passed unanimously.

Under New Business:

Commissioner Rieffel moved, and Commissioner Bass seconded, a motion to approve the quarterly budget. The motion was passed with Commissioners Rieffel, Bass and Grandis voting in favor, and Commissioner Taylor abstaining.

Commissioner Rieffel moved, and Commissioner Taylor seconded, a motion that the staff coordinator continue working at an additional five hours per week until the Commission's first meeting in March. The motion was passed unanimously.

Commissioner Rieffel moved, and Commissioner Grandis seconded, a motion authorizing the Chairman to send a letter to Mayor Dixon in support of Laura Richards in her candidacy for the Historic Preservation Review Board. The motion was passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Melville
Staff Coordinator