MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 23, 1991 MEETING OF THE DUPONT CIRCLE ANC (ANC 2B)

The Dupont Circle ANC held a regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, January 23, 1991, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Thomas Church. Commissioners Rieffel, Grandis, Taylor, Moses and Evans were present; commissioners Gaugler and Bass were absent.

Chairperson Rieffel called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and introduced Officer Gary Van Horn of the Park Police, who presented a crime report. Sgt. Winstead of the Third District was then introduced, and reported crime statistics for December '90. Larry Ray, the ANC's liaison to the Third District, reported that the Third District is considering continuing the practice of distributing cautionary auto-theft flyers.

Ms. Rieffel moved, and Ms. Taylor seconded, a motion to re-appoint Larry Ray as the ANC representative to the Third District for the duration of the current commission (2 years). The motion was passed unanimously.

During the open forum, Mr. Michael Sussman expressed great concern that many buildings with driveways are using the space the crosses the sidewalks to park cars, thus blocking the sidewalk and infringing on public space. The commission collected Mr. Sussman's pictures and agreed to distribute them to the appropriate commissioners.

Mr. Grandis moved, and Ms. Taylor seconded, a motion to adopt the minutes of the January 9, 1991 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. David Schorr represented the Embassy of Namibia's proposal to use the property at 1605 New Hampshire Avenue for a chancery. Mr. Schorr explained that the property would include 16 parking places (10 of which the Embassy would outright own, and 6 of which it would have the option of leasing), and explained that the amount would be more than enough for the number of staff and visitors. He noted that the property is in an SP-1 district with a diplomatic overlay.

Ms. Rieffel moved, and Ms. Moses seconded, a motion to support the proposal of the Embassy of Namibia to locate a chancery at 1605 New Hampshire Avenue. The motion was passed unanimously.

Under Commissioner Reports, Ms. Taylor expressed growing concern in her SMD about the deterioration of the vacant lot at 23rd & N Streets, NW. Ms. Rieffel reported for Mr. Bass that the ABC hearing for the Royal Palace nightclub has been continued while the ABC Board determines their policy on renewal licenses and class changes.

Under Old Business, the following motion was made:

Mr. Grandis moved, and Ms. Rieffel seconded, a motion to support the Park Police in initiating the policy of applying DC criminal code to Park Service land within the ANC 2B. The motion was passed unanimously.

Under New Business, the following motions were made:

Ms. Rieffel moved, and Ms. Moses seconded, a motion to authorize the chairperson to send a letter to the HPRB requesting a delay in the consideration of a PUD in the 1700 block of N Streets, NW, because of the Development Overlay plan that is currently before the zoning commission, and because the ANC has therefore not taken a position on the project yet. The motion was passed unanimously.

Ms. Rieffel moved, and Mr. Grandis seconded, a motion to approve Nancy Melville's contract (as amended to include the duties of preparing the minutes for the ANC meetings and handling of all correspondence) with an additional 5 hours per week until the next meeting, at which time the contract's impact on the budget can be reviewed. The motion was passed unanimously.

The ANC considered the approval of the Development Overlay Plan. Mr. Grandis expressed concern that a larger effort be made to inform the public of the plan and asked that the issue be placed on the next meeting's agenda.

Mr. Evans moved, and Ms. Taylor seconded, a motion that the ANC approve the Overlay plan. The motion was passed unanimously.

Regarding the ANC's participation in the Overlay hearings, Ms. Rieffel proposed that the entire ANC be present at the hearings, and that Mr. Evans serve as spokesperson. Issues to be addressed at the hearings should include the five PUDs that have been proposed in the ANC 2B over the last two years; the ANC's experience with previous PUDs; and problems related to the imbalance of amenities.

Mr. Grandis moved, and Mr. Evans seconded, a motion that the ANC approve the proposed participation in the Development Overlay hearings. The motion was passed unanimously.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Melville