

Letters:

To: Councilmember William Lightfoot

Re: Bill 9-289, "The Public Service Commission Timeliness Standard Act of 1991"

To: Richard B. Nettler

Re: Letter to John Ray regarding Bill 9-313, "Demolition Contractor Licensing Act of 1991"

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 23, 1991, MEETING OF THE DUPONT CIRCLE
ANC 2B

The Dupont Circle ANC held a regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, October 23, 1991, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Thomas Parish. Commissioners Bass, Grandis, Taylor, Shannon, and Schwager were present.

Chairman Bass called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. and introduced Sergeant Cox of the Park Police who reported on a rape which occurred on P Street. He said that apparently this was an acquaintance rape and that an arrest had been made. Sergeant Cox also addressed a complaint by a resident regarding ethnic parties held at Rose Park, after which garbage had been dumped onto an embankment near the park. The resident asked whether the police could check into getting the trash cleaned up and prevent this from happening again. Also, the resident pointed out that lamp posts in the area are out and wondered if they might be repaired. Sergeant Cox said that the particular area to which the resident referred, is in the jurisdiction of the city police, and that the lamp post would have to be repaired by the city. However, Sergeant Cox said that he would check into the jurisdiction and get back in touch with the resident.

During the Open Forum, a resident asked Commissioner Shannon if she had checked into the parking situation at the 1616 P Street P.U.D. where they are now offering open parking. Commissioner Shannon said that she had not checked into this issue and asked the staff coordinator to check the file and see if the terms of the contract for the P.U.D. include open parking for the public.

Ms. Taylor moved, and Ms. Schwager seconded, a motion to adopt the minutes of the last meeting, October 9, 1991. The motion passed unanimously.

ISSUES:

I.

Representatives from the D.C. Jewish Community Center made a presentation to the Commission and those present at the meeting of their plans for a new community center at their 16th and Q street building. Their plans included such programs as day care and nursery school for children, summer programs, senior nutrition, theatre, music, and an art gallery. Also included are plans for a small cafe. A question was raised concerning noise from the cafe at night. The representative from the center said that the cafe itself would

be very small and would primarily be an indoor cafe. The center is to be open to everyone, with fees varying for members and non-members. The Center is looking into obtaining a long term lease with a parking garage in the area for its members to use and would also offer security to monitor parking at night. The Commission thanked the representatives from the D.C. Jewish Community Center for coming to the meeting and informing the Commission as well as residents in the area of their plans.

II.

Sarah Davies, owner of the Charley Horse Carriage Company made a presentation to the Commission and those present at the meeting asking for their support in voting against initiative 31 which would prohibit horse drawn carriages in D.C. Ms. Davies is the only horse-drawn carriage company in D.C. The Charley Horse Co. has been open for 3 years, with 6 horses, and 2 carriages. Ms. Davies says that she runs her business in accordance with the regulations put forth by the D.C. Council and has received accolades for her service. The Commission thanked Ms. Davies for taking the time to come to the meeting and addressing this issue. The opposition in this case, the Committee to Ban Horse Drawn carriages was unable to attend.

A representative from the Committee FOR Strict Liability made a presentation to the Commission and those present at the meeting asking their support in voting for referendum 006 on November 5th. This referendum would make manufacturers, importers, and dealers of certain assault weapons pay for the injuries their weapons cause in D.C. The opposition in this issue was unable to attend the meeting. The Commission thanked the representative from the Committee FOR Strict Liability for coming to the meeting and addressing this issue.

Mr. Grandis moved, and Ms. Schwager seconded, a motion that ANC 2B support Referendum 006, The Assault Weapon Strict Liability Act of 1990, Repeal Act of 1991. The motion was passed unanimously.

III.

Mr. Richard Leggin of Leggin Architects and Mr. Ayman Al Moualem, owner of the D.C. Cafe made a presentation to the Commission and those present at the meeting of their plans for an unenclosed sidewalk cafe at 2035 P Street, N.W., and asked the ANC's support for their space permit application. Mr. Al Moualem was asked by Commissioner Grandis whether he would be applying for an ABC license. Mr. Al Moualem replied that no, he would not. Commissioner Taylor had concerns with excess garbage in the area and leaving the outdoor furniture outside. Ms. Taylor suggested that perhaps a voluntary agreement would be needed to address these concerns. Mr. Al Moualem was willing to do whatever the Commission asked and said that he would make arrangements to have garbage picked up more than three times a week and would also make arrangements to store the outdoor furniture indoors.

Ms. Taylor moved, and Mr. Grandis seconded, a motion to support this application with the condition that the applicant enter into a voluntary agreement with the ANC addressing the following issues: a) that the applicant agree to have garbage properly disposed of in accordance to D.C. health codes and b) that the applicant agrees to store the outdoor furniture indoors when not in use. The motion was passed unanimously.

IV.

Mr. Bass reported on the voluntary agreement between ANC 2B and The Royal Palace. The voluntary agreement includes the following conditions: a) that the applicant will not display ads in any format which refer to dancing, or sexually oriented acts b) all signage will be according to zoning codes c) there will be no change in the hours of operation d) applicant will not lease any part of the building for sexually oriented purposes e) within 5 years the applicant will change the nature of the business, and if the business is sold, the new owner cannot establish the same kind of business. One final condition that has not been agreed to is whether the owner will be out of this business in 1995 or 1996.

Mr. Grandis moved, and Ms. Taylor seconded, a motion to adopt this voluntary agreement. The motion passed unanimously.

Under Commissioner Reports:

Mr. Grandis reported that the ANC 2B is allocated \$25,316.00 for 1992. In the proposed FY '92 budget five hundred dollars has been allocated to purchase a new air conditioner for the ANC office, and the allotment for public transportation was increased from \$84-250. There is approximately a 5,000 carry over from last year. The total budget amount for ANC 2B is \$24, 246. Mr. Grandis also reported that of this amount there is a 1200.00 allotment for grants which will be awarded at the beginning of the new year, grant requests will be received until December 31, 1991.

Under Old Business:

Ms. Taylor reported on the IBG Westbrooke P.U.D. at 23rd and N Streets following a visit by Ms. Taylor and members of the West Dupont Action Coalition (WEDAC) to view the final mock up and drawings held by the Fine Arts Commission. Due to the fact that IBG was unable to present the mock up and final drawings to the October 23rd ANC meeting, the ANC was unable to give its final approval for the project. The main concern outlined to the Fine Arts Commission in a letter by WEDAC was that the building has the appearance of three separate buildings through the use of different colored bricks etc.

Mr. Grandis moved, and Ms. Schwager seconded, a motion to support this letter to the Fine Arts Commission stating the concerns of the Coalition and that the ANC cannot support this application until the ANC and the public

have had a chance to see the final plans. The motion was passed unanimously.

Under New Business:

Mr. Bass reported on a letter from the D.C. Preservation League concerning historic district code enforcement and the establishment of a coalition concerning this issue. The letter also contained a resolution calling for the strengthening of historic code enforcement in the District, which the League is asking each ANC to adopt.

Mr. Bass moved, and Mr. Grandis seconded, a motion to adopt this resolution and to appoint Ms. Taylor as ANC 2B representative to this coalition. The motion was passed unanimously.

Mr. Bass reported on a letter from the People's Counsel asking the ANC to oppose the legislation called "The Public Service Commission Timeliness Standard Act of 1991" proposed by PEPCO and D.C. Natural Gas, which would allow a rate increase to go into effect after six months if a decision has not been made by the Public Service Commission. If, later, the Public Service Commission votes against the rate increase, a rebate would be paid.

Mr. Grandis moved and Ms. Taylor seconded, a motion to oppose this legislation because: a) it will provide rate increases to public service monopoly companies in advance of a determination by the Public Service Commission as to whether the rate increases are merited b) the PSC's average time for making a determination is nine months, and therefore ANC 2B feels this legislation is unneeded c) given the high rate of return permitted to monopoly public service companies in D.C. and the rate increases within the last three years, ANC 2B cannot support the Council in enacting legislation which is clearly preferential to the monopoly public service companies. The motion was passed unanimously.

Finally, Mr. Bass brought up Bill 9-313, the "Demolition Contractor Licensing Act of 1991" introduced by Councilmember John Ray. Commissioner Grandis said that he read the legislation but was not familiar with this issue. He suggested that ANC 2B send Richard Nettler a copy of the draft ANC 2B letter to John Ray concerning this bill, and ask Mr. Nettler to look it over and perhaps offer advice or comments that might help in stating ANC 2B's concerns more clearly. All the Commissioners agreed that this would be a good idea.

The last issue for the evening was the renewal of the contract for Staff Coordinator, Hollie Saiz. Ms. Saiz's contract ended in September at the end of the fiscal year. Mr. Bass proposed that the new contract be renewed for the period October 1, 1991 - September 30, 1992.

Mr. Grandis moved, and Ms. Taylor seconded, a motion to adopt the contract for Hollie Saiz with the modification that the hourly wage for Ms. Saiz be increased from \$10 per. hour to \$11 per. hour beginning November 1, 1991 and that the ANC 2B budget be amended accordingly. The motion was passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Shannon

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(H.S.)

Secretary

Dupont Circle ANC 2B