

Letters:

To: HPRB
Re: GT/Dominion

To: Im Bil Taa, Owner, Ambassel
Re: Operation of Establishment

To: Public Service Commission
Re: Payphone at 1618 L Street, N.W.

To: Public Service Commission
Re: Payphone at 19th & Florida

To: Mayor Kelly
Re: Nomination of Dennis Bass to ABC Board

To: Evelyn Shields, Office of Recycling
Re: Curbside pickup

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 10, 1993 MEETING OF THE DUPONT CIRCLE ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 2B

The Dupont Circle ANC 2B held a regularly scheduled meeting March 10, 1993 at St. Thomas Parish. Commissioners Ray, Shannon, Bass, Gamble, Holmes, Taylor, and Pagano were present. Chairman Bass called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. Capt. Swope of the second district gave a police report. He informed the ANC that there has been a significant decrease in thefts from autos in January. He also mentioned two recent arrests in the area; 1) a man was arrested in a stolen car and a 38 caliber gun was found inside the car; 2) police observed a man removing an air-conditioner and a radio from an auto and arrested him. Sergeant Ronald Wilkins of the third district also gave a police report. He informed the ANC that thefts from autos was increasing in the third district area and cautioned people not to leave items visible in cars. He also cited Conn. Ave. & M Street, also S Street as problem areas for thefts. A member of DCMAP asked him about the possibility of reviving the PACT (police and citizens together) program in the third district. Sgt. Wilkins gave the man a number to the third district community service office for more information. The suggestion was also made that foot patrol extend their 17th Street beat south to O Street.

Adoption of Minutes

Mr. Bass moved and Mr. Gamble seconded, a motion to adopt the minutes of the February 24 meeting with the following amendment: Pg. 3, last paragraph, Mr. Holmes also attended the luncheon with DCMAP. This motion was passed with Ms. Shannon in abstention.

Issues:

I. HPRB Application for Georgetown University/Dominion Energy Cogeneration Facility

Westy McDermid, Chair of ANC 2E, came before the ANC to discuss the proposed cogeneration power plant which is to be built on the Georgetown campus. The campus is located in a residentially zoned area. Ms. McDermid said that because the Public Service Commission encourages energy facilities to come into D.C., this is a city-wide issue because there are 22 possible sites in D.C. alone. The proposed Dominion facility will lease land from Georgetown University and the university will receive no profit from the facility itself. All the power generated by the facility will go into Virginia. Ms. McDermid went on to say that the residents in the area want Georgetown to build a power plant which is restricted to meeting its own needs. Also, residents are concerned that fuel oil will flow through underground oil pipelines which will have to be installed by tearing up historic streets. There is also planned a 159 ft. smoke stack which would obscure the Hayden Observatory which is on the D.C. list of historical places. An electrical substation is also planned and will be located on campus near students with possible electromagnetic field problems. After much discussion the following motion was made:

Mr. Gamble moved and Mr. Ray seconded, a motion that ANC 2B support ANC 2E in its opposition to the HPRB Application for construction of a 56 megawatt power plant with a 159 ft. smoke stacks, 14 cooling towers, and open substation on the campus of Georgetown University, based on the fact that it is an unwarranted industrial intrusion in a residential neighborhood setting an inappropriate standard in that the proposed power plant does not protect or enhance the improvements and landscape features of landmarks and historic districts, as required by law. This motion passed with 5 Commissioners in favor and Commissioners Pagano and Holmes in abstention.

II. Three Guys, Inc., t/a Ambassel, 1910 18th Street, N.W.

Commissioner Ray updated the ANC on his progress in working with the owners of Ambassel and the residents in the area to resolve issues related to the operation of the "CR" ABC-licensed establishment. The owners of Ambassel recently withdrew their application for substantial changes to the operations of the establishment. Commissioner Ray informed the ANC of a recent visit he made to Ambassel where he observed that there was a cover charge of \$5 at the door, and that there was no eating or dancing going on although there was loud video music playing. A resident in the area attended the ANC meeting and informed the ANC that she is very angry that Ambassel is being run as a nightclub although they have a "CR" restaurant license. She reiterated the fact that there is a cover charge to enter the restaurant and went on to say that the owners of Ambassel are in violation of the current voluntary agreement. Mr. Bass suggested to Commissioner Ray that the ANC could report Ambassel to the ABC Board and request a show-cause hearing. Also, an audit could be requested to acknowledge whether or not 45% of Ambassel's sales is for food. Commissioner Ray said that he is very aware of what is going on at Ambassel and felt confident that he could work with the owners to obtain compliance with the current

voluntary agreement and to renegotiate a new voluntary agreement with the residents help. Therefore, Commissioner Ray said that he is requesting the ANC not to take any action at this time. The following motion was then made:

Ms. Taylor moved and Mr. Gamble seconded, a motion that ANC 2B supports Commissioner Ray in his effort to obtain compliance of Three Guys, Inc. t/a Ambassel with the existing Voluntary Agreement and with other ABC regulations, and to negotiate further conditions to be included in a new Voluntary Agreement. ANC 2B took note of the complaints regarding this establishment in the past and intends to monitor compliance with the voluntary agreement.

Commissioner Reports

Mr. Ray reported that he attended the ANC Assembly Training and found it to be somewhat helpful. He announced that there is going to be a meeting of the Public Safety Committee on March 16. He also informed the ANC that residents in his SMD have posted a bulletin board at the liquor store located at 18th and T to inform people of crimes in the area.

Mr. Bass reported that the ABC hearing for the 17th Street Moratorium went very well. He said that nobody testified in opposition. The only question left to answer in regard to the moratorium is if the renewal should be for 2 or 5 years. He reminded the Commission that the ABC hearing for the P Street Moratorium is March 17. Mr. Bass also informed the ANC that the Zoning Commission will have a full hearing on the St. Matthews PUD in April. Mr. Bass announced that the DCCA, DCMAP, and the ANC are proposing to form a Economic Development Task Force to deal with problems on Connecticut Avenue and encouraged all those interested to join.

Mr. Gamble reported to the ANC that after receiving a notice from the PSC of an application to install a new public payphone at 1618 L Street, N.W., he did some investigating and found that there was no evidence that the phone was needed.

Mr. Gamble moved and Ms. Taylor seconded, a motion that ANC 2B recommend that the PSC oppose the installation of a public payphone at 1618 L Street, N.W. (PSC Certification No. 6565) for the following reason(s): there are presently two public payphones on the street within one block of this location as well as numerous phones available within hotels and offices within one block of this location. Therefore, there are no legitimate reasons for a new outdoor public payphone in that area. This motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Gamble also reported that he looked into the BZA Application for the Embassy of Jamaica to use the property at 1520 New Hampshire, N.W. as a chancery. He said that the building is presently being used as the Spain Chancery and the SP-1 zoning permits this usage. He pointed out that there would be no change to the present parking restrictions in the front of the building (such as diplomat parking) since the parking is restricted to a taxi waiting zone. Therefore, along with Commissioner Holmes in whose SMD this property

is located, Mr. Gamble requested that the ANC take no position on this application. Mr. Gamble also asked John Ralls of Councilmember Jack Evans' office if he could look into the status of a request made by residents in the Richmond Apt. building for the installation of a streetlight near the building. Mr. Gamble said that because the area is so dark, there has been a rash of crimes.

Ms. Taylor offered the following motion regarding the nomination of R. Dennis Bass to the ABC Board and requested that a letter be sent to Mayor Kelly.

Ms. Taylor moved and Ms. Shannon seconded, a motion that ANC 2B recommend R. Dennis Bass for appointment to the D.C. Alcoholic Beverage Control Board. This motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Taylor also reported that local artist, Byron Peck is trying to obtain a grant to paint a mural on the Riggs Bank building above Ferraras. She said she hoped this was a sign that Riggs is interested in improving that area. Ms. Taylor also reported the applicants of 2000 S Street, N.W. have plans to return the berm to its original form. She reported that the Dupont Conservancy took no position on this issue and that Stephen Raiche of the HPRB told the applicants that they will need evidence of public support before going through with their plans.

Mr. Holmes commented that he is happy the ANC is joining forces with DCMAP to improve business on Connecticut Avenue and suggested that perhaps a sub-committee with specific goals could be developed to help in that cause. Mr. Holmes offered to chair such a committee.

Old Business

Mr. Ray made a recommendation to the ANC that the public telephone at 19th and Florida be removed. He said that there will be an informal hearing on the matter March 19 at 10:00 a.m.

Mr. Ray moved and Mr. Holmes seconded, a motion that ANC 2B support the removal of the public payphone at 19th and Florida Ave., N.W. because of alleged drug activity and public nuisance. This motion passed unanimously.

Open Forum

A resident brought to the attention of the ANC a new procedure requiring D.C. residents to put recyclable materials onto the curbside in front of their homes instead of in the alleys behind, as was done in the past. The resident said that there was no formal announcement that this new procedure was to take place and he is against this idea because of the unsightliness it would cause.

Mr. Holmes moved and Ms. Shannon seconded a motion that ANC 2B is opposed to the idea of curbside pick up for recyclable materials and requests postponement

of this new procedure until it can be considered further. This motion passed unanimously.

A letter reporting this action will be sent to the D.C. Office of Recycling with copies to the Mayor and Councilmember Evans.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha T. Shannon

Martha Shannon

Secretary

Dupont Circle ANC 2B