

Letters:

To: HPRB
Re: Jewish Community Center, 1529 16th Street, N.W.

To: Public Space Division
Re: Fox & Hounds, 1537 17th Street, N.W.

To: HPRB
Re: Carmella Kitty's, 1602 17th Street, N.W.

✓ To: Mayor Sharon Pratt Kelly
Re: Dupont Down Under

To: Gary Burch, DPW
Re: Sanitation Service Plan

To: Gary Burch, DPW
Re: Covering of Dupont Circle streetcar entrances

To: George Koropoulos, La Tomate
Re: Thanks for planting of flowers along Conn. Ave.

To: All Councilmembers
Re: Confirmation of Mary Eva Candon

To: U.S. Park Service
Re: Alcoholic Beverage Control Regulations

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 13, 1993 MEETING OF THE DUPONT CIRCLE ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 2B

The Dupont Circle ANC 2B held a regularly scheduled public meeting on October 13 at St. Thomas Parish. Commissioners Ray, Bass, Gamble, Shannon, Pagano, and Holmes were in attendance. Chairman Bass called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. Capt. Ross Swope of the second district gave a police report and introduced Officer Tim Carter who is the scout car officer in charge of the westside of Conn. Ave. Capt. Swope informed the ANC that there has been a drop in larceny from autos and he attributed this decrease in part to flyers that the police handed out with tips on how to keep your car and valuables safe. Commissioner Ray, Chair of the ANC Public Safety Committee informed those present that he too is working on a flyer to help curb larceny from autos.

Adoption of the Minutes

Ms. Shannon moved and Mr. Gamble seconded, a motion to adopt the minutes of the September 22, 1993 meeting of ANC 2B. This motion passed unanimously.

Issues:

I. Halloween 1993

Commissioner Martha Shannon brought the ANC and those present up to date on this years Halloween festivities. She began by saying that it was agreed by the Halloween Ad-hoc committee that because 17th Street is not very wide, and includes a number of residential properties, it is not a good venue for another Halloween festival. Mr. Gene Harris of JR's informed the ANC and those present that Trumpets and JR's would sponsor a Halloween celebration at the old Post Office Pavilion and the high heel race will take place. Admission of \$10 will be charged to get in and proceeds will go to charity.

II. HPRB Application No. 93-604, Jewish Community Center, 1529 16th Street, N.W.

Matthew Watson and Arna Michaelson, representatives of the Jewish Community Center, were present at the meeting to ask the ANC's support for their HPRB application to add a 3 ft. wide door on the Q Street side of the building at 1529 16th Street, N.W. and to locate a mechanical penthouse on the southeast corner on the roof of the building.

Mr. Bass moved and Ms. Shannon seconded; a motion that ANC 2B support the location of the mechanical penthouse on the southside corner on the roof of the 1529 16th Street building. ANC 2B urges the Jewish Community Center to use the maximum sound suppression materials available to minimize any noise disruption to the adjacent residents. Further, ANC 2B also supports the balance of the plan for restoration of the exterior of the Jewish Community Center as presented at the meeting October 13, 1993. This motion passed unanimously.

III. Public Space Permit for Fox & Hounds, 1537 17th Street, N.W.

Mike Fasano, a resident who lives across from Fox & Hounds, 1537 17th Street, N.W., came before the ANC to ask their support in requesting that George Mallios, owner of Fox & Hounds, conform the hours of operation of his outdoor cafe with those of the other ABC licensed outdoor cafes in the area. Mr. Fasano cited noise as his main reason of concern. He said that the noise level is so high that he cannot sleep at night. Other residents in the area also came to the meeting and voiced the same opinion that the hours should be curbed to a decent hour because the noise from the outdoor cafe is keeping them awake. Mr. Bass also informed those present that the ANC has received many calls and letters of complaint in regard to this issue. Mr. Bass also pointed out that Mr. Mallios had had a voluntary agreement with the ANC regarding this and other issues, but refused to renew it.

Mr. Gamble moved and Mr. Ray seconded, a motion that ANC 2B requests that the public space hours of operation of Trio's Fox & Hounds be limited to 11 p.m. on week nights (Sun.-Thurs.) and 12 midnight on weekends (Fri-Sat.) to put them in conformance with the other ABC establishments along 17th Street who have all voluntarily agreed to comply with these hours. This action is essential in order to preserve the peace, order, and quiet of the residential neighborhood directly across 17th Street from this establishment. This motion passed unanimously.

IV. HPRB Application No. 93-586 for Carmella Kitty's, 1602 17th Street, N.W.

Ms. Shannon reported that the D.C. Conservancy has requested that this item be removed from the consent calendar because they had concerns over several matters. The representative for Carmella Kitty's was present at the meeting and briefly told the ANC that the only plans they have for signage is to replace the old awning with a new awning which would now be burgundy instead of red as before.

Ms. Shannon moved and Mr. Ray seconded, a motion that ANC 2B take no position on HPRB application No. 93-586 for signage and alterations at 1602 17th Street, N.W. This motion passed with a vote of 4-2.

V. Rat and Trash Survey

Marilyn Groves, Chair of the DCCA Environment Committee came before the ANC to update it on the "Rat Patrol's" progress. The rat patrol is set up to help merchants and residents with any problems they may be experiencing with trash and rats. Volunteers monitor the neighborhood for sanitation violations and send photographs to Tom Day, Sanitation Inspector for the DPW. Mr. Day then reviews the pictures, inspects the sites, and may issue citations. Ms. Groves informed the ANC that her committee supports Councilmember Evans' proposed legislation to increase sanitation fines and to classify severe sanitation violations as environmental criminal acts.

VI. Common Cause/D.C.

Ms. Cara Hesse of Common Cause/D.C. was present at the meeting to inform the ANC and those present about the organization. She said that Common Cause is a nationwide organization that looks for ways in which to improve state and federal government operations and to ensure that the citizens' opinions are heard. She pointed out that Common Cause/D.C. has been successful in achieving some ethics reform in government and is currently involved in the Jack Kent Cooke Stadium issue. Common Cause/D.C. is presently investigating the operations of both the ABC and the BZA.

Commissioner Reports

Mr. Ray reported that the 18th Street Business Association has been working with the third district to curb drug activity in the 18th and T area. He also encouraged everyone to pick up a copy of his latest newsletter.

Ms. Shannon requested that ANC 2B send a letter to George Koropoulos, owner of La Tomate, thanking him for planting the beautiful flowers along Conn. Ave.

Mr. Gamble reported that Councilmember Nathanson has sent a request to the Zoning Commission for an amendment to the zoning regulations regarding campus plans. He also urged those interested to write to Ron Taylor at Stead requesting that more adult activities be included in the curriculum at the center.

Mr. Holmes moved and Mr. Pagano seconded, a motion that ANC 2B supports in principle the creation of a first-class retail facility (Dupont Down Under) in the subterranean space beneath Dupont Circle, known as the Dupont Circle Street Car Station. Many of the provisions currently in the draft lease for Dupont Down Under will provide protection and security to the surrounding residential neighborhoods. However, ANC 2B reserves the right to negotiate further agreements with Dupont Down Under that may enact further restrictions on it or its lessees, such as greater restrictions on alcoholic beverage sales and business deliveries. This motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Shannon requested that a letter be sent to Gary Burch of DPW reiterating the ANC's request that the unused streetcar entrances be covered.

Old Business

Mr. Bass reported that the ABC Board voted to approve the transfer of the ABC license for Rascals and that it is likely that the ABC application for H.H. Leonards will be approved also. Mr. Bass commented that he is very displeased with the outcome of the Rascals issue. He went on to say that ABC Board Chair, Mary Eva Candon, promised to be more receptive to the community's concerns but there is no evidence of that in light of the recent developments in the Rascals case. He also reminded the ANC and those present that the ABC Board threw out the 14(e) petitions in the H.H. Leonards case on a minor technicality.

Mr. Bass moved and Mr. Gamble seconded, a motion that ANC 2B opposes the Council's confirmation of Mary Eva Candon as Chair of the D.C. Alcoholic Beverage Control Board. She has shown an insensitivity to Dupont Circle community interests in ABC licensing decisions. Her procedural rulings and substantive decisions under her chairmanship have been contrary to the interests of Dupont Circle residents and to the ANC's positions. We also call on our Councilmember, Jack Evans, to cease his support of Ms. Candon because her presence on the Board has done nothing to benefit the residents of this Ward. ANC 2B does not take such a position without having strong evidence of an unmistakable pattern of indifference and hostility to residents' concerns by the Board and its Chair. This motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Mr. Bass moved and Ms. Shannon seconded, a motion that ANC 2B write a letter to the U.S. Park Service requesting that the pending alcoholic beverage regulations prohibiting alcoholic beverage consumption in all U.S. Park areas of Dupont Circle be expedited and promulgated as soon as possible. This motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Shannon reported that Phil Hammond of the DPW has put together a comprehensive sanitation service plan which would include street cleaning and curb cleaning, but only east of 16th Street.

Ms. Shannon moved and Mr. Bass seconded, a motion that ANC 2B send a letter to the DPW requesting that the western boundary of this plan extend to (but not include) Connecticut Avenue, N.W. This motion passed 6-0.

Open Forum

A resident asked the ANC if it could do anything about a possible historic violation at 1701 19th Street, N.W. Mr. Ray asked the resident to contact him and they would discuss the issue further.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha T. Shannon

Martha T. Shannon

Secretary

Dupont Circle ANC 2B