

ANC 2B DUPONT CIRCLE ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION

PUBLIC MEETING St. Thomas Parish Wednesday January 8, 2003

The January Public Meeting of the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (Commission or ANC 2B) was called to order by Chair Vince Micone at 7:00 PM. The Chair began the meeting by asking the Commissioners to identify themselves. Present were: Rob Halligan (2B01), Vince Micone (2B02), Bob Meehan (2B03), Darren Bowie (2B04), Carol Mitten (2B05), Stuart Dwyer (2B06), Irv Morgan (2B07), Major Giese (2B08), and Ramon Estrada (2B09). The Chair noted the presence of a quorum.

Local Police and Crime Report

Lt. Frank Hill , PSA 308, provided his pager number, (202) 996-5337, and asked to be called personally for any complaints or crimes to report. Several in the audience asked about the recent series of crimes in Adams Morgan. Lt. Hill mentioned that two arrests had been made. Commissioner Halligan announced that a joint ANC 2B/DCCA/DC MAP Public Safety Committee would begin meeting in February and would be addressing crime and public safety concerns on an on-going basis.

Open Forum

The following general announcements were made at the January meeting:

1. The Chair announced that a devastating fire destroyed a townhouse and seriously damaged several other homes on 21st Street across from The Phillips Collection. A resident remains hospitalized. Neighbors have expressed concerns about the 911 response time. A special meeting with the immediate residents will be held to discuss these concerns. ANC 2B extends its thoughts and concerns to those neighbors who were injured and lost their homes as a result of this fire.
2. Thomas DiBiase, Assistant US Attorney, introduced himself as the new chief prosecutor for the Third District crimes and reported that his office is actively investigating the recent series of crimes in Adams Morgan. AUSA DiBiase can be reached at his office (202) 514-7560.
3. Joe Adams, regional Vice President for Zip Car, explained that his company rents cars to residents for short-term usage. He asked for help in locating parking

- spaces to launch the local program. Commissioner Halligan agreed to follow-up on this matter.
4. The Chair announced that the Board of Zoning Adjustment made a decision in the Tutorsky Mansion case and upheld the neighborhood protest in the case. ANC 2B had protested this request for zoning relief and had engaged in unsuccessful negotiations to address issues of neighborhood concern.
 5. Gordon Odegaard, a resident of the 1300 block of 18th Street, NW, announced that he had contacted the Department of Transportation and proposed a "lay by" loading zone to address commercial loading on his block. He noted that the street was being rebuilt and that the ANC's support for the "lay by" was critical. The Chair noted that ANC 2B would consider the matter later in the meeting.
 6. Perry Moorehouse requested that signage be placed on Twinning Court to assist service vehicles, delivery trucks, patrons, and visitors looking for this street. The Chair noted he would follow-up on the matter.
 7. Phyllis Klein, a constituent in 2B08, raised concerns about the proposed ABC regulations and requested that ANC 2B address these issues with the ABC Board.
 8. A constituent complained that a storm sewer at 19th and R has been overflowing after every substantial snow and rainfall. The Chair will follow-up on this matter.
 9. Mark Biordi, a constituent on 17th Street, described a persistent rodent problem he suspects is caused by a neighboring restaurant. He requested assistance in addressing the problem from ANC 2B. Commissioner Mitten will follow-up on this matter.

ISSUES

1. ***Election of Officers:*** The Commission held its annual election. Vince Micone was elected Chairperson, Irv Morgan was elected Vice Chairperson, Bob Meehan was elected Treasurer, and Ramon Estrada was elected Secretary.
2. ***Guest Speaker:*** Mayor Anthony Williams was a guest speaker and discussed his plans for his second term. The Mayor spent a considerable amount of time answering constituent questions and listening to complaints and concerns from local residents. He asked those present to contact (202) 727-1000 to register problems and to e-mail him as a means to get results from the city.
3. ***Proposal to Rename 21st Street, NW, Between Massachusetts Avenue and Q Street in Honor of Kivie Kaplan:*** ANC 2B considered a request by the Religious Action Center to rename 21st Street between Massachusetts Avenue and Q Street, NW, in honor of Kivie Kaplan, a recognized civil rights leader and founder of the Religious Action Center. Rabbi David Saperstein, Director and Counsel for the Religious Action Center, and Chairman Julian Bond, NAACP, spoke on behalf of the proposal. After discussion, ANC 2B voted unanimously to work with officials from the Religious Action Center to explore the most feasible manner to honor and commemorate Kivie Kaplan.

4. ***Request for Comments on the MPD Proposal to Deploy Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) Cameras on the North End of Dupont Circle from January 17-19, 2003, for Anti-War Demonstrations:*** ANC 2B considered MPD's plans to deploy CCTV around Dupont Circle during upcoming antiwar demonstrations. After considerable discussion and public comment, ANC 2B voted to oppose the temporary placement of CCTV cameras and to request the exact locations of the temporary cameras so it could be verified that the cameras are removed after event.
5. ***Proposal by the Human Rights Campaign for a "Green Roof" at 1640 Rhode Island Avenue, NW:*** ANC 2B considered a request by the Human Rights Campaign for support of a grant application to construct a "green roof" at its new headquarters building. A "green roof" is an ecological construction plan that includes the planting of live trees and fauna as an integral design function on the roof. ANC 2B voted unanimously to support this request.
6. ***P Street Bridge Construction:*** Heather Brophy, the Ward 2 Transportation Planner, presented an overview of the P Street Bridge construction plans. This bridge has been scheduled for major infrastructure improvements for several years. Construction will begin in late February or early March and will take approximately eighteen months. More specific plans will be shared with immediate residents. Ms. Brophy noted that the construction plan incorporates lessons learned from other area construction projects and she committed to working closely with residents to mitigate the impacts caused by the construction.
7. ***Public Space Applications for Retroactive Approval of Existing Payphones:*** ANC 2B considered retroactive applications for existing payphones. The Chair noted that these applications should have been approved before the permits were granted several years ago, but commended the new management of the Public Space Committee for identifying the unapproved applications and forwarding them for consideration.

2B01 – DC Government, 1807 18th Street, NW;

2B02 – Kramer Books & Afterwards, 1517 Connecticut Avenue, NW;

2B05 – Bell Public Communications, 1710 H Street N.W.; DC Government, 888 16th Street NW; DC Government 1100 17th Street NW; and JR's Bar and Grill, 1519 17th Street NW;

2B06 – Atlantic Freeholds, 1701 Pennsylvania Avenue NW; DC Government, 1800 L Street NW; DC Government, 1800 M Street NW; DC Government, 1100 Connecticut Avenue NW; and Kozy Korner Restaurant, 1253 20th Street NW;

2B07 – DC Government, 21 Dupont Circle NW, and DC Government, 1699 Q Street NW.

ANC 2B took no action on these public space permits.

8. ***ABC Renewal Applications: ANC 2B considered the following ABC renewal applications:***

2B05 – Bravo Bravo, 1001 Connecticut Avenue NW, and Dragonfly, 1215 Connecticut Avenue NW.

2B06 – Continental Bar and Grill, 1216 18th Street NW, and 18th Street Lounge, 1212 18th Street NW.

ANC 2B took no action was on these renewal applications.

9. ***Request for Reinstatement for a Substantial Change Application Tequila Grill for ABC Service at an Existing Sidewalk Café at 1900 K Street NW:*** Michael Fonseca, representing the applicant, requested that the ANC reconsider its protest of this application and support a voluntary agreement to address issues of neighborhood concern. Mr. Fonseca noted that he represented a new owner of the establishment. Commissioner Morgan moved, Commissioner Meehan seconded, and ANC 2B voted unanimously to authorize the withdrawal of its protest subject to execution of a voluntary agreement.

Commission Administrative Matters

Commission took action on the following administrative matters:

1. Without objection, ANC 2B approved the minutes to the December 11, 2002, meeting.
2. Commissioner Halligan reported that a voluntary agreement with Visions Theater had been signed. Commissioner Halligan also reported that a voluntary agreement with Azul/Infuze had been signed.
3. ANC 2B moved unanimously to request the transfer of the Lauriol Plaza ABC renewal protest from ANC 1C to ANC 2B. The area where this establishment is located was transferred from ANC 1C to ANC 2B as a result of redistricting.
4. The Commission moved without objection to send a letter to the ABC Board stating its concerns about the proposed, weakened regulations governing ABC moratoria.
5. Responding to the constituent recommendation for a “lay by” on 18th Street north of the intersection of Connecticut Avenue and N Street, ANC 2B voted unanimously to hold a special meeting on Wednesday, January 15, 2003, at the Dupont Circle Resource Center. (At the January 15th meeting, ANC 2B voted to oppose the proposed “lay by” and asked that the Department of Transportation conduct a traffic study to evaluate a substitute plan the Department forwarded to move metered parking from the east side of the street to the west side and the creation of a loading zone.)

Financial Issues

1. Without objection, ANC 2B approved a revised Quarterly Financial Report for the final quarter of fiscal year 2002.
2. The Commission unanimously adopted a provisional budget for fiscal year 2003 and retroactively approved expenses to the beginning of the fiscal year.
3. ANC 2B approved without objection the participation in and annual contribution to the ANC Security Fund.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of ANC 2B will be held on Wednesday, February 12, 2003 at 7:30 PM at St. Thomas Parish, 1772 Church St., NW

There being no more old business, nor any new business, the January 8 Public Meeting of ANC2B was ADJOURNED.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian T. Piech
Staff Coordinator
ANC 2B