

**ANC 2B DUPONT CIRCLE ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING, Wednesday, November 10, 2004
DC Jewish Community Center**

The November Regular Meeting of the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (Commission or ANC 2B) was called to order by Chair Darren Bowie at 7:00 pm. The Commissioners identified their Single Member Districts (SMDs). Present were: Rob Halligan (2B-01), Karyn-Siobhan Robinson, (2B-02), Bob Meehan (2B-03), Darren Bowie (2B-04), Mark Bjorge (SB-05), Mike Silverstein (2B-06), Gerald Schwinn (2B-07) and Major Giese (2B-08). Ramon Estrada (2B-09) was not present. The Chair noted the presence of a quorum.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Schwinn noted that the Math Association of America, located between 18th, Q and Church Streets will perform major renovations on their building. This will not significantly affect parking. He also reported on a recent Department of Transportation meeting regarding assessing feasibility of using valet parking in the district.

Commissioner Meehan noted that Green Spaces D.C. will hold a meeting on November 18 at St. Thomas Church at 7:00. Commissioner Bowie also noted that meeting will also include issues re Stead Park, S & T parks. ANC2B will make a final recommendation on proposal. Commissioner Meehan also noted that a community organization should be in charge of this process and that Green Spaces D.C. should only facilitate.

A constituent asked when the street cleaning will end. She stated people continue to ignore this and continue to park illegally. Commissioner Bowie stated that he had not received any notice regarding street cleaning, and asked Commissioner Meehan to find out when street cleaning will end.

David Moorehead of Pepco noted that energy rates are expected to rise by ten percent this year. He stated this would be the first increase in ten years. Constituents can contact him at dlmoorehead@pepco.com.

Commissioner Bowie noted that constituents can sign up for the ANC email list by signing in at the meeting.

Commissioner Bjorge noted the new email group operated by Historic Dupont Main Streets. You can contact them at dupontforum@yahoogroups.com. Commissioner Bowie recommended posting a link to this group on the ANC website.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Commissioner Halligan noted that prostitution/massage parlors have been shut down in the area.

Lt. Christian (Third district, PSA306 of DC Police Dept.) noted his phone number; 202-673-6821, brianchristian@dc.gov. He noted that he works from 2PM-10PM and other officers are available 24 hours a day. He noted that auto thefts have increased dramatically and the Police Dept. is planning to deal with accordingly.

Captain Hill, Assistant District Commander, of PSA306 noted that constituents should let them know of any issues.

Commissioner Halligan noted that the next Citizens Advisory Council meeting will take place every third Thursday of every month.

Sgt. Brett Parson of the MPD Gay and Lesbian Liaison Unit noted that they are starting a publicity campaign at P Street Beach. He noted in response to alleged illegal activity that drunk driving in the Adams Morgan area is still a problem. His new office is in the basement under Sun Trust Bank at 1369 Connecticut Ave.

A constituent complained about nefarious activity and homeless people in a vacant building on P Street.

The Citizens Advisory Council will meet on November 16 at 7:00 PM at 1620 V St. to speak with police about various concerns.

Commissioner Bowie made a motion to recommend to Judge Gardner of the D.C. Superior Court the harshest sentence for three criminals who committed 70 burglaries last summer in the area. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Giese and was passed unanimously (8-0).

GENERAL AGENDA

Chris Voss of the D.C. Emergency Management Agency spoke about the new system of text, voice, and email alerts in the event of emergencies, traffic accidents and terrorist attacks. Constituents can sign up for these services at www.alert.dc.gov.

A constituent asked Mr. Voss why she hadn't received any text alerts recently. Mr. Voss said that anyone who originally signed up for this service on EMA's pilot site will not receive any more alerts. Constituents should sign up again at alert.dc.gov. Contact Chris Voss at chris.voss@dc.gov or 202-673-2101 ext. 114

Commissioner Robinson introduced Buffy Brownstein of the Casey Tree Endowment Fund. The purpose of this organization is to protect the D.C. tree canopy by promoting "green roofs" using sedum plants on roofs of buildings. Sedum plants absorb storm

water runoff, act as insulation, and reduce noise pollution. Constituents can take a tour of a green roof on the second and fourth Tuesday and fourth Thursday of every month. Visit www.caseytrees.org for more information.

Commissioner Halligan introduced Cynthiana Lightfoot of the D.C. Emergency Medical Service, who gave a presentation on the need for EMS reform. Kenneth Lyons, president of EMS Local 3721 representing D.C. paramedics, argued that they need pro-EMS legislation to separate EMS from the fire department. He stated that there are 148,000 medical calls per year and 4,000 fire calls, but EMS only receives 20% of the budget allocated for both organizations. Commissioner Meehan, a member of the Advisory EMS Committee to the Mayor, argued against moving the EMS from the Fire Department to the Mayor's office. Commissioner Halligan recommended putting off the vote, or urging Councilman Peterson to have hearings as soon as possible. No action was taken.

Bill Glew, President of DCCA, spoke about the upcoming expiration of the 17th Street ABC Moratorium. The Dupont Circle Citizens Association & Dupont Circle Merchants and Professional Association are submitting a joint proposal to the ABC board, to extend the moratorium for six months. The ANC will consider this recommendation in December. No action was taken.

Jim Hill, an attorney representing Enterprise Rental Car, spoke about vicarious liability and auto insurance in the District. No action was taken.

Commissioner Schwinn spoke about legislation regarding transportation of hazardous materials. He noted that Councilmember Schwarz does not support legislation at this time because she believes the Department of Homeland Security will address this issue in November. No action was taken.

Commissioner Meehan noted problems with delivery trucks during rush hour between 17th and R Streets. A zoning order prohibits employees from parking in loading dock or at a meter. Commissioner Bowie appointed Commissioner Meehan as the liaison to meet with local businesses to alleviate this problem.

REGULATORY AGENDA

Mr. Bender presented his plans for an addition to the proposed hotel at 1745-1755 N St., NW (2B05). He asked the Historic Preservation Review Board and ANC to increase the height of the hotel to 75 feet (10 feet above the legal limit) and receive "Floor to Air Ratio" compensation. Mr. Bender stated that the addition could not be seen from the street. Commissioner Bowie asked if Mr. Bender contacted the Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) Historic Preservation Review Board. Mr. Bender said he would. There will also be a courtyard added to the hotel. No action taken until BZA refers to ANC.

Representatives of the Tabard Inn stated that they were concerned about the Mr. Bender's hotel's effect on parking because they cannot build a parking garage. No action taken.

A representative from the Embassy of Argentina proposed that a statue of Eva Peron be built at New Hampshire and Q Streets, NW. The statue will be constructed of different colored marble. The statue will not require removing any trees. Parks and Recreation would be responsible for maintenance. A constituent recommended that the statue be built on the embassy grounds to guard against vandalism. No action taken.

Marian Usher presented her proposal for a special exception to allow a one-story rear addition to an existing single family row dwelling at 2021 Hillyer Place, NW. Neighbors, L'Enfant Trust, and several constituents (via email) support Ms. Usher's proposed renovation. Commissioner Robinson made a motion to support and Commissioner Bjorge seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously (8-0).

Kendall Durman presented a proposal on behalf of Laurel Cappa, for a variance to allow the construction of a freestanding storage shed with a roof deck at 1875 Pennsylvania Ave., NW. Commissioner Meehan made a motion to support. Commissioner Silverstein seconded the motion. Commissioner Giese was not present for this vote. The motion was passed unanimously (7-0).

By unanimous consent, the Commission took no action on the following ABC license application and renewals.

Fabwill, Inc., T/A Royal Palace, 1805 Connecticut Ave. NW, CN 01 (2B01)

The Fireplace Restaurant, Inc., T/A The Fireplace, 2161 P Street NW, CT 02 (2B02)
Marifex Company Inc., T/A The Brickskeller, 1523 22nd Street NW, CT 03 (2B02)

Planet F, Inc., T/A Lucky Bar, 1221 Connecticut Avenue NW, CT 02 (2B05)
Down Under, Inc., T/A Bravo Bravo, 1001 Conn. Ave. NW, CN 03 (2B05)
Ter Inc., T/A Jr's Bar and Grill, 1519 17th Street NW, CT 01 (2B05)
The Asylum Company, LLC, T/A MCXXIII/Spunk, 1223 Connecticut Ave. NW, CT 03 (2B05)
Jah, Inc., T/A Dragonfly, 1215 Connecticut Ave. NW, CT 03 (2B05)

Crv Corporation, T/A The Bottom Line, 1716 I Street NW, CT 01 (2B06)
19th & K, Inc., T/A Ozio, 1813 M Street NW, CN 02 (2B06)
Kimheid Corporation, T/A Madhatter Restaurant, 1831 M Street NW, CT 02 (2B06)
Pmf, Inc., T/A The Improvisation, 1140 Conn. Ave. NW, CT 02 (2B06)
Buffalo Billiards Corp., T/A Buffalo Billiards Corporation, 1330 19th Street NW, CT 03 (2B06)
Ooh La-la, Inc., T/A Ooh La-La Continental, 1800 M Street NW, CT 03 (2B06)
James Mackey Investors, LP, T/A Mackey's, 1823 L Street NW, CT 02 (2B06)
Blackie's House of Beef, T/A Black Rooster Pub, 1919 L Street NW, CT 02 (2B06)
M Street Management Group LLC, T/A 1819 Club, 1819 M Street NW, CN 02 (2B06)

Whale Limited Partnership, T/A Sign of the Whale, 1825 M Street NW, CT 01 (2B06)
Malaysian Kopitiam Inc., T/A Malaysia Kopitiam, 1827 M Street NW, CT 01 (2B06)
RHT, Inc., T/A Rumors Restaurant, 1900 M Street NW, CN 02 (2B06)

1345 Corporation, T/A The Big Hunt, 1345 Connecticut Ave. NW (2B07) CT 03

1610 Restaurant, LLC, T/A Stetson, 1610 U Street NW, CT 01 (2B08)
Tan, Inc., T/A Larry's Lounge & Coffee House, 1840 18th Street NW, CT 01 (2B08)

Souss Corporation, T/A Utopia Bar & Grill, 1416 -1418 U Street NW, CT 02 (2B09)

The Commission took action on the following ABC license application and renewals.

Commissioner Silverstein made a motion to oppose the following ABC alcohol license renewals, pending negotiation of a voluntary agreement to address peace, order, quiet and sanitation issues. Commissioner Robinson seconded motion. Motion passed unanimously (8-0).

Yfe, Inc., T/A 18th Street Lounge, 1212 18th Street NW, CT 01 (2B06)
Yamfa, Inc., T/A Red, 1216 18th Street NW, CN 02 (2B06)
Garage Door, Inc., T/A 5, 1214 B 18th Street NW, CT 01 (2B06)
Lugano, Inc., T/A Sesto Senso, 1214 18th Street NW, CT 03 (2B06)

Commissioner Bowie made a motion to support renewal of the following ABC renewals with the stipulation that negotiations be conducted on current voluntary agreements. Commissioner Giese seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously (8-0).

Tan, Inc., T/A Larry's Lounge & Coffee House, 1840 18th Street NW, CT 01 (2B08)

Unfinished Business

Commissioner Bowie appointed Commissioner Bjorge to represent the Commission in voluntary agreement negotiations with the owners of the proposed Gin Rickey establishment. He also appointed Commissioner Bjorge to appear before ABRA as a substitute for Commissioner Giese.

New Business

Commissioner Bowie made a motion to allocate a \$2,500 retainer in order to hire Attorney Douglass Fierberg to represent the ANC in the Club U and Cada Vez ABC protests. Commissioner Bjorge seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously (8-0).

Commissioner Giese made a motion to approve the October meeting minutes. Commissioner Giese is empowered to make technical changes to the October minutes. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously (8-0).

Commissioner Meehan made a motion to close the ANC's Riggs Bank account, open an account at Adams National Bank, and send a letter to Riggs and to the office of Attorney General regarding the hold placed by Riggs on \$28,291 of ANC funds. Commissioner Giese seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

The next regular meeting of ANC 2B will be held on Wednesday, December 8, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. at the D.C. Jewish Community Center, 16th & Q Streets, N.W.

At 11:00 PM, Commissioner Giese proposed a motion, seconded by Commissioner Robinson, that the Commission adjourn. The motion was passed by acclamation.

Respectfully submitted,

Alfred E. Blicher, Jr.
Executive Director
Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission

ADOPTED: December 8, 2004