

**ANC 2B DUPONT CIRCLE ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION
Special MEETING, Tuesday, March 1, 2005
DC Jewish Community Center**

The March Special 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: Karyn-Siobhan Robinson, (2B-02), Bob Meehan (2B-03), Darren Bowie (2B-04), Mark Bjorge (SB-05), Mike Silverstein (2B-06), Babak Movahedi (2B-07), Peter Klempay (2B-08) and Ramon Estrada (2B-09). Rob Halligan (2B-01) was not present.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Estrada noted that the ABC Board would decide whether to revoke Club U's ABC license because of prior criminal acts of violence.

Commissioner Meehan announced that an agreement on plans for the S & T Street parks was achieved and will be posted on the Green Spaces for DC website:
www.greenspacesfordc.org.

REGULATORY AGENDA

A representative from the Texas Grill Café (1712 L St., NW) presented an application for an unenclosed public sidewalk café. No ABC license would be involved. Commissioner Bjorge made a motion to approve this application. Commissioner Klempay seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously (8-0).

Commissioner Bowie stated that ANC 2B must make a recommendation on extending the 17th Street Moratorium before the ABC Board's extension expires in May 2005.

Bill Glew, President of the Dupont Circle Citizens Association, stated that three fundamental principles guide DCCA's policy recommendation on the Moratorium.

1. Preserve 50% of commercial store frontage that is non-licensed for neighborhood-serving retail and service uses
2. Prevent a worsening of adverse impacts on residents that would result from more ABC licenses, and more ABC licensed seats on 17th Street.
3. Respect the existing equilibrium between ABC-licensed and non-licensed activities

DCCA specifically recommends the following:

1. Cap the number of ABC licenses at 19.
2. Cap the number of tavern licenses while prohibiting any nightclub licenses
3. Allow restaurants with beer-and-wine-only licenses to apply for a full liquor license, provided that the licensees' closing hours reflect their operations.

4. Prevent lateral expansion of ABC establishment within buildings, unless the newly occupied space has been used for licensed ABC purposes during the previous 5 years.

Mr. Glew noted that DCCA would be willing to join DCMAP and ANC 2B in pursuing a zoning overlay as a substitution for an ABC Moratorium. He also stated that instituting a zoning overlay would be the only other legal option that would achieve the same result as the ABC Moratorium. However, a zoning overlay would take two years to institute. DCCA recommends a five-year moratorium.

Ed Grandis, Executive Director of Dupont Circle Merchants and Professional Association, noted that a 15 year moratorium has adversely affected businesses on 17th St. He noted that any improvement to 17th Street must be comprehensive. DCMAP requested that ANC 2B support adopting a comprehensive plan for addressing issues related to 17th Street in addition to the ABC Moratorium. DCMAP specifically supports the following:

1. CR establishments should be completely removed from the Moratorium.
2. Safeway should be allowed to compete with Wholefoods regarding the sale of alcohol.
3. CR establishments which have been licensed for at least six years should be allowed to apply for an expansion on a case-by-case basis.
4. All licensed establishments should have time to come into compliance with their true license class.

Mr. Grandis stated that they would support a Moratorium of no longer than three years.

Individual residents, business owners, and Commissioners expressed their views on whether the 17th Street ABC Moratorium should be retained, modified, or eliminated.

UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS

The next regular meeting of ANC 2B will be held on Wednesday, March 9, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. at the D.C. Jewish Community Center, 16th & Q Streets, N.W.

At 9:50 PM, Commissioner Bowie moved to adjourn the meeting, which passed by acclamation.

Respectfully submitted,

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

ADOPTED: April 13, 2005