

**ANC 2B DUPONT CIRCLE ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING, Wednesday, March 8, 2006 Jewish Community Center**

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

**PUBLIC TESTIMONY AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no public announcements.

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Commissioner Halligan recognized Captain Frank Hill, Third District, Metropolitan Police Department (MPD).

Commissioner Halligan met with the Director of Unified Office Communications to speak about emergency response issues regarding 311, 911 and 727-1000 phone numbers. He noted that the Director has improved emergency response time.

Commissioner Halligan announced that a halfway house was shut down on 1932 17<sup>th</sup> Street NW until June 2006. He noted residents are having problems with a halfway house between 19<sup>th</sup> Street NW between S and Swann Streets NW.

Commissioner Movahedi noted that he had witnessed three altercations at night on 17<sup>th</sup> and Q Streets NW. He introduced a motion requesting foot and bicycle patrol officers on 17<sup>th</sup> Street NW.

Captain Hill stated that MPD would seriously consider Commissioner Movahedi's request. He noted that MPD increased the number of officers patrolling PSA 306 at night. Commissioner Halligan thanked Captain Hill for increasing the number of officers on patrol. Commissioner Silverstein thanked Captain Hill for MPD's efforts against drugs in Dupont Circle West. Commissioners Silverstein and Movahedi noted that the motion was not intended as a criticism of MPD's performance. Commissioner Estrada requested Captain Hill to patrol side streets and alleys off of the 17<sup>th</sup> Street corridor. Captain Hill stated that MPD arrested 50,000 people in 2005. Commissioner Meehan asked whether this figure included repeat offenders. Captain Hill did not know if the figure included repeat offenders.

Captain Hill presented Commissioner Halligan with a Special Award from MPD and Police Chief Charles Ramsey. Commissioner Bowie thanked Captain Hill for his work in the neighborhood.

Commissioner Silverstein made a friendly amendment to revise Commissioner Movahedi's motion to "commend MPD and request that MPD consider assigning an officer" to the 17<sup>th</sup> Street NW corridor. Commissioner Movahedi did not accept the friendly amendment. Commissioners Silverstein and Movahedi agreed on revised motion language reflected below:

**DUPONT CIRCLE ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 2B  
RESOLUTION REGARDING FOOT AND BICYCLE PATROL OFFICERS ON 17<sup>TH</sup>  
STREET NW**

WHEREAS reported and unreported instances of crime and vandalism in the Dupont Circle area are a major concern of the Dupont Circle ANC; and

WHEREAS a significant number of crimes and acts of vandalism occur at or around the time of the closings of the ABC establishments on the 17<sup>th</sup> Street corridor; and

WHEREAS the presence of the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) will be a deterrent for said crime and vandalism; and

WHEREAS the safety of the residents, patrons, and businesses in the Dupont Circle area is a paramount concern of this ANC;

BE IT RESOLVED that Dupont Circle ANC strongly recommends that the MPD Third District consider assigning at least one and preferably more Police Officer(s) to patrol either on FOOT or BICYCLE the area from O Street to S Street on 17<sup>th</sup> Street NW between one hour prior to and one hour after the established closing times of the ABC business establishments for at least an experimental period of six months starting on April 1, 2006.

Commissioner Movahedi made a motion to accept the revisions to his original motion. Commissioner Silverstein seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously (9-0) with Commissioner Robinson voting by proxy.

Commissioner Halligan announced that the Dupont Circle Public Safety Committee meets every third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM at the Metropolitan Police Department station at 1620 V Street NW.

**GENERAL AGENDA**

Kenneth Millner, Ward 2 Solid Waste Inspector, was included on the agenda, but was not present.

Representatives of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) gave a presentation regarding the proposed extension of the Metro Yellow line and other issues. Arturo Lawson, Government Relations Officer, DC Office of Policy and

Intergovernmental Relations, stated that WMATA plans to extend the yellow line to Fort Totten during off-peak hours in 2007.

The representatives addressed previously submitted questions from Commissioner Halligan. Mr. Lawson explained that no funding was allotted for a station canopy over the Dupont Circle North metro exit. He also noted that the standpipes on the sidewalk of 19<sup>th</sup> and Q Streets NW are reserves of water in case of fire in tunnel areas. The metro trailer is used for storage of equipment used for removing snow. Concerned constituents can contact Mr. Lawson at [alawson@wmata.com](mailto:alawson@wmata.com) or at 202-962-2466.

Dave Lacosse, Director, Office of Elevators and Escalators, addressed Commissioner Halligan's questions regarding escalators. Mr. Lacosse stated that escalators are currently not under construction and are only being repaired. Mr. Lacosse complained to the outside contractor responsible for the escalator maintenance. He noted that two platform elevators at the Dupont Circle metro will be rehabilitated simultaneously over 10 weeks. Concerned constituents can contact Mr. Lacosse at [dlacosse@wmata.com](mailto:dlacosse@wmata.com) or at 301-618-1072.

Mr. Lawson noted that artwork is currently before the Special Arts Commission, for placement inside the Dupont Circle metro station. Commissioner Bowie requested that a representative appear before the Commission regarding the artwork.

A constituent expressed concern about the construction of a canopy at the Dupont Circle North metro exit. A constituent inquired about trash and weeds at the Dupont Circle North metro exit. Commissioner Halligan inquired about the empty tree boxes at the Dupont Circle Metro. He requested that new trees be planted.

Commissioner Halligan made a motion that ANC 2B send a letter to Mayor Anthony Williams and Councilmember Jim Graham in support of the funds they have allocated for changes necessary to go along with the operation of the yellow line extension. Commissioner Bowie seconded the motion. The motion carried (8-0).

The Commission presented an update on the proposed renovations to Stead Park. Commissioner Bjorge stated that anticipated renovations are on track for completion in September 2006. Commissioner Bowie requested an update at the Commission's April meeting. A constituent expressed concern over the alleys and fences adjacent to the park.

Commissioner Bjorge presented an update on the status of S and T Streets Parks. Commissioner Bjorge reported that DPR is working to secure the concept design construction documents from Green Spaces for DC, in order to continue work on this project. DPR anticipates actual construction in FY07. DPR requested \$650,000 of funding for FY07.

Iris Molotsky, President of Friends of S & T Street Parks, stated that designs have not been completed because the landscape designer for S & T Streets Parks was never paid.

She also noted her frustration that DPR has never contacted her organization regarding the progress of this project.

Commissioner Bowie made a motion that ANC 2B send a letter to the [Kimberley Flowers](#), Director, Department of Parks and Recreation and a copy to Mayor Anthony Williams, Councilmember Kathy Patterson and Councilmember Jack Evans, requesting that DPR:

1. Take steps to complete the design for the renovation of S & T Streets Parks;
2. Present those designs to ANC 2B, pursuant to ANC 2B's original resolution;
3. Consult with Green Spaces DC with regard to its plans drawn up with the neighborhood;
4. Ensure that there is adequate funding in both Fiscal Years 2006 and 2007 for both the design and construction of the renovations of the parks.

Commissioner Halligan seconded the motion. The motion carried (8-0).

The Commission did not consider a resolution regarding construction starting hours in the District. Affected residents were not present.

The Commission considered a resolution supporting possible District legislation prohibiting the use of 55 gallon drums for storage of waste grease. Commissioner Halligan recommended sending a letter to Merrit Drucker, Clean City Coordinator, Office of the Clean City supporting a prohibition.

Commissioner Bowie recognized Desi Deschaine, from the Mayor's Office of Community Affairs.

A constituent complained about the monopoly on grease removal services in the District.

Commissioner Bowie made a motion that ANC 2B send a letter to Merrit Drucker, Clean City Coordinator, Office of the Clean City, with a copy to Councilmember Carol Schwartz, Chair, Committee on Public Works and the Environment, requesting that they consider pursuing legislation that would ban the use of 55 gallon drums and explore other alternatives, and also consider measures to foster competition in the waste grease removal industry in the District of Columbia. Commissioner Halligan seconded the motion. The motion carried (8-0).

The Commission discussed the sale of the Source Theatre building at 1835 14th Street NW. Commissioner Bowie noted that the Source Theatre is in ANC 1B. A representative of the Save Our Source Coalition spoke before the Commission about the Source Theatre's historical and cultural significance to the neighborhood. She announced an open house on March 12<sup>th</sup> from 12:00-5:00. Concerned constituents can learn more at [saveoursource.blogspot.com](http://saveoursource.blogspot.com). Commissioner Estrada expressed concern and noted his opposition to this sale.

A representative of Buffalo Billiards (1330 19th St NW) appeared before the Commission. He noted that Buffalo Billiards is under contract with the owners of the building. He noted his willingness to resolve this matter. Buffalo Billiards has not applied for a liquor license for the Source Theater building.

Commissioner Bowie made a motion that ANC 2B express its sentiment that the Save Our Source Coalition, Buffalo Billiards, Source Theatre Company and the District Government work together to preserve this space as a theatre venue. Commissioner Estrada seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0-1) with Commissioner Movahedi abstaining.

The Commission heard a presentation regarding proposed streetlight banners in the 14<sup>th</sup> and U vicinity. Scott Pomeroy, Development Officer, MidCity Business Association, presented information on its banner program to enhance the business identity of the 14<sup>th</sup> and U Streets area. Banner placement contracts will last for one year and will appear on all poles located on 14<sup>th</sup> and U Streets, and on all greater U Street locations. Banner applications longer than 3 months require ANC and DDOT approval. Constituents can find more information at [www.midcitylife.org](http://www.midcitylife.org) or contact Scott Pomeroy at 202-577-6786.

Commissioner Estrada made a motion to support the project as outlined for a period of one year. Commissioner Movahedi seconded the motion. The motion carried (8-0).

## **REGULATORY AGENDA**

The Commission considered the ABC Application by Jury's Hotel (1500 New Hampshire Ave. NW) License No. 616, for an entertainment endorsement to permit disc jockeys for weddings from 7:00 PM – 11:59 PM. Commissioner Movahedi moved to support the application. Commissioner Estrada seconded the motion. The motion carried (8-0).

The Commission heard a presentation by a representative of Subway (1946 New Hampshire Ave. NW) regarding a proposed outdoor sidewalk café. The sidewalk café would accommodate four tables and 16 chairs. Hours of operation would run from 10:00 AM – 10:00 PM. No alcoholic beverages will be consumed on the premises. The representative stated that the umbrellas would not have corporate logos. The applicant stated that there would be no loss of green space or pedestrian access. The applicant has filed its application with the Office of Public Space. Commissioner Klempay did not take any action, noting that the Commission does not object to the application.

The Commission heard a presentation by Core States Engineering regarding proposed changes to a Mobil service station at 2200 P Street NW. Sunoco proposes changing the text and design of the current Mobil signage. The applicant will not change the signage dimensions. Commissioner Bowie inquired whether this application would appear before the Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB). A representative explained that Steve Calcott had reviewed the application and Sunoco incorporated HPRB's concerns into the

design. Commissioner Silverstein made a motion to support the application. Commissioner Bowie seconded the motion. The motion carried (8-0).

The Commission considered the ABC Substantial Change Application by Porter's (1207 19<sup>th</sup> Street NW) to change from a "CR" (Restaurant) License to a "CT" (Tavern) license. Commissioner Silverstein noted that Porter's requested the substantial change in order to legally allow patrons to continue to smoke for an additional 7-8 months before the smoking ban goes into effect. Commissioner Halligan expressed concern over the potential of morphing. Commissioner Silverstein moved to oppose the application based on peace, order and quiet, pending the negotiation of a voluntary agreement. Commissioner Bowie seconded the motion. The motion carried (8-0).

Commissioner Bjorge provided an update on Trio Restaurant's (1537 17th St. NW) ABC application for a License Class "CR" (Restaurant), for a substantial change regarding alcohol service at a sidewalk café for 48 persons on Q Street NW. Constituents expressed concerns about this application. Commissioner Meehan voiced his opposition to Commissioner Bjorge's negotiating position based on 1) the Commission's guidelines on sidewalk café closing hours and 2) the approximately 50% increase of sidewalk café ABC seats for Trio's Restaurant, from about 100 to about 150. Commissioner Movahedi suggested making a motion that the Commission support Commissioner Bjorge's negotiating position on Trio's voluntary agreement, but no action was taken.

## **UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS**

Commissioner Bowie stated that the Commission would approve the February 2006 minutes at its April meeting.

Commissioner Bowie made a motion to reimburse Alfred Blicher, Executive Director, for the following expenses:

1. Tapes- \$5.49
2. Photocopies- \$31.81
3. Photocopies- \$12.18
4. Photocopies- \$55.54

Commissioner Estrada seconded the motion. The motion carried (8-0).

Commissioner Bowie made a motion to reimburse Berliner, Corcoran & Rowe for copying expenses of \$299.10. Commissioner Estrada seconded the motion. The motion carried (8-0).

Commissioner Bowie made a motion to approve a payment of \$259.49 to Thorne Consultants, Inc. regarding the Rhode Island PUD matter. The motion carried (8-0).

Commissioner Bowie made a motion to approve the first quarterly report to file with the Auditor. Commissioner Estrada seconded the motion. The motion carried (8-0).

Commissioner Bowie made a motion to approve payment of \$808.13 to Caslon Press for business cards for Commissioners. Commissioner Estrada seconded the motion. The motion carried (8-0).

The next regular meeting of ANC 2B will be held on Monday, April 17, 2006, 7:00 PM at the D.C. Jewish Community Center at 16<sup>th</sup> and Q Streets, NW.

At 10:00 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 2B

ADOPTED: April 17, 2006