

**ANC 2B DUPONT CIRCLE ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, May 10, 2006
Jewish Community Center**

The May Regular Meeting of the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (Commission or ANC 2B) was called to order by Vice-Chairman Ramon Estrada at 7:00 pm. The Commissioners identified their Single Member Districts (SMDs). Present were: Mark Bjorge (2B-05), Mike Silverstein (2B-06), Babak Movahedi (2B-07), Peter Klempay (2B-08) and Ramon Estrada (2B-09).

PUBLIC TESTIMONY AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Bjorge announced that Foundry Methodist Church (1500 16th Street NW) would close its childcare center. He suggested concerned residents contact the Pastor. He announced that the streetlight and signage projects at 17th and P Streets NW are not complete. This project had been scheduled for completion on October 15, 2005.

Commissioner Silverstein noted that he and Commissioner Robinson met with Courtney Fletcher, Principal, Francis Junior High School. He noted that the school plans to restructure itself academically and establish a middle school. Rob Halligan, President, Dupont Circle Citizens Association (DCCA), noted that DCCA members hope to get involved in the restructuring of the school. Commissioner Silverstein noted that he would request the US Park Police to be stationed at 23rd and P Streets NW, to allow the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) to monitor other areas affected by Francis Junior High students.

Ron Leve, Program Co-Chair, DCCA, announced the Mayoral Candidates Forum would take place on Monday, June 5th at 7:30 PM in the sanctuary of Foundry United Methodist Church (1500 16th Street NW). Mayoral candidates Michael Brown, Linda Cropp, Adrian Fenty, Marie Johns, and Vincent Orange will participate. Mark Plotkin, political commentator and analyst for WTOP radio and host of "The Politics Program with Mark Plotkin" will moderate. Topics will focus on issues of interest to Dupont Circle as well as those related to Washington as a whole. Attendees may submit written questions during the forum.

The Commission heard a presentation by representatives of the Palm Restaurant (1225 19th Street NW) regarding its request for use of public space for an enclosed sidewalk café. Commissioner Movahedi made a point of order that the applicant was not on the agenda. Commissioner Silverstein noted that the Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB) hearing would take place on May 25th, and that the Commission should take action tonight.

Commissioner Estrada recognized David Moore of Pepco.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Commissioner Estrada recognized Rob Halligan, President, DCCA. Mr. 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.

Mr. Halligan recognized Ed O'Connell, Third District Community Prosecutor, Office of the U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia. Mr. O'Connell made remarks about burglaries and crime in the neighborhood. He requested the Commission and residents submit letters for the courts to consider when sentencing criminals. He suggested residents stress the negative impact of criminals on the community, in order to assist judges in obtaining stiffer sentences. Concerned residents can contact Mr. O'Connell at edward.o'connell@usdoj.gov or at 202-514-7566.

GENERAL AGENDA

The Commission heard an update by Jeff Golds of Friends of S and T Streets Parks. He noted that a budget of \$450,000 had been allotted and would be available in January 2007. This budget does not allow for the community's preferred surface materials for S and T Streets Parks. He noted that the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) apologized for previous mistakes and announced it would take over work previously performed by Green Spaces for DC. Berk Osler, Co-chair of Circle Dogs, announced that the District paid Jeff Lee for previous architecture work done on S and T Streets Parks designs. Commissioner Bjorge expressed concern over DPR's work on the parks. He noted that Maryse Beliveau, Landscape Architect, DPR, had resigned. He also noted that Leslie Schill, Chief of Planning, DPR, is on maternity leave.

Commissioner Bjorge updated the Commission on the Stead Park designs. He noted that despite having two months, the Office of Contract Procurement had not submitted a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the design plans. He expressed concern over the timing of the project and the possibility of losing the community's earmarked funds, if the project is not completed by September 30, 2006. He made a motion to submit a letter asking for assistance to expedite this process to Councilmember Evans, Herb Tillery, Office of Contract Procurement, and Robert Bobb, City Administrator. Commissioner Silverstein requested the Commission also send a copy of the letter to Councilmember Patterson. Commissioner Silverstein seconded the motion. Commissioner Movahedi called the question. The motion passed (5-0).

Liz Tylander, Community Outreach Coordinator, DC Greenworks, presented information about tree care to the Commission. She stated that DC Greenworks would complete surveys and provide maps of all new trees for the first three years of initial growth. She noted that DC Greenworks provides free watering devices to residents to ensure trees are adequately watered. Interested residents can contact her at liz@dcgreenworks.org or 202-518-6195.

The Commission heard a presentation by Mike Smith, President, and Jennifer Clinton, Vice-President, Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars, regarding its purchase of the former Nigerian Embassy (1333 16th Street, NW). The applicants noted the property would not be residential. Commissioner Silverstein welcomed the applicants to the neighborhood.

The Commission heard a presentation by David Mallory, Associate Director of Special Events, Whitman-Walker Clinic, on the Capital Pride Parade. Mr. Mallory thanked the Commission for its past support and requested its support for street closures for the parade on June 10th. Commissioner Silverstein inquired if the Whitman-Walker Clinic needed a letter requesting the District to pay for MPD overtime. Commissioner Movahedi made a motion to write a letter urging the District to support the Parade, including to support overtime pay for additional Police. Commissioner Silverstein seconded the motion. The motion carried (5-0).

REGULATORY AGENDA

The Commission considered a Historic Preservation Application regarding a proposed retaining wall (1264 New Hampshire Avenue NW). Commissioner Silverstein made a motion to support the DC Historic Preservation Office's recommendation that the applicant be allowed to construct a retaining wall. Commissioner Movahedi seconded the motion. The motion carried (5-0).

The Commission did not consider a Public Space Application for an existing fence at 1918 17th Street NW. No representative appeared before the Commission. Commissioner Bjorge requested the Commission to send a letter to the Public Space Committee, stating that the applicant did not appear before the Commission. Commissioner Klempay noted that the purpose of the application is to legitimize the existing fence. Commissioner Klempay made a motion to support the application. Commissioner Movahedi made a motion to table this matter. Commissioner Silverstein seconded the motion to table. The motion to table passed (5-0).

The Commission considered an ABC Application by Jimmy's on K Street (1700 K Street NW) for a new CR (Restaurant) license. Commissioner Silverstein made a motion to approve the application. Commissioner Movahedi seconded the motion. The motion carried (5-0).

The Commission considered an ABC Substantial Change application by Barymy Wine and Liquors (1912 L Street NW) for a Retailer Class "A" license, for permission to change hours of operation from 9:00 AM to 10:00 PM, Monday through Saturday. Commissioner Silverstein made a motion to approve the application. Commissioner Klempay seconded the motion. The motion carried (5-0).

The Commission considered an ABC Request by Lucky Lounge (1221 Connecticut Avenue NW) for permission to open and serve at 8:00 AM during the World Cup Tournament from June 8th to June 24th. Commissioner Bjorge expressed concern over

the potential effect on Sunday services at Saint Matthews Cathedral (1725 Rhode Island Avenue NW). Rob Halligan stated that DCCA does not have concerns about this matter. Commissioner Silverstein made a motion to approve the application. He volunteered to speak with Lucky Bar to request the owners contact Saint Matthew's Cathedral regarding this event. Commissioner Movahedi seconded the motion. The motion carried (5-0).

The Commission considered the following ABC Retailer Class "A" Renewals:

Universal Daruwala, LLC, T/A Universal Liquors, 2018 Florida Ave. NW (2B01)
Yong & Kee Corp., T/A Connecticut Avenue Wine & Liquor, 1529 Connecticut Ave. NW (2B02)
Grape Finds at Dupont Inc., T/A Grape Finds, 1643 Connecticut Ave. NW (2B02)
Nsa State Inc., T/A State Liquors, 2159 P Street NW (2B02)
W & R Inc., T/A Cairo Liquor Store, 1618 17th Street NW (2B03)
Rose Bud Liquors Inc., T/A Rose Bud Liquor Store, 1711 17th Street NW (2B04)
Parki, Inc., T/A Imperial Liquors, 1050 17th Street NW (2B05)
UMA, Inc., Downtown Spirits and Deli, 1522 K Street NW (2B05)
Prerna, Inc., T/A Barmy Wine and Liquors, 1912 L Street NW (2B06)
Lillian Morrison, Inc., T/A Bell Wine & Liquor, 1821 M Street NW (2B06)
Jain Liquors, Inc., T/A La Salle Liquors, 1719 K Street NW (2B06)
Venus Indo Services, Inc., T/A Pan Mar Liquors, 1926 I Street NW (2B06)
S & R Brothers, Inc., T/A S & R Liquors, 1800 I Street NW (2B06)
MMGZ Incorporated, T/A Benmoll Liquors, 1700 U Street NW (2B08)

Commissioner Estrada recommended taking no action on all ABC Retailer Class "A" Renewals.

The Commission heard comments by Nancy Blasdel regarding her concerns about wheelchair accessibility issues at Cairo Liquor Store and Rose Bud Liquor Store. She inquired if it would be possible to notify the Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Board about this matter. Commissioner Estrada asked Rob Halligan, President, DCCA, if there is a mechanism which would allow a constituent to bring this issue before the ABC Board. Mr. Halligan and Commissioner Estrada did not know of a mechanism which would allow Ms. Blasdel to bring this issue before the ABC Board. Commissioner Movahedi suggested the applicant approach the liquor stores amicably. Commissioner Silverstein noted that noncompliance could be a violation of civil rights law. Commissioner Estrada suggested Ms. Blasdel contact Jeff Coudriet, Director of Operations, ABC Board. The Commission took no action on Cairo and Rose Bud Liquor Stores.

The Commission returned to the Palm Restaurant public space application. Commissioner Silverstein made a motion to send a letter to OHP stating that:

ANC 2B generally opposes the use of public space on 19th Street for enclosed sidewalk cafes.

ANC 2B generally supports the use of public space on 19th street for open sidewalk cafes, so long as they do not negatively impact on other businesses or sidewalk traffic.

ANC 2B generally opposes any use of public space for any sidewalk café that restricts the line of sight to side streets or results in a meaningful loss of green space.

He noted that the Commission was submitting a letter with the motion, since it could not vote on the application. Commissioner Movahedi seconded the motion. The motion carried (5-0)

UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Estrada made a motion to table the approval of minutes until the June meeting.

Commissioner Silverstein stated for the record that ANC 2B purchased a photocopier and supplies for \$470.00.

Commissioner Silverstein made a motion to spend \$75 for a plaque for retiring Commissioner Rob Halligan. The motion passed (5-0).

The next regular meeting of ANC 2B will be held on Wednesday, June 14, 2006, 7:00 PM at the D.C. Jewish Community Center at 16th and Q Streets, NW.

At 8:30 PM, Commissioner Estrada moved to adjourn the meeting, which passed by acclamation.

Respectfully submitted,

Alfred E. Blicher, Jr.
Executive Director
Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B

ADOPTED: June 14, 2006