

**ANC 2B DUPONT CIRCLE ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING,  
Wednesday, August 8, 2007 Jewish Community Center**

The August Regular Meeting of the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (Commission or ANC 2B) was called to order by Chair Ramon Estrada at 7:00 pm. The Commissioners identified their Single Member Districts (SMDs). Present were: Commissioners Curtis Farrar (2B01), Bob Meehan (2B03), Mark Bjorge (2B05), Mike Silverstein (2B06), Phil Carney (2B07), Will Stephens (2B08) and Ramon Estrada (2B09). Commissioners William Hewitt (2B02) and Ryan Butler (2B04) were not present. The chair noted the presence of a quorum.

**PUBLIC TESTIMONY AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Commissioner Silverstein thanked ANC 2B, DCCA and Rob Halligan, President of DCCA, for helping to urge people to come to the Dupont Circle Restaurant Week on P Street NW. The P Street Streetscape has adversely affected many restaurants. He noted that Mark and Orlando's has available tables on Friday and Saturday night. Commissioner Silverstein noted that they had a meeting with the Mayor's office and that there will be a major citywide effort to help the restaurants on P Street NW.

Commissioner Carney announced the statistics for the Department of Health and Sanitation (DOH) violations. In the first 26 weeks of 2007, the DOH wrote 32 sanitation violation tickets in Ward 2. He noted that the owners of 1502 17<sup>th</sup> Street NW adopted the new trees and tree boxes in front of their condos.

Commissioner Farrar noted that Rosemary & Thymes Bistro management agreed to the ANC's request for cleanup of trash on surrounding sidewalks and public space.

Commissioner Estrada noted that he has attempted to set up a meeting with a Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB) representative so that the ANC can receive advanced notice of all upcoming projects in all three historic districts touching ANC 2B boundaries, as well as a reasonable amount of time to consider these projects. He noted that he would like a Commissioner to serve as a liaison with HPRB.

Commissioner Estrada noted that the Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration (ABRA) had approved a number of substantial change applications without appropriate ANC review.

He also noted that he attended the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) U Street Reconstruction briefing. He expressed his displeasure with DDOT's plans regarding the intersection of 18<sup>th</sup> and U Streets NW and 14<sup>th</sup> and U Streets NW. He noted the street would be narrowed and sidewalks widened. He expressed concern over the adverse effects on business owners between 14<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Streets NW.

Mary Lord announced that she would be running for the Board of Education District 1 member. The special election will take place August 21<sup>st</sup>.

Asher Corson, Chairman, ANC 2A03, appeared before the Commission to request ANC 2B's support for ANC 2A's motion regarding the West End Library.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Rob Halligan, President, Dupont Circle Citizens Association, announced that the Dupont Circle Public Safety Committee meets every third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM at the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) station at 1620 V Street NW.

He noted that DCCA took part in National Night Out with Historic Dupont Circle Main Streets.

## **GENERAL AGENDA**

The Commission heard a presentation by the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) regarding possible lane configurations for conversion of 15th Street to a 2-way road (between Massachusetts Avenue NW and W Street/Florida Avenue NW). Christopher Ziemann, Transportation Management Specialist, Ward 2, DDOT appeared before the Commission. Commissioner Meehan expressed concern over the lack of bike lanes downtown. Mr. Ziemann did not know if the number of parking spaces would be affected. The timeframe for this project will be between September – November 2007. Commissioner Estrada made a motion to. Commissioner B Jorge seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

Asher Corson, Chairman, ANC 2A03, appeared before the Commission to request ANC 2B's support for its motion regarding the West End Library. Commissioner Estrada moved the following motion:

*WHEREAS public property is meant to serve the well-being of the public by maximizing its social and economic utility;*

*WHEREAS on July 3rd, the City Council held a "public round table" that was the only public consideration of the legislation disposing of the West End Library and Fire Station to a pre-selected, single private beneficiary;*

*WHEREAS ANC 2A and ANC 2B were not consulted for public discussion and an opportunity to vote their "great weight;"*

*WHEREAS the District of Columbia City Council passed both the "District-Owned Property at 24th and L Streets NW Disposition Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2007" and the "District-Owned Property at 24th and L Streets NW Disposition Emergency Approval Resolution of 2007" on July 10th of 2007;*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT ANC 2B advises the City Council to both immediately rescind and promptly urge the mayor to reconsider the manner and process of any disposition of the West End Library and Fire Station to any single beneficiary so that the public can properly comment on any potential disposition or transformed use of that public property.*

Commissioner Silverstein seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

## **REGULATORY AGENDA**

The Commission considered an ABC substantial change license request by the Washington DC Palm, Inc. T/A the Washington DC Palm, Inc., for approval of an addition of a summer garden (seating 48 persons) abutting the front of its premises (2B02). Commissioner Farrar made a motion to protest the application.

*ANC 2B protests the Substantial Change License Request by The Washington DC Palm, Inc. T/A The Washington DC Palm, Inc., for the approval of the addition of a summer garden, seating 48 persons, abutting the front of its licensed premises, based on concerns about adverse affects on peace, order and quiet. The proposed hours of operation and sale, service and consumption for the summer garden are Monday, 5:30 PM - 12 AM; Tuesday-Friday, 11:30AM - 12 :00AM; Saturday, 5:30PM – 12:00AM. ANC 2B remains opposed to this particular use of public space for the following reasons:*

*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.*

Commissioner Bjorge seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

The Commission considered a Special Exception Request for a Bed and Breakfast located on 1700 block of R Street NW (2B03). Commissioner Meehan made a motion to approve the special exception request at 1824 R Street NW for the increase from two to six rooms. Commissioner Silverstein seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

The Commission heard a presentation of a public space request by Historic Dupont Circle Main Streets (HDCMS) for newly designed Dupont Circle Commercial District banners. Representative of HDCMS appeared before the Commission. Commissioner Estrada made a motion to approve the public space permit for 76 banners (to be hung on light poles) with the plan presented tonight. Commissioner Silverstein seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

The Commission considered a public space request by Freshfarm Markets for hanging of farmers' market banners on street poles on the block of 20th Street NW, Q Street NW, and Massachusetts Avenue NW, for a period longer than three months, and year-round for banners located on 20th Street NW (2B02)

Commissioner Farrar made a motion to support the request. Commissioner Meehan seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

The Commission considered a request for the approval of an ABC Stipulated License for Inti Restaurant at 1825 18th Street (2B08). Patty Reyes and Jane Rodriguez appeared before the Commission gave a presentation about their restaurant. Commissioner Estrada inquired about the status of the applicant's ABC license. Mr. Reyes stated that they had not officially applied for an ABC license. Commissioner Estrada expressed concern over the ANC weighing in on this request prematurely. Commissioner Farrar suggested crafting a motion with the stipulation that the ANC receive a copy of the applicant's ABC application in the next few days. Commissioner Estrada inquired whether the applicant would be willing to work with the Commission on a voluntary agreement. Ms. Reyes stated that they would be willing to sign a voluntary agreement.

Commissioner Stephens made the following motion:

*WHEREAS,*

*Inti is a new restaurant at 1825 18<sup>th</sup> Street NW which has begun serving food and non-alcoholic drink;*

*The Commission finds that the owners/managers of Inti have presented a reasonable business model;*

*Inti requests a temporary ("stipulated") ABC license to serve alcohol during the time Inti's full ABC license application # 61272 is under consideration.*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,*

*That the Commission, upon receipt of a copy of Inti's ABC application, provide a letter of support to Inti for a stipulated ABC license, signed by the Chairman and listing the following conditions and notes:*

- *Operating hours – including summer garden hours – not to exceed Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.; Tuesday through Thursday 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m.;*
- *Trash taken out daily and picked up 6 nights per week;*
- *An application for and consideration of an entertainment license will be forthcoming;*
- *The ANC through the support of a stipulated license does not waive its right to protest an ABC application; and*
- *The ANC and Inti anticipate entering into a Voluntary Agreement.*

Commissioner Estrada seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

The Commission considered an application by Tupp, Inc. T/A Thai Phoon, 2011 S Street NW for extension of operating hours from 11 pm to 12 am (2B01). Commissioner Farrar noted the recent problems of poor trash upkeep in the alley behind the restaurant, in violation of the applicant's voluntary agreement. Commissioner Estrada requested the applicant to improve its problems with trash. Commissioner Farrar made a motion to support the request for the extension of operating hours from 11 pm to 12 am. Commissioner Estrada seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

The Commission considered an ABC Substantial Change Application by LD1, LLC, T/A Eyebar, for a Retailer's "C" Tavern License, and for permission to have a summer garden with 85 seats (2B06).

Commissioner Silverstein recognized Bernadine Prince Co-Director, FRESHFARM Markets. She explained her request, for which the Commission had already passed a motion to support. Commissioner Estrada inquired whether the Commission still supported the original motion. The Commission amended its earlier motion with the addition of a technical correction regarding the stipulation that the applicant would be allowed to hang banners for at least one year.

The Commission considered an ABC Substantial Change Application by LD1, LLC, T/A Eyebar, for a Retailer's "C" Tavern License, and for permission to have a summer garden with 85 seats (2B06). Commissioner Silverstein made a motion to protest the application based on grounds of peace, order and quiet. Commissioner Bjorge seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

## **ABC RENEWALS**

Mhg Cafe Dupont, Llc T/A Circa at Dupont, 1601 Connecticut Avenue NW (2B02)  
The Phillips Collection T/A The Phillips Collection, 1600 21st Street NW (2B02)  
CSBT, Inc. T/A Town House Tavern Restaurant, 1637 R Street NW (2B04)  
17th Street Cafe, Inc. T/A 17th Street Café, 1513 17th Street NW (2B05)  
Bank of America Corporation T/A Bank of America, NA, 730 17th Street NW (2B05)  
Blt Steak Dc Llc, T/A Blt Steak, 1625 I Street NW (2B05)  
Arthur Alan, Inc., T/A Art Gallery, 1712 I Street NW (2B06)  
Penang DC LLC, T/A Penang, 1837 M Street NW (2B06)  
LD1, LLC, T/A Eyebar, 1716 I Street NW (2B06)  
Hurowitz Lin, LLC T/A Overtime Café, 20th Street NW (2B06)  
Wasabi, Co T/A Wasabi, 910 17th Street NW (2B06)  
Kaz, LLC T/A Kaz Sushi, 1915 I Street NW (2B06)  
Cosi, Inc. T/A Cosi Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner, Dessert & Catering, 1919 M Street NW (2B06)  
Karma Java Inc. T/A Karma Java & Bar, 1919 PENNSYLVANIA Avenue NW (2B06)  
Jha Corporation T/A Recessions II, 1823 L Street NW (2B06)  
TNL Corporation T/A Luna Grill, 1301 Connecticut Avenue NW (2B07)  
Café Dupont, LLC T/A Café Citron, 1343 Connecticut Avenue NW (2B07)

Shamiana, LLC T/A Heritage India Brassiere & Lounge, 1337 Connecticut Avenue NW (2B07)

Commissioner Silverstein made a motion to protest the substantial change application of LD1, LLC, T/A Eyebar, 1716 I St NW, for a "C" Tavern License, based on grounds of peace, order and quiet, subject to the negotiation of a voluntary agreement.

Commissioner ? seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0). Commissioner Meehan inquired whether Andrew Kline, attorney for the applicant, had advanced notice of tonight's meeting. Commissioner Estrada noted that he had requested Executive Director Blicher to add Mr. Kline's email address to ANC 2B's email list, to ensure the attorney and applicant had advanced notice of the meeting. Mr. Kline was provided with a copy tonight's agenda via email.

Commissioner Carney noted that Circa Café has done a great job working with the neighbors and city.

### **UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS**

Commissioner Silverstein presented the quarterly report for the Commission:

Ending cash balance: \$9,460

Bank account: \$19,380

ANC 2B is scheduled to receive \$12,000 from the City

No unforeseen expenses

Commissioner Silverstein made a motion to approve the quarterly report. Commissioner Bjorge seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

Commissioner Estrada thanked Thomas Defeo and Commissioner Silverstein for their hard work in keeping ANC 2B's finances in order.

Commissioner Silverstein made a motion to authorize payment of \$162.83 to Freddie Blicher for his purchase of two toner cartridges for the copy machine at the resource center. Commissioner Estrada seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

The Commission did not approve July minutes.

The next regular meeting of ANC 2B will be held on Tuesday, September 11, 2007, 7:00 PM at the D.C. Jewish Community Center at 16<sup>th</sup> and Q Streets, NW.

Respectfully submitted,

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

ADOPTED: September 11, 2007