

**ANC 2B DUPONT CIRCLE ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING,
Wednesday, October 10, 2007 Jewish Community Center**

The October 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), William Hewitt (2B02), Bob Meehan (2B03), Ryan Butler (2B04), Mike Silverstein (2B06), Will Stephens (2B08) and Ramon Estrada (2B09). Commissioner Phil Carney (2B07) was not present. The chair noted the presence of a quorum.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Meehan requested that WASA and the Fire Department attend the November meeting. A number of residents have expressed concern over a number of inoperative fire hydrants. A resident expressed concern over potted concrete flowerpots infringing on public space at Connecticut Avenue NW and R Street NW.

Morgan Zehner, Executive Director, Historic Dupont Circle Main Streets, announced the Taste of Dupont on Tuesday, October 30th from 6pm to 9pm at the Carlyle Suites Hotel (1731 New Hampshire Avenue, NW).

Rick Busch, Dupont Circle Conservancy, announced that DCC created and distributed a Historic District Permit Checklist pamphlet. DCC's new website is www.dupontcircleconservancy.org.

Rob Halligan, President, Dupont Circle Citizens Association, announced the Dupont Circle House Tour on October 21st from 12-5 PM.

Commissioner Silverstein requested \$80 to buy cakes and refreshments for the House Tour. Commissioner Estrada seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

Whitney Louchheim, Third Church of Christ, Scientist (16th & I Streets, NW) announced the Church's opposition to its Historical Landmark Nomination.

Brianne Nadeau, Commissioner, 1B05, announced the "Sunday in the Park" event on October 21st from 2 – 5 PM at the Meridian Hill Park.

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.

Lieutenant Dignan announced that a stabbing had taken place today in the Dupont Circle park. He announced a new MPD foot beat “Walking Tall” initiative. He noted that additional foot beats would be added to our neighborhood.

GENERAL AGENDA

Commissioner Estrada announced the Special Election for the 2B05 vacancy. The petition deadline is October 15th.

The Commission considered a final ANC resolution regarding public hours for the Ross School playground. Commissioner Meehan made the following motion:

***DUPONT CIRCLE ANC 2B RESOLUTION ON PUBLIC ACCESS TO ROSS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PLAYGROUND, APPROVED
AT ITS OCTOBER 10, 2007 MONTHLY MEETING***

Whereas the new playground is a wonderful success in providing recreational opportunities for children on school days as well as on non-school days,

Whereas opening the playground to the public (after 25 years of being locked) has not resulted in the abuse of this asset to the detriment of living conditions for neighbors in the immediate vicinity of the playground,

Whereas the leadership of Ross Elementary School – both staff and Parents Teacher Association – have worked and continue to work closely and positively with the community in addressing community concerns relating to the school,

Whereas the incorporation of public space into the Ross Elementary School playground resulted in partial oversight of the playground by the Department of Transportation and the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission,

Whereas the leadership of Ross Elementary School and the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission jointly agree, given the Commission’s concern about mitigating noise for the immediate residential community in the early morning, that there should be some restriction on public access in the morning,

Now, therefore, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission, in partnership with the principal of Ross Elementary School, resolves that morning public access to the playground should be 8:00AM for Monday through Friday on non-school days and 9:00 AM for Saturday and Sunday, and that Ross Elementary School should post a sign that clearly lays out the rules for public access to the school playground, both on school days and on non-school days,

Moreover, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission, recognizing the commitment of the leadership of Ross Elementary School to work with the community to resolve any difficulties that might arise in the future regarding the playground, hereby

releases to the principal of Ross Elementary School the oversight of the playground that Commission assumed in support of the public space application.

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

The Commission considered a resolution requesting the Mayor and the Office of Planning to include all ANCs in the initial stages of any revision of the zoning process or rules. Commissioner Meehan requested that ANC 2B send a letter to the Office of Zoning and the Mayor requesting that the process that was observed in the Comprehensive Plan also be observed for the revision of the zoning process, and that ANCs be able to participate in public meetings, and that initial draft plans be resubmitted to ANCs to obtain community input. Commissioner Butler seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

The Commission considered a resolution urging the creation of a neighborhood history room in the new West End Library. Commissioner Silverstein made the following motion:

ANC 2B notes with sadness the passing of Cheryl Spector, who spent much of her life chronicling activities and history of our neighborhood and specifically the gay community.

Her passing underscores the need to establish a neighborhood history room to serve as a permanent home for items of neighborhood historic interest – such as the Cheryl Spector and Frank Kameney collections.

ANC 2B, in coordination with the Washingtoniana Room, urges the West End Library stakeholders to consider creation of such a room in the new or renovated facility being planned.

Commissioner Meehan proposed a friendly amendment to add the language “in coordination with the Washingtoniana Room.” Commissioner Estrada seconded the friendly amendment. The motion carried (7-0).

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

The Commission considered a resolution regarding the 22nd Annual High Heel Race taking Place on October 30 from 7-9:00 PM. Commissioner Estrada made a motion to support the parade permit request for the 22nd Annual High Heel Race on October 30th, expanding on 17th Street from P Street NW to Swann Street NW. Commissioner Butler seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

The Commission considered co-sponsorship and financial support for Dupont Circle Conservancy’s Down-zoning Proposal. DCC proposed a budget of \$3,756.84 from the ANC. Commissioner Estrada noted that DCCA pledged to spend up to \$1,000 in support of DCC’s proposal.

Commissioner Estrada made a motion to support the down-zoning proposal as a co-sponsor. Commissioner Farrar seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

Commissioner Estrada made a motion to match the DCCA's contribution up to \$1,000. Commissioner Silverstein seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

REGULATORY AGENDA

The Commission considered an ABC License Application No.19333 by 1345 Corporation T/A The Big Hunt (1345 Connecticut Avenue NW) for an Entertainment Endorsement for Live Entertainment, Sunday through Thursday from 6:00 PM – 2:00 AM; Friday – Saturday 6:00 PM – 3:00 AM (2B07). The owner of the Big Hunt clarified that he requested Karaoke on Tuesday nights from 8 PM – midnight. Commissioner Butler made a motion to support the application for karaoke from 8 PM – midnight on Tuesdays. Commissioner Estrada requested that the letter note that the applicant's request was different from the notification received from ABRA. Commissioner Silverstein seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

The Commission considered ABC License Application No. 74872 by PENANG DC LLC. T/A Penang (1837 M Street, NW) for an Entertainment Endorsement for Live Entertainment, Sunday through Saturday from 6:00 PM – 2:00 AM (2B06). The Commission took no action.

The Commission considered ABC License Application No. 60080 by Haile G. Bainosai T/A Selam Restaurant (1524-1526 U Street, NW) for an amendment to its Entertainment Endorsement from entertainment on Friday and Saturday, 10:00 PM – 2:30 PM, to entertainment, dancing and cover charge on Sunday – Thursday, 9:00 PM – 2:00 AM, and Friday and Saturday, 9:00 PM – 3:00 AM. Additionally, the applicant requested permission to extend the hours of alcoholic beverages (2B09).

Commissioner Estrada made a motion to protest the application by Haile G. Bainosai T/A Selam Restaurant, located at 1524-1526 U Street NW, based on concerns about adverse effects on peace, order, and quiet, subject to the negotiation of a voluntary agreement. The motion carried (7-0).

Commissioner Estrada made the following motion regarding ABRA's improper handling of this application:

ANC 2B requests ABRA to placard the original entertainment endorsement request (Friday and Saturday, 9:00 PM – 3:00 AM) that was NEVER PLACARDED. There needs to be appropriate review and oversight by the ANC, and we want to engage the neighboring community residents to develop a voluntary agreement on the use of an entertainment endorsement at that location.

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

The Commission considered ABC License Application No. 77701 by Inti, LLC. T/A Inti Peruvian Restaurant (1825 18 Street NW) requesting hours of operation for inside and summer garden; sales and consumption of alcoholic beverages for inside and summer garden, and hours of entertainment (2B08). Commissioner Stephens noted that the applicant has amended their ABC application by one hour on weekdays and weekends from 12 AM – 1AM rather than 11 PM – 12 AM.

Commissioner Stephens made a motion to protest the ABC application based on concerns of peace, order and quiet, pending the negotiation of a voluntary agreement. Commissioner Stephens requested the Commission to renew his authority to work with the applicant to negotiate a voluntary agreement. Commissioner Meehan seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

The Commission considered ABC License Application No. 11228 by R Street Restaurant T/A La Tomate (1703 Connecticut Avenue NW) for a substantial change request to extend hours of operation to 12:30 AM daily (2B01). The manager of La Tomate appeared before the Commission. Commissioner Butler made a motion to support the application. Commissioner Farrar seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

The Commission considered ABC License Application No. 76495 by Yami, LLC T/A Bistro Du Coin (1738 Connecticut Avenue NW) for an Entertainment Endorsement (2B02). Commissioner Hewitt made a motion to support the entertainment endorsement request for seven holiday events which the applicant celebrates each year. Commissioner Estrada seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

The Commission considered ABC License Application No. 60695 by Bouzid, Inc. T/A Marrakesh Palace Pasha Lounge (2147 P Street NW) for a substantial change request for the addition of a sidewalk café with seating capacity for 20 (2B02). Commissioner Hewitt made a motion to support the request for a sidewalk café pursuant to the terms of the ANC's voluntary agreement. Commissioner Silverstein seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Butler announced for the record that McDonalds violated its voluntary agreement by dumping a car into the parking lot. He noted that DPW towed the car from the lot. He was not sure if McDonalds voluntarily removed the car.

Commissioner Estrada made a motion to approve the September regular meeting minutes as amended. Alfred E. Blicher, Jr. is empowered to make technical changes to the September meeting minutes. Commissioner Farrar seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0).

Commissioner Stephens inquired about the purchase of a gum removal machine. The Commission will consider this issue in the future.

Commissioner Farrar recommended putting the agenda together two weeks before the agenda must be mailed out.

Commissioner Silverstein stated they would like to put together a tentative budget for next month. He noted that ANC 2B should receive its share of legal expenses from the 1616 Rhode Island Avenue PUD matter.

At 9:30 PM, Commissioner Estrada moved to adjourn the meeting, which passed by acclimation.

The next regular meeting of ANC 2B will be held on Wednesday, November 14, 2007, 7:00 PM at the D.C. Jewish Community Center at 16th and Q Streets, NW.

Respectfully submitted,

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

ADOPTED: November 14, 2007