

**ANC 2B DUPONT CIRCLE ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING,  
Wednesday, June 11, 2008 Jewish Community Center**

The June Regular Meeting of the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (Commission or ANC 2B) was called to order by Chairman Curtis Farrar at 7:00 pm. The Commissioners identified their Single Member Districts (SMDs). Present were: Commissioners Curtis Farrar (2B01), William Hewitt (2B02), Bob Meehan (2B03), Jack Jacobson (2B04), Victor Wexler (2B05), Mike Silverstein (2B06), Phil Carney (2B07), Will Stephens (2B08) and Ramon Estrada (2B09). The Chairman noted the presence of a quorum.

**PUBLIC TESTIMONY AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Commissioner Estrada announced that the Commission reached a voluntary agreement (with 192 protestants) with Policy Restaurant at 14<sup>th</sup> and T Streets NW. The restaurant will open in September. Policy Restaurant will close its summer garden at 11 PM.

Commissioner Silverstein announced that Francis School is seeking a new principal.

Commissioner Farrar noted the recent editorial in the Washington Post regarding abandoned embassy properties.

Commissioner Jacobson noted that the Cairo (1615 Q Streets NW) building was undergoing a major repointing project. He noted that the ANC would participate in the gay pride parade.

Commissioner Stephens noted that the Commission would be hosting the first candidate debate for the Ward 2 council seat on July 24<sup>th</sup> at the Philips Gallery.

Joel Lawson, President, Dupont Circle Citizens Association, distributed photos of the internal collapse at 1841 16<sup>th</sup> Street NW. DCCA and DCC assisted residents in finding temporary housing. He stated DCCA would help take action to ensure the owners make the repairs. Commissioner Meehan thanked DCCA for their help in this matter. Commissioner Estrada stated he would send a letter of thanks to DCCA. Rick Busch, President, DCC, noted that he had put together a list of other properties in disrepair.

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Commissioner Jacobson noted that 13 burglaries occurred recently. Thefts from autos have increased.

Rob Halligan, former President of 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.

## GENERAL AGENDA

The Commission heard Foggy Bottom ANC Chair Asher Corson's presentation on the West End Library and Square 37 visioning proposals. He noted the importance of leveraging this area for the benefit of the community. Commissioner Silverstein noted the time and effort involved in planning for the library and amenities for the public. He noted the possibility of branding the library as the Dupont Circle/Foggy Bottom Library.

Mr. Corson requested the commission support the visioning document. He noted that the Office of Planning would provide funding and would solicit bids from various contractors. Commissioner Silverstein noted that the library funding would come from the sale of retail/apartment space in the building of the future library.

Commissioner Silverstein made the following motion:

*Be it resolved that Dupont Circle ANC strongly endorses the West End Library Visioning Statement and RFP Recommendations, as proposed by the West End Library Friends. We share the belief of those in the West End community that a new library should be a focus of a growing residential community.*

*Be it further resolved that Dupont Circle ANC strongly endorses the goals of the West End Visioning Statement formulated earlier this year during sessions open to all community members. We wholeheartedly join in the call for more housing, including affordable housing, and first floor shops to bring life to the neighborhood.*

*And be it further resolved and Dupont Circle joins Foggy Bottom ANC in calling for public input into the future use of Stevens Elementary School. The priceless historic site began educating freed slave children in 1868, and is the city's monument to the great Congressional emancipator, who died three weeks before its opening. The school that gave the world Dr. Charles Drew, Colbert I. King, Petey Greene, Roberta Flack, and Amy Carter must be adaptively reused in a manner that honors its place in the history of our city, and respects its importance to Washington's black community.*

Commissioner Wexler seconded the motion. Commissioner Jacobson expressed concern over not having seen the visioning document before the meeting. Commissioner Silverstein amended the resolution. The motion carried (7-0-2) with Commissioners Stephenson and Jacobson abstaining.

The Commission considered a proposal to add a Porte-Cochere to the front of the Jefferson Hotel (2B05). Commissioner Wexler made a motion to support HPA Application 08-322 for removal of the existing vestibule/awning and addition of a canopy (vestibule and porte-cochere) at the Hotel Jefferson. Commissioner Stephens seconded the motion. The motion carried (9-0).

The Commission heard an update on the changed status of 18th Street project. Christopher Ziemann, Transportation Planner, Ward 2, DDOT, spoke before the

Commission. He stated that DDOT was sensitive to neighborhood concerns over multiple projects. He stated that U Street and 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Streets projects are currently in the design phase.

Commissioner Meehan made the following motion:

Commissioner Estrada seconded the motion. The motion carried (9-0).

## **REGULATORY AGENDA**

The Commission considered ABC License No. 78475 by Pangean Investment Group, LLC T/A Skye (1919 Pennsylvania Avenue NW) for a Substantial Change Request to extend hours of operation and hours of sales of alcoholic beverages inside and on the sidewalk cafe; Substantial Change Request for an entertainment endorsement for entertainment, dancing and a cover charge; Substantial Change Request for an expansion in the number of seats from 62 to 199 (2B06). Commissioner Silverstein noted that the establishment is located in a non-residential area. He moved to support the substantial change request. Commissioner Estrada seconded the motion. The motion carried (9-0).

The Commission heard an updated report on the Zoning working group report on height restrictions (2B03).

Commissioner Estrada tabled the matter.

The Commission considered ABC License #78222 by Cafe Trope (2100 P Street NW) for a substantial change request for entertainment endorsement for entertainment, dancing and cover charge and request to change the hours of operation and sales. Proposed hours for Sunday thru Thursday, 11 a.m. to 2 a.m.; Friday thru Saturday, 11 a.m. to 3 a.m. (2B02). Commissioner Hewitt made a motion to protest the application, until the applicant resubmits a revised application, subject to the negotiation of a voluntary agreement. Commissioner Silverstein seconded the motion. The motion carried (9-0).

The Commission considered ABC License #16192 by Pizzeria Paradiso (2000 Massachusetts Ave NW) for license (transferring to new location from 2029 P Street NW) including summer garden. (2B02). The Commission tabled this matter.

## **UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS**

Commissioner Silverstein noted that the ANC received two quarterly allotments of \$6,636. The Commission's account has a total of \$38,000. He made a motion for

reimbursement of no more than \$100 for office expenses to Freddie Blicher, and no more than \$125 for signs for the pride parade to Commissioner Stephens. Commissioner Estrada seconded the motion. The motion carried (9-0).

Commissioner Silverstein noted that the ANC would be audited next Wednesday, June 18.

Commissioner Estrada made a motion to approve the May regular and special meeting minutes as amended. Alfred E. Blicher, Jr. is empowered to make technical changes to the March regular meeting minutes. The motion carried (8-0-1) with Commissioner Estrada abstaining since he was not present at the May regular meeting.

At 10:00 PM, Commissioner Estrada moved to adjourn the meeting, which passed by acclimation.

The next regular meeting of ANC 2B will be held on Wednesday, July 9, 2008, 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: July 9, 2008