

**ANC 2B DUPONT CIRCLE ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION REGULAR
MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, September 7, 2010 Brookings Institution

The September Regular Meeting of the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (Commission or ANC 2B) was called to order by Chairman Stephens at 7:00 pm. The Commissioners identified their Single Member Districts (SMDs). Present were: Mike Feldstein (2B01), Bob Meehan (2B03), Jack Jacobson (2B04), Victor Wexler (2B05), Mike Silverstein (2B06), Phil Carney (2B07) Will Stephens (2B08) and Ramon Estrada (2B09). Commissioner Bhavna Patel (2B02) was not present. The Chair noted the presence of a quorum.

Approval of Minutes & Circulation of Monthly Work Calendar

The Commission tabled July and August minutes until the October meeting.

Public Announcements

1. Presentation of Community Involvement Award

Commissioner Stephens noted that the Commission would present the award at the October meeting.

2. Primary Election Sept. 14th

Commissioner Stephens reminded everyone to vote in the primary election.

3. Other Announcements

Commissioner Jacobson announced the 17th Street Festival on September 25th from 2-6pm. Commissioner Meehan noted the installation of speed humps in the neighborhood. He requested the Commission to follow up on the DDOT study regarding speed humps. Commissioner Stephens noted that the Commission would allow candidates in contested elections for SMDs to speak briefly at the October meeting.

Public Safety

1. Introduction of new PSA 208 Sergeant

Commissioner Feldstein made the following motion regarding Sgt. John McDonald's service to the Community.

Resolved that the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC 2B) commends and thanks Sergeant John McDonald for his years of outstanding service to Police Service Area (PSA) 208 and the Dupont Circle community.

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

Sgt. McDonald is leaving his position on MPD. Bryant Jeter will take over as Acting Lt. in his place. His email is bryant.jeter@dc.gov. There is no plan for a new Sgt. to take over PSA 208. Sgt. McDonald reported that there is no crime to report.

2. Next PSA 208 meeting Tuesday, Sept. 21st 7pm @ 3rd District HQ

3. Other Public Safety Announcements

Regulatory

HPRB & Zoning Applications

Application by St. Thomas Episcopal Parish, 1772 Church Street NW, to HPRB for new sanctuary construction. (2B07)

Commissioner Carney made the following motion:

ANC 2B supports Saint Thomas Parish's new Sanctuary and its efforts to work with the community. We urge St. Thomas to continue to work with the Dupont Conservancy to resolve any further design issues.

Commissioner Stephens seconded the motion. Commissioner Meehan offered a friendly amendment, but Commissioner Carney did not accept the friendly amendment. The motion carried (8-0).

Consideration of Resolution in Support of Application of Peter Waddell for public arts grant to paint a mural on the blank wall at 1914 Sunderland Place. (2B06)

Commissioner Silverstein made the following motion:

ANC 2B supports the application for a public arts grant to paint on the blank wall at 1914 Sunderland Place.

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

Application for renovation and expansion of 2032 O Street NW, one of a row of 13 historic townhouses. Steve Dickens, architect. (2B06)

The correct address for this application is 2132 O Street NW. Commissioner Silverstein made the following motion:

ANC 2B supports the restoration work in the front and defers to Dupont Circle Conservancy on the third floor addition.

Commissioner Stephens seconded the motion. The motion carried (6-0-2) with Commissioners Meehan, Stephens, Carney, Wexler, Jacobson, Silverstein voting in support, and Commissioners Feldstein and Estrada abstaining.

ABC Applications

Application by Pasha Bistro, 1523 17th St NW, License # ABRA-072743 for change from Class “D” to Class “C” restaurant. Petition due 9/13/2010. (2B05)

Commissioner Wexler made the following motion:

Whereas, Pasha Bistro has applied for a substantial change from a Class D Restaurant to a Class C Restaurant enabling it to serve spirits as well as wine and beer as a Class C Restaurant, and

Whereas, four competing restaurants on the 1500 Block of 17th St. N.W. — Trios, Fox and Hounds, Agora and the new Java Green Café — all serve mixed drinks at their outside cafes as Class C restaurants, and

Whereas, Pasha Bistro closes at 11 pm every night, and Whereas, Pasha Bistro has no bar and operates exclusively as a restaurant, and

Whereas, this change in license calls for no increase in seating, which would violate the prohibition of “additional sidewalk café and roof top seats for establishments along 17th Street between P and Q Streets,” in order to preserve peace, order and quiet, and

Whereas, the Rulemaking Notice on the East Dupont Moratorium from the ABC Board (306.4) permits the transfer of a Class D to a Class C restaurant within the moratorium zone,

Let it be therefore resolved that ANC 2B has no objection to Pasha Bistro’s application to change from a Class D to a Class C Restaurant.

Commissioner Feldstein seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0) with Commissioner Silverstein not participating due to his position on the ABC Board.

Application by Ozio, 1813 M Street NW, License # ABRA-023167 (CN), for new rooftop summer garden with occupancy 110, hours Sun-Thurs 11am-2am, Fri-Sat 11am-3am. Petition due 10/4/2010, Hearing 10/18/2010. (2B06)

Commissioner Stephens made the following motion:

ANC 2B protests the application on the basis of peace, order and quiet, pending a successful resolution of a Voluntary Agreement.

Commissioner Meehan seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0) with Commissioner Silverstein not participating due to his position on the ABC Board.

Application by Kabab-ji, 1351 Conn Ave NW, License #ABRA-082446 (CR), for substantial change to add entertainment endorsement (DJ, international music, cover charge, dancing, karaoke), hours Sun-Thurs 6pm-2am, Fri-Sat 6pm-3am. Petition due 10/4/2010, Hearing 10/18/2010. (2B07)

Commissioner Carney made the following motion:

ANC 2B opposes the application by Kabab-Ji Restaurant, 1351 Connecticut Avenue NW, for substantial change to their CR license (ABRA-082446) for entertainment endorsement to include a DJ, music, cover charge, dancing and karaoke on the basis of peace, order, and quiet, pending successful resolution of a Voluntary Agreement.

Commissioner Feldstein seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0) with Commissioner Silverstein not participating due to his position on the ABC Board.

General

Presentation/discussion regarding new bike-sharing installations (DDOT and WABA)

Commissioner Stephens noted that Chris Ziemann was no longer working at DDOT. The Commission will address bike-sharing at a future meeting.

Consideration of Resolution in Support of Mini-Walk and Walk-a-dog-a-thon in support of Charlie's Place program for the Homeless at St. Margaret's Church.

Commissioner Stephens made a motion to support. Commissioner Meehan seconded the motion. The motion carried (6-0) with Commissioners Silverstein and Estrada out of the room.

Consideration of Resolution in Support of the Washington Humane Society's 5th Annual Walk for the Animals (Sept. 25, 2010), with route through portions of ANC 1C and 2B. Stacey Severe, Special Events Manager.

Commissioner Stephens made the following motion:

ANC 2B supports the Washington Humane Society's 5th Annual Walk for the Animals (Sept. 25, 2010), with route through portions of ANC 1C and 2B.

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

Consideration of Resolution in Support of Application of DC2NY Bus to continue using stop on Massachusetts Avenue next to Resource Center.

Commissioner Silverstein made the following motion:

ANC 2B supports the continued use of DC2NY of the curb space at the 1900 block of Mass Ave NW, in front of our ANC 2B Resource Center office, for pickup and drop-off of passengers.

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

Consideration of Resolution in Support of ANC Exception to Open Meetings Legislation

Commissioner Stephens made the following motion:

Whereas Council Member Bowser and others have sponsored an Open Meetings bill to increase transparency in DC government;

Whereas a prior bill introduced by former Council Member Patterson, B16-747, included an amendment that provided an exception for ANCs;

Whereas in order to (1) advocate for constituent services, (2) follow up on resolutions or motions passed by the commission, (3) resolve problems with public works or development projects, (4) get to know relevant government officials, or (5) learn more about how the municipal government works, ANC 2B commissioners often have discussions, walk-throughs, or even training sessions with DC Government officials, and requiring public notice of all such sessions would be unduly burdensome;

Therefore be it resolved that while ANC 2B supports more transparent government in principle, ANC 2B opposes the legislation as too burdensome and requests that accommodation be made to allow ANC commissioners greater flexibility.

Commissioner Meehan seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-1) with Commissioner Jacobson voting in opposition.

Committee Reports

17th Street Working Group

1. Status of 17th Street Project Completion/Community Feedback

Commissioner Jacobson made the following motion:

Whereas, the 17th Street Streetscape Project (“Streetscape Project”) commenced nearly three years ago with a great deal of community planning and outreach to the community on behalf of the District Department of Transportation (“DDOT”);

Whereas, construction of the Streetscape Project began in December 2009 and is in the final stages of completion;

Whereas, there were multiple concerns and challenges raised by residents, business owners, and Neighborhood Commissioners within the Streetscape Project during the course of planning and executing the Streetscape Project;

Whereas, among these concerns were efforts to drastically reduce the number of mature trees removed during the Streetscape Project, restaging the phases of the Streetscape Project to reduce negative impacts to business owners with outdoor patio spaces for dining and drinking, and issues related to water drainage and satisfactory completion of all components of the Streetscape Project; and

Whereas, DDOT and its contractor for the Streetscape Project, Gary Hetrick, including Olusegun “Olu” Olaore, Victor Egu, John Thomas and Gary Hetrick, rose to the occasion and met each challenge with respect for the neighborhood, creative problem solving skills, and a commitment to high quality workmanship which produced a public works project the neighborhood appreciates and admires.

Therefore, be it resolved, that ANC 2B commends DDOT and Gary Hetrick for their activities to truly partner with and listen to the community on issues related to the successful completion of the Streetscape Project, and

Be it further resolved, that ANC 2B encourages that the problem solving and community outreach and partnership methods utilized during the Streetscape Project be adopted city-wide and be used as a model for future projects throughout the District.

A copy of this resolution should be provided to Gabe Klein, Director, District Department of Transportation, as well as Olusegun Olaore, Victor Egu, and John Thomas at DDOT.

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

ABRA Policy Committee

1. Omnibus ABRA Legislation
2. Public Space Sidewalk Cafe guidelines
3. Dupont West Moratorium
4. Next Meeting

Commissioner Estrada noted that he scheduled the meeting for Wednesday, September 15th at 7pm to address the above referenced matters.

Zoning, Preservation & Development Committee

1. Conn Ave median & landscaping

Commissioner Feldstein noted that Jack Evans’ office was pressing DDOT to provide \$50,000 funding to HDCMS.

2. Dupont Trolley Station development

Commissioner Feldstein noted that there are two bids submitted by the DC Arts Council and a Restaurant/bar.

3. Next Meeting

Commissioner Feldstein noted he would schedule this meeting soon.

Community Involvement Committee

1. Vending Regulations

2. Next Meeting

Commissioner Feldstein noted he would schedule this meeting soon.

Commissioner Reports

Neighboring Jurisdiction Reports: West End/Foggy Bottom (2B06), Adams Morgan (2B01, 2B08), Kalorama (2B01, 2B02), Logan Circle (2B04, 2B05, 2B09), Georgetown (2B06), Columbia Heights/Shaw (2B09) (9:40-9:45pm)

Commissioner Stephens noted that DDOT will select a contractor for the North 18th Street Project soon.

Reports on Old Business

1. Farragut “Virtual Tunnel” (Commissioner Feldstein)

No update.

2. Rosemary’s Thyme Bistro (2B01)

Commissioner Feldstein stated that he assumed the applicant received approval.

3. Scion (2B02)

No update. Commissioner Feldstein will take the lead in crafting a VA with the applicant.

4. National Restaurant Association (2B05)

Commissioner Wexler noted that the application has gone forward.

5. Johns Hopkins plaza (2B05)

Commissioner Wexler noted that the applicant received approval.

6. Teatro Goldoni (2B06)

No update.

7. 2023 N Street Garage (2B06)

The applicant received approval.

8. Policy (2B09)

Commissioner Estrada noted that the owners will meet with the protestors.

9. Cada Vez/Station 9 (2B09)

Commissioner Estrada noted that the applicant did not appear before the ABC Board.

10. 1461 S Street NW (2B09)

The addition was denied.

Administrative/Financial Matters

1. Finances/Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Jacobson noted a problem with Paychex. Fredrika Shaw requested clarification from the ANC on three items. Commissioner Jacobson provided clarification to her.

2. Acceptance of new ANC 2B Logo

Commissioner Stephens made a motion to approve the new ANC 2B logo. Commissioner Meehan seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-0-1) with Commissioner Jacobson abstaining.

3. ANC 2B Annual Report

Commissioner Stephens noted that he and Commissioner Feldstein will circulate a draft in the coming weeks and consider at the October meeting.

4. Policy & Procedures Manual

Commissioner Stephens noted that he and Commissioner Feldstein will circulate a draft in the coming weeks and consider at the October meeting.

5. Other Admin Items

None.

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

The next regular meeting of ANC 2B will be held on Wednesday, October 13, 2010, 7:00 PM at the Brookings Institution, 1775 Massachusetts Avenue, NW - 1st Floor, Falk Auditorium .

Respectfully submitted,

Alfred E. Blicher, Jr.
Executive Director
Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B
ADOPTED: October 13, 2010