

ANC 2B DUPONT CIRCLE ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, July 13, 2011 Brookings Institution

The July 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), Kevin O'Connor (2B02), Bob Meehan (2B03), Jack Jacobson (2B04), Victor Wexler (2B05), Mike Silverstein (2B06), Phil Carney (2B07), Will Stephens (2B08), and Ramon Estrada (2B09).

Commissioner Feldstein made a motion to approve the June minutes. Commissioner O'Connor seconded the motion. The motion carried (9-0). Commissioner Jacobson requested the Executive Director to post minutes from the previous months.

Susan Meehan presented the old ANC flag to the ANC.

Public Announcements

Sgt. John MacDonald is back at MPD in our PSA

Announcement of DPW Meeting

DPW has been giving citations for people not separating trash. Jack Evans' office is on this problem. This will be an agenda item at the August meeting.

ANC Redistricting

Stead Park Improvements

Recycling trash cans are needed at Stead Park. Debbie Hanrahan will work on improving the playground. Also there are no allotted funds for maintenance or staff.

Commissioner Announcements

Commissioner Mike Silverstein announced that the ANC Commissioner in 5A resigned. He also announced that ABRA is holding a roundtable on the 3rd Wednesday in August.

Commissioner Ramon Estrada made an announcement regarding the U Street Streetscape. Eastern end will begin this fall and the western end has been delayed until 2013.

Commissioner Kevin O'Conner – mediator between protest group and Philips Art gallery

Commissioner Mike Feldstein supplied contact information for James Bolger (Freddie) from Ward 3: email: james.bulger@dc.gov and phone: 202-340-7229.

Commissioner Jack Jacobson announced the upcoming 17th street festival; 17thstreetfestival.org

Regulatory

HPRB & Zoning Applications

Request by Palmetto Hospitality request for zoning relief to allow renovation and conversion of the existing building at 1729 H Street NW from office use by Kiplinger into a hotel. There will be no changes to the outside of the building. It currently has no parking, and the zoning relief sought would waive off-street parking requirements. (2B06)

The applicant requested zoning relief and asked that meters be removed to address parking concerns.

Commissioner Silverstein made a motion to support request for zoning relief and Commissioner Feldstein seconded the motion. The motion carried (9-0).

ABC Applications

Request by Black Fox lounge, 1723 Connecticut Ave NW for modification to hours of operation to conform to ABRA (2B01)

Commissioner Stephens excused himself from the vote.

ABRA inspector said establishment was in violation. The applicant would like hours of operation to be from 8am – 2am Sunday through Thursday and 8am – 3am on Friday and Saturday. The establishment will not open up at 8am, only in special cases; and would like to waive hours on special holidays in VA.

Commissioner Feldstein made a motion to approve modification of hours of operation.

Commissioner O’Conner seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-2 with two non-participants – Commissioner Silverstein and Commissioner Stephens (noted he plays jazz at the bar).

Public Space Applications

District Condo Project for one new on-street space for car sharing. (2B09)

DDOT expressed interest in on-street space; Zipcar wouldn’t like space in a garage

Commissioner Estrada made a motion to support designation of one space for ride sharing, subject to that space following DDOT rules and regulations.

Commissioner Jacobson seconded the motion. The motion carried 8-0 with Commissioner Silverstein out of the room.

Pinkberry Yogurt, 1213 Connecticut Ave (DDOT # 62815) for 333 Sq. Ft. Sidewalk cafe with 6 tables, 12 seats, and 2 umbrellas. Hours: Sun-Wed. 11am-12am Thurs-Sat. 11am-2am. (2B05)

Commissioner Wexler made a motion to accept without protest.

Commissioner Carney seconded the motion. The motion carried 9-0.

Whyland Condo Association 1724 17th Street NW for temporary use of one off street parking space for loading

Want to convert to a public space, but needs a curb cut approved first. ANC approval needed for curb cut and public space.

Commissioner Meehan read resolution and has no objection to the application.

Whereas the Wyland Condominium is a major building entitled to up to 60 feet of restricted access to the street curb in front of the building for trucks, taxis et al,

Whereas there now exists a curb cut and parking pad on public space in front of the Wyland Condominium that occupies only about 25 1/2 feet of curb space,

Whereas the existing curb cut was incorporated into the rebuilt sidewalk and curbing during the 17th Street Streetscape project and would require considerable expense to eliminate it,

Whereas it appears that DDOT would not now be focusing on the legitimacy of the long-standing curb cut were it not for the Wyland Condominium Association's efforts to make it legitimate,

And whereas the Wyland Condominium Association will restrict use of the existing parking pad to the same limitations as pertain to all other parking uses on public space in front of major residential buildings,

Therefore, ANC 2B urges DDOT Public Space to support the efforts of the Wyland Condominium Association to obtain legal status for the existing curb cut and restrict the uses of the parking pad to those that are within DDOT public space guidelines.

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

General Items

Resolution to support adding "Golden Triangle" to Farragut Metro stations

Whereas WMATA has begun a process to revise the Metro map in preparation for the extension to Dulles airport;

Whereas WMATA policy indicates that the primary purpose of station names is "to identify the station locations by geographical features or centers of activity to help customers successfully navigate the system" and states that station names "should be distinctive and evoke imagery in the mind of the patron, i.e. graphic, colorful";

Whereas the area surrounding the Farragut Metro stations is an activity center that has been known as the "Golden Triangle" for decades; its boundaries were defined by DC law in 1997;

Whereas upon exiting the Farragut North and Farragut West Metro station, the Golden Triangle neighborhood has a distinct look and feel – defined by building design and scale; consistent street assets such as banners, trash cans, and urns; cleanliness standards; and Golden Triangle ambassadors outside each station providing hospitality services and daily cleaning;

Whereas the District government, the Golden Triangle BID, and property owners are working together to strengthen the identity of the area and create a retail destination linking the White House to Dupont Circle attracting additional tourists and regional residents to shopping and restaurants in the area, especially during off-peak evening and weekend hours, when there is additional Metro capacity;

Whereas the current situation of two separate stations named Farragut was an unintentional consequence while building the original Metro system, and today it can be confusing to visitors and others unfamiliar with the area;

Whereas the addition of “Golden Triangle” on the station name will help identify the destination for Metro patrons, especially those unfamiliar with the area;

Therefore be it resolved that ANC 2B supports the request by the Golden Triangle Business Improvement District (BID) that “Golden Triangle” be added to the station name of Farragut North or Farragut West stations; and

Be it further resolved that ANC 2B additionally supports an alternative proposal to rename one of these stations as simply “Farragut Square” and the other station as “Golden Triangle.” This is the ANC’s preferred option.

The motion to support carried 7-2 with Commissioner Feldstein in opposition and Commissioner Meehan abstaining.

Follow-up: Discussion of draft proposals for reducing noise and traffic and attracting retailer and service providers to moratorium zones

Discussion moved to next month (August).

Discussion of next steps in MPD police re-districting

More in depth discussions will take place at a special ANC Community meeting to be held at a later date.

Committee Reports

Dupont West Moratorium Ad Hoc Committee

1. No new updates or applications

ABRA Policy Committee

Reports on old business (if any): VA Toolkit, “Singles” sales ban review, “Club Central”

1. VA Toolkit: Drafts have been sent and a meeting to review with the committee members will be held during the last week of July (27th).
2. “Singles” Sales Ban Review and “Club Central” will be tabled to discuss at a later date; more than likely at the meeting to be held with committee members during the last week of July (27th).

Zoning, Preservation & Development Committee

1. Reports on old business (if any): Interactive zoning map, Capital Bikeshare, Zoning Rewrite, Conn Ave underpass greening, Conn Ave median & landscaping, Farragut virtual Metro tunnel, Speed hump study – No update, nothing to report
2. Next Meeting: Tues. 8/2/11 7pm @ Resource Center (if needed)

Community Involvement Committee

Reports on old business (if any): Community “Grants” Policy – No Update

Commissioner Reports

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

Short Reports on Old Business (if any)

1. Marrakesh: CT tavern renewal (2B02) – Waiting on decision to be made
2. Food Corner Kabob: VA amendment (2B02) – Signed & sent to ABRA
3. 1506 19th St NW: alteration of facade & green space (2B02) – No update
4. Unused post box removal (2B04) – No update
5. Dirty Martini Bar: DDOT sidewalk cafe (2B05) – License Granted
6. Guitar Bar: new license (2B06) – Ongoing negotiations
7. Le Pain Quotidien: stipulated license (2B06) – License issued
8. Kabab-ji: DDOT valet parking (2B07) – No update
9. Heritage India: DDOT valet parking (2B07) – No update
10. Penthouse Bar: new ABC license (2B08) –Ongoing negotiations
11. Local 16: new sidewalk cafe (2B08) – Resolved, license granted
12. Policy: 14th St & T St sidewalk cafes (2B09) – License on probation for one year
13. Post Office: new ABC license (2B09) – Applicant is withdrawing application

Administrative/Financial Matters

Mr. Mohammad, Treasurer, reviewed and approved the ANC’s 3rd quarter 2010 financial report.

Commissioner Silverstein reported:

Checking: \$34,443.17

Savings: \$34,807

Total: \$69,250.17

Resource Center Renovation & Leasing

Commissioner Stephens proposed that ANC raise funds and/or make contributions to renovate and update the interior and exterior of the Resource Center. Approval needed by National Parks to bring in a contractor.

Commissioner Stephens made a motion to renew the no-rent lease agreement with National Parks.

Commissioner Carney seconded. Motion carried 9-0.

Staff/Personnel Changes

New Public Policy Intern needed and recommendations for a new Executive Director to be made at the August meeting.

Adjournment

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

The next regular meeting of ANC 2B will be held on Wednesday, August 10, 2011, 7:00 PM at the Brookings Institution, 1775 Massachusetts Avenue, NW – 1st Floor, Falk Auditorium .

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Lowry
Executive Director
Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B