

April 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes

ANC 2B DUPONT CIRCLE ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, April 11, 2012 Brookings Institution

The April 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), Phil Carney (2B07), Will Stephens (2B08), and Ramon Estrada (2B09). Mike Silverstein (2B06) expected for a late arrival.

Commissioner Silverstein moved to approve the March minutes. Commissioner Feldstein seconded the motion. The motion carried (9-0).

Public Announcements

Commissioner Wexler announced that there will be a possible listening session/meeting regarding Stead Park. The date is TBD.

Commissioner Carney announced that the upcoming Ross Elementary renovations will take place during summer break. The playground and alley will be closed during the summer. There will be a community meeting on this topic. The date TBD.

Commissioner Carney also announced that the Concert for Life AIDS Benefit will be held 8 p.m. Friday, May 18 at Foundry United Methodist Church, 1500 16th Street, NW.

Commissioner Feldstein announced that the 2nd Annual Turing on the Fountain Ceremony will be held at 12pm this Sunday.

Commissioner O'Connor made an announcement about using #ANC2B on Twitter. He also announced that DC Government has released an iPhone app for 311 where you can report service calls instead of calling into the offices.

Commissioner Meehan announced that he will not be running for re-election this coming Fall.

Commissioner Silverstein announced that the Department of Health has asked the ANC for comment on a new Medical Marijuana Site at 1147 20th St NW. This will be on the May ANC agenda.

Susan Volman of DCCA announced that their next meeting will be held on May 7th and will be 90th Anniversary of DCCA. There will also be an election of new officers.

Ward 2 Liaison Freddie Bulger announced that the Mayor is hosting a Budget Meeting at Ward 2 on April 19th, 6:30pm-8:30pm. The Mayor's proposal to extend liquor hours until 4:00am during weekends will also be a topic of discussion. ANC 2B is to be listed as co-host for the meeting (no objection).

Commissioner Estrada announced that Jim Graham is hosting a hearing on the April 17th at 5:00pm on the issue of the later alcoholic establishment closing hours.

Commissioner Stephens announced that the Voluntary Agreements are now listed on the website in alphabetical order with each establishment's information, including dates of approval.

Commissioner Stephens announced that "Dance in the Circle" will take place on April 21st from 3pm-9pm; 12 dance companies will be performing.

Commissioner Stephens announced that, due to the high number of regulatory applications, this month's meeting was split into 2 meetings, with the second meeting to be held on April 18th at the Resource Center. The Commissioners confirmed that a quorum will be present.

Regulatory

Public Space Applications/Usage

New DDOT Bikeshare plan for 1900 block of NH Ave NW (2B09)

Commissioner Estrada stated that a consensus was reached and that the new Bikeshare location would be at the north end of T Street Park on the pavement instead of at the corner of New Hampshire and U. This also allows for expansion and sunlight and its located between two 2 stop signs which is safer. This will encourage the use of the park and nearby businesses. The new location is adjacent to the T Street bike path. Commissioner Estrada moved to propose this to DDOT. Seconded by Commissioner Stephens. The motion carried 9-0.

Application by Stub's Kitchen, 1401 T St NW, for unenclosed 32-seat sidewalk cafe (DDOT Tracking # 68240) (2B09)

Commissioner Estrada tabled this item from last month. The seating has been reduced 22 seats and the hours are until 11pm on weekdays and 12am on weekends. They are expanding the length not the width. Commissioner Estrada moved to support the application. Seconded by Commissioner O'Connor. Motion carried 9-0.

Application by Fuel Pizza, 1606 K St. N.W., for sidewalk cafe (2B05)

Commissioner Wexler stated that there will be 9 tables with 18 seats and moved to support. Seconded by Commissioner Feldstein. Motion carried 9-0.

Application from Bombay Cafe, 815 Conn. Ave for public space sidewalk cafe. DDOT Tracking # 68900. (2B05)

The applicant is asking for a 1:00am closing time. Seating is at 30 occupancy with less than 10 ft sidewalk clearance but there is an existing retaining wall. It was confirmed that the cafe has handicapped access on the north side. Commissioner Wexler moved to support. Seconded by Commissioner Feldstein. The motion carried 9-0.

Application by BonMi, 900 19th St NW, for sidewalk cafe (2B06)

The proposed space will have 24 seats with 10 ft clearance with exception of a tree planter. There is handicap accessibility, and the hours are until 7pm. Commissioner Silverstein moved to support the application on the condition that the center planter (opposite the tree box) is removed or pushed back to allow for 10 feet of pedestrian clearance. Seconded by Commissioner O'Connor. Carried 9-0.

Application by Cafe Grande, 1775 K St NW, for sidewalk cafe (2B06)

The length of the sidewalk café would span from the restaurant to in front of the news shop which is located next door to the restaurant. Commissioner Silverstein moved to support the café in front of the restaurant but to object to the café in front of the news shop. Seconded by Commissioner Stephens. Carried 9-0.

Application by Paul Bakery, 1000 Connecticut Ave NW, for sidewalk cafe w/24 seats. (2B06)

Commissioner Silverstein moved to support the application and Commissioner Feldstein seconded. Motion carried 9-0.

Historic Preservation & Zoning Applications

Zoning Special Exception Request for DeLuca Studios, licensed massage therapists, who seek to move their existing place of business from 1329 Connecticut Ave to 2028 P Street NW, which they have purchased. (2B06)

Commissioner Meehan clarified that this application is for a special exception not “zoning relief.” Commissioner Silverstein moved to support the application for a special exception. Seconded by Commissioner O’Connor. Motion carried 9-0.

Consideration of concept design for proposed addition to Keegan Theatre, 1742 Church Street (2B07)

Large reason for the renovation is to allow for handicap accessibility. Commissioner Feldstein reported that the ZPD Committee listened to a presentation on this proposal. The Dupont Circle Conservancy reported that they support the concept of a modern glass vestibule that contrasts with the existing historic fabric. They would like to see further development before they can support the design.

Commissioner Carney moved to support the proposed plans for the addition as presented and looks forward to further development of the concept design. Seconded by Commissioner Feldstein. Carried 9-0.

Alcohol Applications

ABC License Renewals:

1. Barmy Wine & Liquors, 1912 L St NW, Class “A” Retail license (2B06)
- 2.1 West Dupont Circle Wine & Liquors, 2012 P St NW, Class “A” Retail license (2B02)
3. Deccan Group LLC t/a State Liquors, 2159 P St NW, Class Retail license “A”(2B02)
4. Conn. Avenue Wine & Liquors, Inc., 1529 CT Avenue NW, Class Retail license “A”(2B02)

The Commission took no action on the above renewal applications.

Application by Levante’s for substantial change, 1320 19th St NW, (ABRA-026391) Change of Hours inside establishment and for sidewalk café, Current Indoor Hours: Sunday 11am-12pm, Monday-Saturday 11am-1am; Proposed Indoor Hours: Sunday 11am-12am, Mon-Thurs 11am-1am, Fri-Sat 11am-3am; Current Sidewalk Café hours: Sun 11am-10pm Mon-Sat: 11am-11pm; Proposed Sidewalk Café hours: Sun-Tue 11am-11pm, Wed-Thurs 11am-12am, Fri-Sat 11am-1am Petition Date May 7 & Hearing Date May 21. (2B02)

Commissioner O’Connor moved to protest this application on the basis of peace, order, and quiet, subject to a change in the application or a Voluntary Agreement which conforms the outdoor hours to ANC 2B’s public space guidelines of closing by 11:00pm on weeknights (Sunday through Thursday) and 12:00am on weekend nights (Friday and Saturday).

Seconded by Commissioner Jacobson. Carried 8-0. Commissioner Mike Silverstein did not participate in this matter due to his position on the ABC Board.

Request for Change to Voluntary Agreement: Mansion on O Street, 2020 O St NW, request to allow buses to drop-off and pick-up disabled visitors on O Street. (2B06)

Commissioner O’Connor moved to approve a modified VA that allows for the drop off and pick up of disabled persons provided that the vehicles have handicap lifts. Seconded by Commissioner Feldstein. Carried 8-0.

Commissioner Mike Silverstein did not participate in this matter due to his position on the ABC Board.

Application by Cafe Citron (ABRA-060138) for substantial change to existing CR (restaurant) license to add Sunday operation/sales/service with hours 10am-2am w/entertainment 6pm-2am. (Existing Mon-Thurs hours 11am-2am w/entertainment 6pm-2am). Petition due 4/23/12; Roll-call hearing 5/7/12. (2B07)
Commissioner Carney moved to protest this application on the basis of peace, order, and quiet and to oppose entering into a Voluntary Agreement, based on the establishment's history of violations. Seconded by Commissioner Feldstein. Carried 8-0. Commissioner Mike Silverstein did not participate in this matter due to his position on the ABC Board.

Application by Keren Restaurant (ABRA-088512), 1780 Florida Ave NW, for substantial change to existing CR (restaurant) license to add hours and entertainment endorsement (3-piece band). Current hours until 8pm Sun-Thu and 12am Fri-Sat. Proposed hours of operation/sales/service Sun-Thu 7am-2am, Fri-Sat 7am-3am, entertainment Sun-Thu 8am-2am, Fri-Sat 8am-3am. Petition Due 4/17/12; Hearing 4/30/12 (2B08)

Commissioner Stephens moved to support Keren Restaurant's application for a substantial change to their existing CR (restaurant) license. Seconded by Commissioner Meehan. Carried 8-0. Commissioner Mike Silverstein did not participate in this matter due to his position on the ABC Board.

Administrative/Financial Matters

Commissioner Silverstein reported the quarterly report. At the beginning of the month the checking account had \$70,784. Spent \$4,254 in expenses. Total at the end of the month was \$66,659.57. Will be receiving District Allotment.

Commissioner Jacobson moved to approve the quarterly report. Approved 9-0.

Commissioner Feldstein discussed the topic of the security system at the Resource Center. He suggested that the Commission should first ask the other organizations/groups that utilize the facility, if they would be kind enough to contribute to the cost of the system, and that the ANC could cover the remainder, with the amount to be calculated and voted on at a future ANC meeting. He will report back on the contributions, so that the ANC can consider the appropriate dollar amount.

Commissioner Short Reports on Old Business

1. Hotel Palomar: DDOT & ABRA sidewalk cafe (2B02) **No Update**
2. Huckleberry Cheesecake: zoning relief (2B02) **No Update**
3. Panas: New CR license (2B02) **Waiting for application**
4. ArtJamz: New CX license (2B02) **Resolved**
5. Third Church: HPRB concept design (2B05) **Commissioner Wexler met with the representative from the church and the architect. 2 Floors have been taken off in a modified the design.**
6. Eye Bar: substantial change (2B06) **Agreed to cameras and more security outside. Also agreed to certify bartenders & will conduct alcohol awerenss training. Protest withdrawn.**
7. Scriven House: landmarking (2B06) **No Update**
8. Irish Whiskey: sidewalk cafe (2B06) **Approved**
9. Kabab-Ji, Heritage: valet parking (2B07) **No Update**
10. St. Thomas: public space signage (2B07) **No Update**
11. DGS Deli: new DR license (2B07) **Agreed to VA and signed**
12. Virginia Market: single sales (2B08) **VA re: single sales was withdrawn**
13. 1841 16th Street: parking (2B09) **No Update**
14. 1438 U Street: parking (2B09) **Tabled – Not approved**
15. Black & Orange: new CR license (near 2B09) **VA Signed**

16.Stub's Kitchen: new CR license (2B09) **Under Protest**

17.Quan: new CR license (2B09) **Under Protest**

19.Prostitution-free Zone Act (O'Connor) **No longer active**

20.S/T Street Parks (Silverstein) **Meeting to be held, DCCA to sponsor Summer Youth Program to get the park cleaned**

21.Stead Park (Wexler) **Commissioner Wexler stated that money has been allocated and that there will be a meeting held at a later date surrounding this issue. Commissioner Wexler also announced that he is the "People's Princess." He asked that this be included in the minutes.**

Adjournment